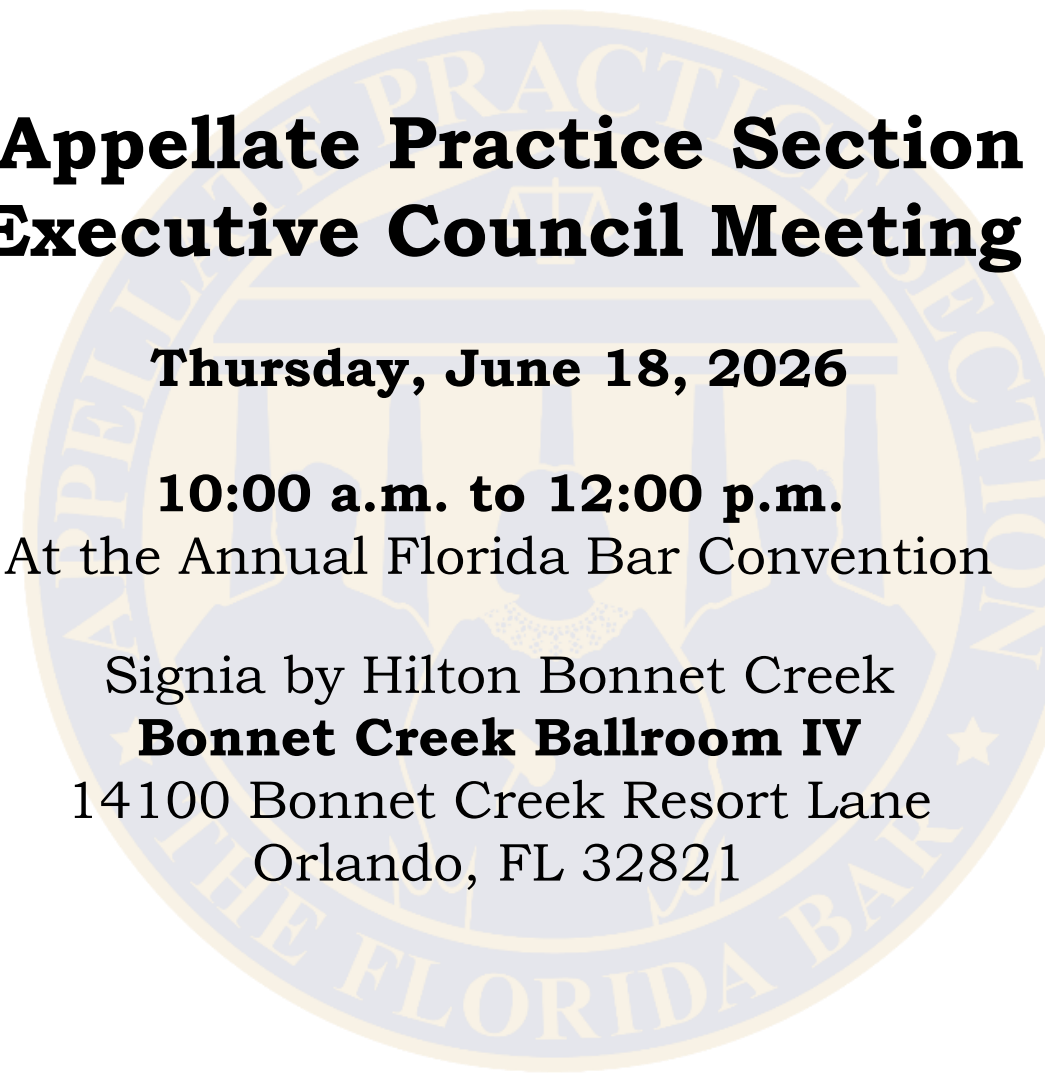




Appellate Practice Section Executive Council Meeting

Thursday, June 18, 2026

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

At the Annual Florida Bar Convention

Signia by Hilton Bonnet Creek

Bonnet Creek Ballroom IV

14100 Bonnet Creek Resort Lane

Orlando, FL 32821



MEETING AGENDA

I. Call to Order – Joe Eagleton, Chair

II. Introductions – Joe Eagleton

Elaine Walter, Chair-Elect
Mary Walter, Treasurer
Chance Lyman, Secretary
Courtney Brewer, Immediate Past Chair
Amy Walker, Program Administrator

