

Tampa Federal Judges:

Kovachevich, Elizabeth Anne

Born 1936 in Canton, IL

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U. S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

Nominated by Ronald Reagan on January 26, 1982, to a seat vacated by George C. Young; Confirmed by the Senate on March 4, 1982, and received commission on March 9, 1982. **Served as chief judge, 1996-2002.**

Education:

St. Petersburg Junior College, A.A., 1956

University of Miami, B.B.A., 1958

Stetson University College of Law, J.D., 1961

Professional Career:

Research and administrative aide, Pinellas County Legislative Delegation, Florida State Legislature, 1961

Private practice, St. Petersburg, Florida, 1961-1973

Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit, State of Florida, 1973-1982

Merryday, Steven Douglas

Born 1950 in Palatka, FL

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U. S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

Nominated by George H.W. Bush on September 23, 1991, to a new seat authorized by 104 Stat. 5089; Confirmed by Senate on February 6, 1992, and received commission February 10, 1992.

Education:

University of Florida, B.A., 1972

University of Florida College of Law, J.D., 1975

Professional Career:

Private practice, Tampa, Florida, 1975-1992

Whittemore, James D.

Born 1952 in Walterboro, SC

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U. S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

Nominated by William J. Clinton on October 20, 1999, to a seat vacated by William Terrell Hodges; Confirmed by the Senate on May 24, 2000, and received commission on May 25, 2000.

Education:

University of Florida, B.S.B.A., 1974

Stetson University College of Law, J.D., 1977

Professional Career:

Private practice, FL, 1977

Assistant federal public defender, Office of Federal Public Defender, 1978-1981

Private practice, FL, 1981-1990

Judge, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Court, Florida, 1990-2000

Covington, Virginia Maria Hernandez

Born 1955 in Tampa, FL

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U. S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

Nominated by George W. Bush on April 20, 2004, to a seat vacated by Ralph W. Nimmons, Jr.; Confirmed by Senate on September 7, 2004, and received commission on September 10, 2004.

Education:

University of Tampa, B.S., 1976

University of Tampa, M.B.A., 1977

Georgetown University Law Center, J.D., 1980

Professional Career:

Trial attorney, Federal Trade Commission, 1980-1981

Assistant state attorney, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Florida, 1982-1983

Assistant U.S. attorney, Civil Division, Middle District of Florida, 1983-1988

Assistant U.S. attorney, Chief, Asset Forfeiture Section, Crim. Div., Mid. Dist. FL, 1989-2001

Judge, Second District Court of Appeal, Florida, 2001-2004

Scriven, Mary Stenson

Born 1962 in Atlanta, GA

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U. S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

Nominated by George W. Bush on July 10, 2008, to a seat vacated by Patricia C. Fawsett; Confirmed by Senate on September 26, 2008, and received commission on September 30, 2008.

U.S. Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, 1997-2008.

Education:

Duke University, B.A., 1983

Florida State University College of Law, J.D., 1987

Professional Career:

Private practice, Florida, 1987-1997

Associate professor, Stetson University College of Law, 1996-1997

Moody, James S. Jr.

Born 1947 in Tampa, FL

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U. S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

Nominated by William J. Clinton on June 8, 2000, to a new seat authorized by 113 Stat. 1501; Confirmed by the Senate on July 21, 2000, and received commission on July 28, 2000.

Education:

University of Florida, Gainesville, B.S., 1969

University of Florida School of Law, J.D., 1972

Professional Career:

Private practice, FL, 1972-1994

Circuit judge, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of Hillsborough County, Florida, 1995-2000

Castagna, William John

Born 1924 Philadelphia, PA

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U. S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

Nominated by Jimmy Carter on June 5, 1979, to a new seat authorized by 92 Stat. 1629; Confirmed by the Senate on July 23, 1979, and received commission on July 24, 1979. [Assumed senior status on June 29, 1992.](#)

Education:

University of Florida, LL.B., 1949

University of Florida, J.D., 1967

Professional Career:

U.S. Air Force, 1943-1945

Private practice, Miami, Florida, 1949-1950

Private practice, Clearwater, Florida, 1950-1979

Bucklew, Susan C.

Born 1942 in Tampa, FL

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U. S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

Nominated by William J. Clinton on October 29, 1993, to a seat vacated by William J. Castagna; Confirmed by the Senate on November 20, 1993, and received commission on November 24, 1993. [Assumed senior status on August 1, 2008.](#)

Education:

Florida State University, B.A., 1964

University of South Florida, M.A., 1968

Stetson University College of Law, J.D., 1977

Professional Career:

Corporate legal counsel, Jim Walter Corporation, 1978-1982

County judge, Hillsborough County Court, Florida, 1982-1986

Circuit judge, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, 1986-1993

Lazzara, Richard A.

Born 1945 in Tampa, FL

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U. S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

Nominated by William J. Clinton on January 7, 1997, to a seat vacated by John H. Moore; Confirmed by the Senate on September 26, 1997, and received commission on September 29, 1997. [Assumed senior status on December 17, 2011.](#)

Education:

Loyola University New Orleans, B.A., 1967

University of Florida College of Law, J.D., 1970

Professional Career:

Law clerk, Hillsborough County Solicitor Office, Hillsborough County, Florida, 1970

Assistant county solicitor, Hillsborough County, Florida, 1970-1972

Assistant state attorney, Hillsborough County, Florida, 1973

Private practice, Tampa, Florida, 1974-1986
Judge, Hillsborough County, Florida, 1987
Circuit judge, 13th Judicial Circuit of Florida, 1988-1993
Appellate judge, Second District Court of Appeal, Florida, 1993-1997

The **Tampa Division** is part of the **Middle District** of Florida, whose overall **Chief Justice** is:

Conway, Anne C.

Born 1950 in Cleveland, OH

Federal Judicial Service:

Judge, U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida

Nominated by George H.W. Bush on July 24, 1991, to a seat vacated by George C. Carr. Confirmed by the Senate on November 21, 1991, and received commission on November 25, 1991. **Served as chief judge, 2008-present.**

Education:

John Carroll University, B.A., 1972

University of Florida College of Law, J.D., 1975

Professional Career:

Law clerk, Hon. John Reed, Jr., U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida, 1975-1977

Private practice, Orlando, Florida, 1978-1991
