

Administrative Office of the Court

The Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida

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Anthony Rondolino Re-Elected to a Third Term as Chief Judge

CLEARWATER - Pinellas-Pasco Circuit Judge Anthony Rondolino by acclamation won a third term as the chief judge for the Sixth Judicial Circuit. The election took place Feb. 20, 2019. The new term begins July 1, 2019, and ends June 30, 2021.

"I just hope to continue the positive direction the judiciary has been going in," Judge Rondolino said. And he wanted to use his re-election as an opportunity to thank the other stakeholders in the circuit, which comprises Pinellas and Pasco counties — the state attorney, the public defender, the clerks in both counties, the sheriffs in both counties, the county commissions in both counties, and all the state representatives and senators who speak on behalf of both counties in Tallahassee.

"They help us run an efficient and fair court system," Judge Rondolino said. "It is one of the finest judicial systems in the country."

The chief judge is constitutionally responsible for the administrative supervision of the courts and court staff within the sixth circuit, which serves almost 1.5 million residents in the two counties. Forty-five circuit judges and 24 county judges preside over court proceedings in seven locations and are supported by an administrative staff of approximately 235.

Judge Rondolino, who has been a judge since 1990, has served as a circuit judge longer than any other judge now serving in the sixth circuit, and he has played a role in roughly 300 jury trials, either during his 15 years as a lawyer or during his 28 years on the bench.

While a judge, he has presided over a wide range of civil cases, including accident claims, medical malpractice actions and three lengthy tobacco litigation trials. Judge Rondolino has also served as the administrative judges for the circuit's civil division, and for the circuit's criminal and family divisions as well.

Three times, the Florida Supreme Court appointed him an associate judge, to serve on the Second District Court of Appeals.



Chief Judge Anthony Rondolino

A native of Lexington, Kentucky, Judge Rondolino graduated with honors from the Florida State University School of Law in 1974, and shortly thereafter joined the local public defender's office, rising to the position of chief assistant public defender in a mere five years. He has taught courses as an adjunct professor at Stetson Law School, and has served on several boards and committees, including the Child Support Enforcement Coordinating Council, of which he was the chairman, and the Pinellas County Domestic Violence Task Force.

His awards include the St. Petersburg Bar Association's Judicial Appreciation Award, the William Castagna Award for Judicial Excellence, and in 1988 he was named Outstanding Assistant Public Defender in Florida.