



## PRESS RELEASE

Administrative Office of the Courts

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Calvin Green, Court Operations Consultant @ 307-4798

August 12, 2011

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **JUDGE RON FICARROTTA ELECTED CHAIR OF THE FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CIRCUIT JUDGES**

**(TAMPA, FLORIDA – 08/12/11)** Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Judge Ron Ficarrotta was formally sworn-in as Chair of the Florida Conference of Circuit Judges on August 16, 2011 by Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice Charles Canady, a day after being unanimously elected by his peers at the Annual Education and Business Conference held in Marco Island, Florida.

Judge Ficarrotta, as Conference Chair, will be responsible for reporting to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House regarding recommendations the Conference may have concerning defects in the laws of the State and such amendments or additional legislation as the Conference may deem necessary.

The Florida Conference of Circuit Judges was created by Florida Statute 26.55 to improve the rules and methods of procedure and practice in the courts and to foster and promote educational institutions and seminars for judges. Today the Conference consists of the 599 active circuit judges of the 20 judicial circuits of the state and all retired circuit judges.

Judge Ficarrotta had been serving as the interim Chair of the Conference since December 2010. As Chair-elect he completed the term of Eleventh Judicial Circuit

Judge Kevin Emas, who was appointed to the Third District Court of Appeals. Judge Ficarrotta now will begin his own full term.

Judge Ron Ficarrotta, a Tampa native, becomes the sixth Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Judge to serve as Chair, following Judge Harry Sandler (1960 -1962), Judge James S. Moody (1970), Judge James Lenfesty (1977-1978), Judge F. Dennis Alvarez (1993-1994), and current Chief Judge Manuel Menendez, Jr. (2006-2007).

On the bench since 1994, Judge Ficarrotta currently serves as the Administrative Judge of the Criminal Justice and Trial Divisions. To view his profile at the court's website, click here:

<http://www.fljud13.org/JudicialDirectory/RonaldFicarrotta/Profile.aspx>