



## LOCAL PROFESSIONALISM PANEL REPORT FORM

<b>Chief Judge of Circuit:</b>	MELISSA GATES OLIN
<b>Name of Submitter:</b>	CHRISTINA NIETO SEIFERT
<b>Date:</b>	JULY 8, 2025

**\*Reports must be filed by June 15 and December 15 each year.**

### SC 2023-0884 - Appendix A Code for Resolving Professionalism Referrals 3.7 Reporting

- a) Each LPP must file a written report with the chief judge of its circuit, the Florida Supreme Court, and The Florida Bar identifying all professionalism referrals received against a member of The Florida Bar in June and December of each calendar year.
- b) The biannual reports must include the following information for each referral for the six (6) calendar months preceding the month in which the report is due:
  1. The date of the referral;
  2. The circuit in which the issue arose;
  3. A short summary detailing the substance of the referral;
  4. The relationship of the respondent voluntarily participated in the process;
  5. Whether or not the respondent voluntarily participated in the process;
  6. The resolution, if any, of the referral; and
  7. Whether there were previous referrals against the respondent.
- c) The reports must not include identifying information for the respondent or the party who submitted the referral.

## **INFORMATION FOR SUBMITTERS**

1. **Purpose and Use:** This form collects information about your Circuit's Local Professionalism Panel and its activity for the last six (6) months. This form also asks for updates to the contact information for your Local Professionalism Panel. The information about your Circuit's Local Professionalism Panel will be used to update the Center's Local Professionalism Panel contact list, as well as to gauge how each Circuit is carrying out panel activities.
2. **Reporting Period:** Reports must be filed by June 15th and December 15th and include information for the six (6) calendar months preceding the month in which the report is due.
3. **Where to Submit:** Submit this form and any attachments by email to [cfp@floridabar.org](mailto:cfp@floridabar.org) or by regular mail to:

The Florida Bar  
Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism  
651 E. Jefferson Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

4. **Questions:** Direct all questions about this form to [cfp@floridabar.org](mailto:cfp@floridabar.org).

**June Reports should include information from January 1 to June 15.**  
**December Reports should include information from June 16 to December 15.**

## **LOCAL PROFESSIONALISM PANEL QUESTIONS**

Please complete the information below regarding any activity within your Local Professionalism Panel. Additional pages may be attached as needed.

- 1. Please describe the process by which complaints are addressed.** You may attach a link to the complaint form or link to where information is located on your website that advises the consumers, attorneys, and judges how to file a complaint.

<https://thirdcircuitfl.org/wp-content/uploads/Third-Judicial-Circuit-Professionalism-Panel-Referral-Form.pdf>

- 2. Please describe what types of professionalism issues are seen most often in this Circuit?**

Our referrals deal with many different issues and have not just centered on one that could be seen as "most often" in our circuit. Referrals include allegations related to honesty, integrity and candor to the Court, failure to appear for hearings and Orders to Show Cause issued by a Judge.

**3. What are believed to be the causes of professionalism issues within your Circuit?**

Lack of accountability for one's actions and attorney's/judges willingness to overlook unprofessional behavior. In part, lack of education or lack of knowledge in an area may play a role.

**4. How often does your Circuit's Local Professionalism Panel meet?**

At least quarterly. Panel last met on May 16, 2025.

**5. Please describe any training provided to committee members.**

The Local Professionalism Panel training, directed by the Supreme Court of Florida in its order In re: Code for Resolving Professionalism Referrals and Amendments to Rule Regulating The Florida Bar 6-10.3 , which has been recorded and posted on The Florida Bar's website on the Local Professionalism Panel section of the Center for Professionalism page. The link is: <https://www.floridabar.org/prof/local/>

**6. How is your Circuit's Local Professionalism Panel promoted?**

On the Third Judicial Circuit of Florida website.

7. Please provide information regarding all complaint intake for the appropriate dates. If filing in June, the information should be from January 1<sup>st</sup> – June 15<sup>th</sup>. If filing in December, the information should be from June 16<sup>th</sup> – December 15<sup>th</sup>.

1.

