

FLAFCC eNEWS



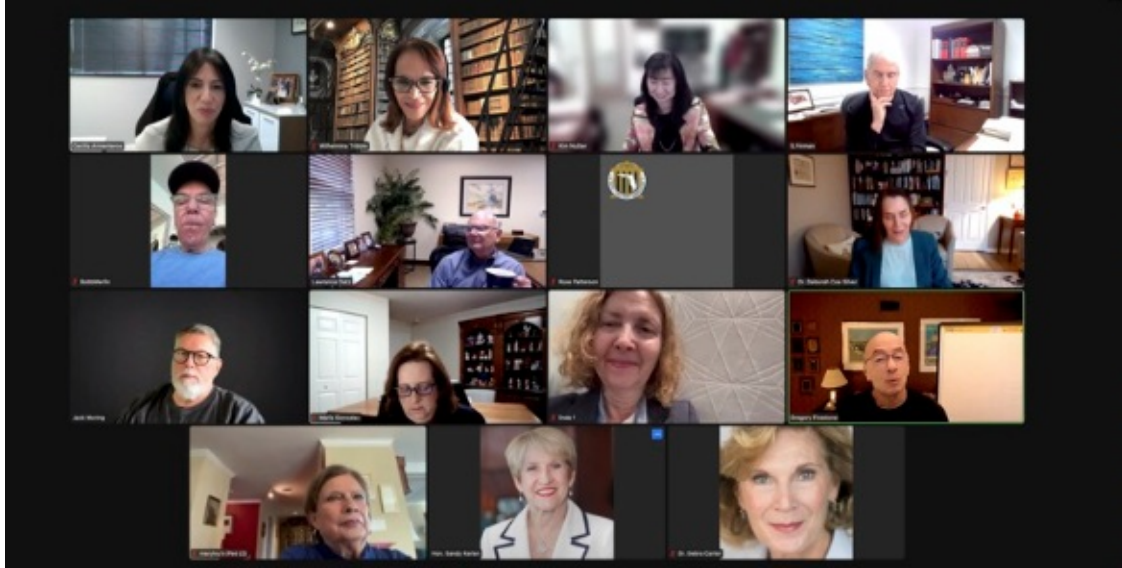
Message from FLAFCC President - Cecilia Armenteros



The Florida Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (FLAFCC) is an organization that utilizes education, research and advocacy to improve the lives of children and families through the collaborative resolution of family conflict.

Past presidents virtual breakfast took place on 1/18 - reunited to continue to promote the goals of AFCC - of the FL Chapter getting together, continue to be invested in the chapter.

FLAFCC - PAST PRESIDENTS



2001- Gregory Firestone, Ph.D.
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 2003- Sheldon E. Finman, J.D.
 2004- Honorable Hugh E. Starnes
 2005- Linda B. Fieldstone, M.Ed.
 2006- Debra K. Carter, Ph.D.
 2007- Honorable Raymond T. McNeal
 2008- Nancy T. Blanton, LCSW
 2009- The Honorable Lee A. Schreiber
 2010- Myrna R. Neims, Ph.D.
 2011- Deborah Coe Silver, Psy.D., ABPP, NCSP
 2012- Lawrence C. Datz, J.D.

2013- Honorable Sandy Karlan
 2014- Jack A. Moring, J.D.
 2015- Robert J. Merlin, J.D.
 2016- Rose Patterson, MBA
 2017- Jill Sanders, Ph.D.
 2018- Debra Weaver, Ph.D.
 2019- Craig Fabrikant, Ph.D.
 2020- Mary Lou Miller Wagstaff, Esq.
 2021- Maria C. Gonzalez, Esq.
 2022- Wilhelmina L. Tribble, M.Ed.
 2023 - Kim Nutter, J.D.

FLAFCC Task Force News

FLAFCC supports task forces that help promote the FLAFCC Mission in our everyday lives.

THE FLAFCC INTAKE AND IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE is working on ways to improve access to our family court system as well as promote steady progress of family cases on the journey through the system. Two teams, Case Management (with a subset of members working on Triage) and Self Represented Parties are actively working with court personnel. We offer a view into the work of these teams below:

The Case Management Processing Team

1. We will prepare a Top Ten Case Management Tips to share with Judges and Case managers and administrators - We would include some sample case management orders and check lists. Who is interested in working on this?
2. Judge Tennis is going to speak with the Dean of AJS about teaching case management later this year.
3. Judge Laurent will check with the Dean of Circuit conference about teaching case management this year
4. We will follow up with Rose Patterson and John Couch about having a training/sharing of case management tools throughout the circuits primarily for case managers and administrators in family court. We would like to partner with the FLAFCC Conference in September.

The Triage Team, which is a subset of Case Management, currently includes three circuits working on or with existing triage protocols (7th, 11th, and 20th). They are collaborating to identify what

factors might be most beneficial for circuits to consider when establishing effective protocols to identify pathways to better meet the needs of families navigating their legal process.

The Self Help implementation Team

This is the group examining best practice in each circuit for self represented litigants. The team began meeting monthly in October 2023. Each month over 20 representatives from most of the FL circuits participate in a presentation and discussion from one or two pre-selected circuits. The presentations highlight the areas of innovation and strength in the circuits presenting, as well as areas where help is needed. Juan Carmenate from the 11th Circuit started us off in October showcasing the many innovations his circuit has put into effect. We have now heard from the 5th, 6th, and 17th circuits with the 10th circuit presenting in our February meeting, the 8th and 9th at our March meeting, the 13th and 18th at our April meeting, the 15th in May, the 12th in June. As more members join the group and as the group becomes comfortable with the format there is increased sharing of best practice information and informal connections being formed outside the group meetings. All meetings are recorded and stored; Magistrate Jodi Cason (15th) and Dr. Peggie Ward will put together a summary of all presentations to present back to the group when the process is over. All interested are welcome.

Save The Date

20TH ANNUAL

**EDUCATION
PROGRAM**

SEPTEMBER 11-13

**FLORIDA HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER
ORLANDO, FL**

Congratulations Award Winners



Maria Gonzalez

Advisory Support Award

In appreciation of your words of wisdom, guidance and dedication throughout the years.



Linda Fieldstone

*Honorable Hugh Starnes
Community Service Award*



Michelle Morley

*Honorable Hugh Starnes
Community Service Award*

Your dedication and continued services to educate others about Eldercaring Coordination is why this award was created. To acknowledge a professional that had made a significant contribution to our community, to their profession, or the ideals promoted by FLAFCC through their professional work.



Shana Duehring

*Honorable Hugh Starnes
Community Service Award*



Peggie Ward

*Honorable Hugh Starnes
Community Service Award*

Outstanding is the only way to describe the services you have provided and continue to provide the FLAFCC and Florida families.

Your dedication to the FLAFCC is evident in the number of committees you are on, the number of tasks you take on and the outstanding outcomes from each of those committees.



Kristen Smith-Rodriguez
President's Award



Katrina Volker
President's Award

My time on the Board predates these two Award recipients, from the moment each joined we were a better Board of Directors. The energy, focus, ideas, hours of work each has given the FLAFCC is difficult to fathom and reflects their dedication to the FLAFCC.

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