

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN  
AND FOR BREVARD COUNTY,  
FLORIDA

DIVISION: D

IN RE: ALL PENDING CIVIL CASES  
ASSIGNED TO DIVISION D

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**STANDING ORDER ON POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**  
**GOVERNING ALL CIVIL CASES ASSIGNED TO DIVISION D**

To facilitate this Court's responsibility to actively case manage and ensure the timely and just disposition of all pending civil cases in this Division, the parties shall:

1. Comply with *Division D Policies and Procedures* which can be found on this Division's link on the Court's website<sup>1</sup> and be governed accordingly.
2. Failure to comply with this Order may result in monetary and non-monetary sanctions, including, but not limited to, dismissal of the case, and striking of pleadings.
3. The effective administration of justice requires the interaction of many professionals and disciplines, but none is more critical than the role of the lawyer. In fulfilling that role, a lawyer performs many tasks, few of which are easy, most of which are exacting. In the final analysis, a lawyer's duty is always to the client. In striving to fulfill that duty, a lawyer always must be conscious of his or her broader duty to the judicial system that serves both attorney and client. To the judiciary, a lawyer owes candor, diligence, and utmost respect. To the administration of justice, a lawyer unquestionably owes the fundamental duties of

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<sup>1</sup> See website: <https://flcourts18.org/judge-blaues-policies-page/> Policy Document #01

personal dignity and professional integrity. Coupled with those duties is a lawyer's duty of courtesy and cooperation with fellow professionals for the efficient administration of our system of justice and the respect of the public it serves.<sup>2</sup>

4. In furtherance of these fundamental concepts, the lawyers should familiarize themselves with: **The Professionalism Definition, Creed of Professionalism, and the Oath of Admission to the Florida Bar**<sup>3</sup>; **The Professionalism Expectations**<sup>4</sup>; **The Guidelines for Professional Conduct**<sup>5</sup>; and the **2024 Florida Handbook on Civil Discovery Practice**.<sup>6</sup> Although the Court places great weight on each provision contained in these resources, the Court has highlighted the provisions it considers most significant, on the Court's website.

5. It is recognized that these Guidelines must be applied in keeping with the advocacy of the interests of one's client and the long tradition of professionalism among and between members of the Trial Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar.<sup>7</sup> The Court expects the same recognition and adherence to all of the referenced Guidelines, Expectations, and Provisions by all members of the Bar appearing before it.

6. The *Division D Policies and Procedures* were first published in April 2024, and later amended in January 2025, to reflect changes in the Rules of Civil Procedure affecting the following documents: 01 *Division D Policies and Procedures*; 02 Standing Order on Policies and Procedures; 06 Florida Civil Discovery Handbook; 07 Standing Discovery Order; 13

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<sup>2</sup> See Preamble "Guidelines for Professional Conduct" by the Trial Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar 2019; Contained in *2022-2024 Professionalism Handbook*, (by The Florida Bar Standing Committee on Professionalism Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism). *See* Division D website at <https://flcourts18.org/judge-blaues-policies-page/>, Policy Document #03.0

<sup>3</sup> See Division D website at <https://flcourts18.org/judge-blaues-policies-page/>, Policy Document #03.1, Contained in *2022-2024 Professionalism Handbook*.

<sup>4</sup> See Division D website at <https://flcourts18.org/judge-blaues-policies-page/>, Policy Document #03.2, Contained in *2022-2024 Professionalism Handbook*; *see also* Fla. S.Ct. Order SC 2023-0884, App. B.

<sup>5</sup> See Division D website at <https://flcourts18.org/judge-blaues-policies-page/>, Policy Document #03.3; *source*: Trial Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar 2019; available at <https://www.floridabar.org/prof/regulating-professionalism/presources002/>.

<sup>6</sup> See Division D website at <https://flcourts18.org/judge-blaues-policies-page/>, Policy Document #06, (by committee of the Trial Lawyers Section of The Florida Bar, Conference of Circuit Judges and Conference of County Judges)

<sup>7</sup> *Supra.*, fn.2

Procedures for Non-Default Summary Judgment.

7. Thereafter, later amended in and February 2025, affecting the following Documents: 01 *Division D Policies and Procedures*; 02 Standing Order on Policies and Procedures; and; 07 Standing Discovery Order;

8. Thereafter, later amended in and February 2026, to reformat the Procedures in accordance with Florida Supreme Court Administrative Orders AOSC25-30 and AOSC25-31, said amendments affecting the following existing Documents: 01 *Division D Policies and Procedures*; 02 Standing Order on Policies and Procedures; 07 Standing Discovery Order; and 14 Procedures for Settlement; and transferring the following from the previous Procedures, to separate standing orders: 16 Standing Order on Post Accident Surveillance; 17 Standing Order on Motions in Limine; 18 Standing Order on Withdrawal or Substitution of Counsel.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers, at Viera, Brevard County, Florida, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2026.



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SCOTT BLAUE  
CIRCUIT JUDGE