<b>Date of Referral:</b> April 22, 2025	<b>Circuit in which issue arose:</b> THIRD
<b>Short Summary detailing the substance of the referral</b>	
Attorney failed to attend properly noticed hearings including an Order to Show Cause directed at her by the county judge..	
<b>The relationship of the respondent to the person submitting the referral.</b>	
Attorney who appeared in front of the person.	
<b>Whether or not the respondent voluntarily participated in the process.</b>	
Yes, Respondent voluntarily participated.	
<b>The resolution, if any, of the referral;*</b>	
Respondent was counseled by the entire Panel and directed to submit a Letter to the County Judge outlining the issues which existed internally within the firm she worked for and which contributed to her failure to appear and how those issues were being rectified.	
<b>Whether there were previous referrals against the respondent</b>	
None to the Professionalism Panel for the Third Judicial Circuit	

2.

<b>Date of Referral:</b> June 10, 2025	<b>Circuit in which issue arose:</b> Third
<b>Short Summary detailing the substance of the referral</b>	
Attorney appearing in a small claims proceeding without filing a notice of appearance.	
<b>The relationship of the respondent to the person submitting the referral.</b>	
Opposing Party in the small claims matter.	
<b>Whether or not the respondent voluntarily participated in the process.</b>	
Unknown at this time as correspondence has been sent to the attorney.	
<b>The resolution, if any, of the referral;*</b>	
Still pending	
<b>Whether there were previous referrals against the respondent</b>	
None to the Third Judicial Circuit Professionalism Panel.	

3.

<b>Date of Referral: June 8, 2025</b>	<b>Circuit in which issue arose:</b>
<b>Short Summary detailing the substance of the referral</b>	
Attorney was rude and unprofessional to the process server.	
<b>The relationship of the respondent voluntarily participated in the process</b>	
Process Server for opposing party serving attorney's client.	
<b>Whether or not the respondent voluntarily participated in the process.</b>	
Not applicable, as the matter was handled by the Circuit Court through an administrative process where the court suspended the process server's certification as a process server in the Third Judicial Circuit. As a result, the Panel declined to act in this matter.	
<b>The resolution, if any, of the referral;*</b>	
See above	
<b>Whether there were previous referrals against the respondent</b>	
None to the panel.	



8. **Please provide the contact information for all current panel members.** Please include: name(s), email(s), address(es), and phone number(s), and title if applicable.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title/Firm</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>
Christina Seifert	LPP Chair and General Magistrate	<a href="mailto:Seifert.christina@jud3.flcourts.org">Seifert.christina@jud3.flcourts.org</a>	173 NE Hernando Ave. Room 408 Lake City, Fl. 32055	(386) 758-2163
Hon. Leandra Johnson	Judge	<a href="mailto:Johnson.leandra@jud3.flcourts.org">Johnson.leandra@jud3.flcourts.org</a>	173 NE Hernando Ave. Room 239 Lake City, Fl. 32055	(386) 719-2012
Hon. Jamie Tyndal	Judge	<a href="mailto:Tyndal.jamie@jud3.flcourts.org">Tyndal.jamie@jud3.flcourts.org</a>	207 NE First Street Jasper, Fl. 32052	(386) 792-1220
James Roland	Asst. Public Defender	<a href="mailto:jroland@flpd3.com">jroland@flpd3.com</a>	Third Judicial Circuit Public Defender Taylor County Courthouse 108 N. Jefferson St. Suite 301 Perry, Fl. 32347	(850) 838-2830
Garrett Hill	Columbia County Judge	<a href="mailto:Hill.garrett@jud3.flcourts.org">Hill.garrett@jud3.flcourts.org</a>	Third Judicial Circuit 173 NE Hernando Ave. Lake City, Fl. 32055	(386) 243-6368
Guy Norris	Lawyer	<a href="mailto:gnorris@norrisattorneys.com">gnorris@norrisattorneys.com</a>	Norris and Norris, P.A. 253 NW Main Blvd. Lake City, Fl. 32055	(386) 752-7240
David A. Phelps	Lawyer	<a href="mailto:davidphelps@fairpoint.net">davidphelps@fairpoint.net</a>	3547 Slaughter Road Perry, Fl. 32347	(386) 208-2585

**The Florida Bar will publish on its website the LPP biannual reports. The Chief Judge, or the Chief Judge's designee, will publish on the judicial Circuit's website the LPP biannual reports from that Circuit.**