## 2025 Palm Beach County Bar Association's Bench Bar Conference March 7, 2025



## Civil Litigation/Personal Injury Combined Session The Waves of Change Time: 1:30pm – 2:30pm

This session will focus on the numerous and significant amendments that will have taken effect on January 1, 2025 with respect to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure.

Panelists: Judge G. Joseph Curley, Judge James Sherman, Chief Judge Glenn

Kelley, Judge Bradley Harper

Moderators: Scott Smith, Esq., Jessica Latour, Esq., Howard DuBosar, Esq. Patricia

Leonard, Esq.

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## Key amendments from Case Number SC2023-0962 & Case Number SC2024-0662

- Rule 1.200 (Case Management; Pretrial Procedure)
  - (1) What changes will see and feel here in the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, if any?
  - (2) What are the required eight specified deadlines?
  - (3) Can the deadlines and trial date be modified in the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit? If so, under what circumstances and how?
  - (4) Will Case Management Conferences occur in every case? If so, when in relation to the initiating filing and the specified trial period?
- Rule 1.201 (Complex Litigation)
  - (1) How is complex litigation defined?
  - (2) Initial case management report and conference after the order declaring the action complex.
  - (3) What are the deadline dates in a complex litigation matter?
  - (4) Case Management Order in a complex litigation matter.
- Rule 1.202 (Conferral Prior to Filing Motions)
  - (1) What duty is now required to confer with opposing counsel before filing a non-dispositive motion?
  - (2) What Certificate of Conferral is required at the end of the motion and above the signature block?
  - (3) What motions are exempt?
- Rule 1.280 (General Provisions Governing Discovery)
  - (1) What is the incorporated proportionality language of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(1)?
  - (2) What initial discovery disclosures will be required within 60 days after service of the Complaint or joinder?
  - (3) What is the duty to supplement discovery?

- **Rule 1.440** (Setting Action for Trial)
  - (1) "The failure of the pleadings to be closed will not preclude the court from setting a case for trial." From a practical perspective, how will this get implanted and/or used?
  - (2) Will motions for an earlier trial setting be granted?
- **Rule 1.460** (Motions to Continue Trial)
  - (1) "Motions to continue trial are disfavored and should rarely be granted and then only upon good cause shown." How is this likely to be interpreted here in the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit? What is likely to be deemed "good cause?"
  - (2) Requirements and contents of a motion to continue trial?
  - (3) What needs to be in the Order on the motion for continuance?
- Rule 1.510 (Summary Judgment)
  - (1) When may a party move for summary judgment?
  - (2) What should be contained in the supporting factual position?
  - (3) When must the nonmovant serve a response to the movant's motion for summary judgment?
  - (4) When must the hearing on the motion be set?
- "The amendments shall become effective January 1, 2025 at 12:01 A.M."
  - (1) Will amended Rule 1.510 and new Rule 1.202 govern motions filed before January 1, 2025 at 12:01A.M.?
  - (2) Will the new initial discovery disclosures apply to any action commenced before the effective date?
  - (3) Do case management orders already in effect on January 1, 2025 continue to govern pending actions?