

Supreme Court of Florida

No. AOSC20-54

IN RE: CRIMINAL COURT STEERING COMMITTEE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The Criminal Court Steering Committee (hereinafter the “Steering Committee”) was established for the purpose of developing expedited recommendations to the Supreme Court regarding changes required by legislative enactments, judicial decisions, or other events or circumstances involving criminal law matters.

Court committees are a vital component in the governance of the judicial branch. In performing its responsibilities, the Steering Committee shall be guided by the goals of the Long-Range Strategic Plan for the Florida Judicial Branch. Specifically, in furtherance of Long-Range Issue 1 (Deliver justice effectively, efficiently, and fairly), the Steering Committee should help facilitate the fair, effective, and efficient delivery of justice, without bias or prejudice, through the use of consistent criminal court practices, procedures, and forms statewide.

The following persons are hereby appointed or reappointed to serve on the Steering Committee for a term that begins on July 1, 2020, and expires on June 30, 2022:

The Honorable Joseph A. Bulone
Circuit Court Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Jay Cohen
Judge, Fifth District Court of Appeal

The Honorable Jessica Costello
County Court Judge, Hillsborough County

Mr. Henry Coxe
Attorney at Law, Jacksonville

The Honorable Miguel de la O
Circuit Court Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Amira Fox
State Attorney, Twentieth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Jeffrey Hendriks
County Court Judge, St. Lucie County

The Honorable Fleur Lobree
Judge, Third District Court of Appeal

The Honorable Donna McIntosh
Circuit Court Judge, Eighteenth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Debra J. Riva
Circuit Court Judge, Twelfth Judicial Circuit

Mr. Robert R. Wills
Chief Assistant Public Defender, Seventeenth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Debra J. Riva shall serve as the Chair of the Steering Committee for a term that begins on July 1, 2020, and expires on June 30, 2022. Staff support for the committee shall be provided by the Office of the State Courts Administrator.

During the next two years, the Steering Committee shall perform the following tasks:

1. The Steering Committee shall recommend, if necessary, proposed changes to the uniform orders of supervision that are prepared and disseminated by the Department of Corrections, in consultation with the Office of the State Courts Administrator.
2. The Steering Committee shall recommend, if necessary, proposed changes to the Criminal Punishment Code scoresheet that is prepared and disseminated by the Department of Corrections, in consultation with the Office of the State Courts Administrator.
3. The Steering Committee is authorized to propose amendments to procedural rules that are required to implement legislative enactments or that are necessary as a result of Supreme Court or district court of appeal decisions that affect criminal, delinquency, or Involuntary Civil Commitment of Sexually Violent Predator (hereinafter “Jimmy Ryce Act”) laws.
4. The Steering Committee shall perform such other tasks in the furtherance of justice in criminal, delinquency, or Jimmy Ryce Act cases as may be requested by the Chief Justice or the Supreme Court, including developing recommendations for enhancements to judicial

branch emergency preparedness that balance liberty and due process interests of defendants and respondents with public safety interests during pandemics, natural disasters, and other events that may lead to court closures or alternative means of conducting court proceedings.

The Steering Committee must be cognizant of the limitations on the resources available to support its efforts as it develops a work plan that will accomplish the important tasks assigned in this administrative order. With regard to meetings, the Steering Committee should strive to utilize the most economical means appropriate to the type of work being accomplished.

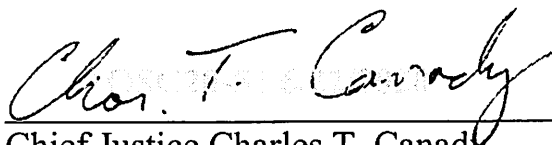
The Steering Committee is directed to establish the necessary liaison relationships with the appropriate Florida Bar committees and with other Supreme Court committees and it is authorized to pursue proposed rule amendments jointly.

The Steering Committee may function as a committee composed of all members or as one or more subcommittees to consider specific issues. The chair is authorized to establish such subcommittees as may be required to effectuate the Steering Committee's charges. Members of the subcommittees may include persons who are not members of the Steering Committee but whose input is required on selected issues. The Steering Committee is encouraged to include representatives of the legislative and executive branches of government, as well as other stakeholders in the criminal justice system, as appropriate.

Should it make recommendations that require additional funding or resources to implement, that impact court technology, or that impact education and training needs of judges and court staff, the Steering Committee is directed to establish the necessary liaison relationship with the District Court of Appeal Budget Commission, the Trial Court Budget Commission, the Florida Courts Technology Commission, or the Florida Court Education Council, as appropriate. At a minimum, the Steering Committee shall provide the chairs of these liaison groups with copies of those Steering Committee reports and recommendations, prior to the finalization of the reports.

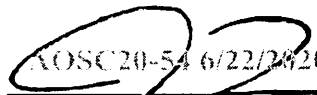
The Steering Committee should submit reports and recommendations to the Chief Justice through the State Courts Administrator or as otherwise directed in a referral from the Supreme Court.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on June 22, 2020.



Chief Justice Charles T. Canady
AOSC20-54 6/22/2020

ATTEST:



John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court
AOSC20-54 6/22/2020

