

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE**

In response to a referral by the Supreme Court of Florida, the Civil Procedure Rules Committee proposes amendments to Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.200 (Case Management; Pretrial Procedure) to improvement case management, Rule 1.201 (Complex Litigation) to update cross references.

To address the Court's referral regarding amending Rule 1.280 (General Provisions Governing Discovery), the Committee proposes that: the parties meet and confer to discuss the nature and basis of claims and defenses, possibilities for settling, and discovery; the parties are required to serve initial discovery disclosures, have an ongoing duty to supplement and correct disclosures made under the discovery rule, and that every discovery request, response, or objection be signed by an attorney of record.

To address the Court's referral regarding amending Rule 1.440 (Setting Action for Trial), the Committee proposes by removing the concept of "at issue," and requiring motions, not notices, when setting a case for trial.

To address the Court's referral regarding Rule 1.460 (~~Continuances~~Motions to Continue Trial), the Committee proposes that motions to continue trial are disfavored and should rarely be granted; successive continuances are highly disfavored; and lack of due diligence in preparing for trial in not grounds to continue a case.