III. Chair's Report – Joe Eagleton

IV. Approval of Minutes from December 2025 Virtual Budget Vote & February 2026 Meeting – Chance Lyman (*Exhibit A*)

V. Treasurer & Finance Committee's Report – Mary Walter (*Exhibit B*)

VI. Old Business

A. DCA Judges Conference – Joe Eagleton

B. James C. Adkins & John R. Hamilton Awards – Joe Eagleton

C. Leadership Summit – Elaine Walter

D. William A. Van Nortwick Appellate Workshop – Courtney Brewer & Judge Carrie Ann Wozniak

E. Section Social Events – Garrett Tozier

F. High School Moot Court Competition – Joe Eagleton

VII. New Business

- A. Proposed Policy Position on Permanent Courthouses – Diane DeWolf (*Exhibit C*)
- B. 2026 Section Retreat – Elaine Walter
- C. Bench Briefs – Ali Preston & Evan Dix
- D. Third DCA Administrative Orders – Judge Kansas Gooden
- E. Newly Board-Certified Appellate Lawyers – Courtney Brewer

Congratulations!

- Michael Joseph Ellis – Tallahassee
- Dylan Bailey Howard – Tallahassee
- Dimitrios Alexandros Peteves – Tampa
- Dwayne Antonio Robinson – Miami
- Garrett Andrew Tozier – Tampa
- Shannon Leigh Troutman – Saint Petersburg

- F. New Member Outreach – Mary Walter

VIII. Liaison Reports

- A. Appellate Court Rules Committee – Dwayne Robinson
- B. Appellate Practice Certification Committee – Mark Tinker
- C. Board of Governors – Jesse Butler
- D. Council of Sections – Nick Shannin
- E. Standing Committee on Pro Bono – Sarah Lahlou-Amine

IX. Section Committee Reports

- A. Advocacy Committee – Diane DeWolf & Dan Nordby
- B. Communications Committee – Dineen Wasylik & Dimitri Peteves
- C. Continuing Legal Education Committee – Allen Bonner & Garrett Tozier
- D. Delegated Reserves Committee – Duane Daiker
- E. Fellows Program Committee – Courtney Brewer & Nicholas Lynch

Congratulations and welcome to our newest Section Fellow, Rebecca Klonel!

- F. Outreach Committee – Brandon Breslow
- G. Programs Committee – Alyssa Cory

Join us for our “Boston Tea Party” dessert reception later tonight! Thank you to our many sponsors.

- H. Pro Bono Committee – Jamie Moses & Bailey Howard
- I. Publications Committee – Sarah Roberge

- 1. The Record – Eleanor Sills
- 2. Florida Bar Journal – Benjamin Paley
- 3. Self-Represented Litigant Committee – Keith Upson

- J. Section History Committee – Kimberly Berman

Check out the new history timeline on the website!

- X. Election of 2026-2027 Officers & Executive Council Members – Joe Eagleton (*Exhibit D*)
- XI. Chair’s Recognition of Section Leaders – Joe Eagleton
- XII. Passing of the Gavel – Joe Eagleton
- XIII. Announce Next Executive Council Meeting – Elaine Walter

At the Section Retreat
Ritz-Carlton, Boston, and via Zoom
Friday, October 2, 2026 (exact time TBD, but likely in the morning)

- XIV. Adjournment – Joe Eagleton



APPELLATE PRACTICE SECTION

ONLINE BUDGET VOTE

December 5, 2025

- I. **Approval of 2026-2027 General Budget.** With approval from Chair Joe Eagleton, the Section's Program Administrator Amy Walker sent an email to the APS Executive Council (including judicial representatives and past chairs) to review the Section's proposed budget for fiscal year 2026-27. In the materials, Chair Eagleton moved to pass the budget. The motion was seconded in the first response, and it passed by a majority vote. Judicial reps abstained.



APPELLATE PRACTICE SECTION

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

At the DCA Judges Conference & Via Zoom

AGENDA

I. Call to Order – Joe Eagleton, Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

II. Introductions – Joe Eagleton

a. Chair Eagleton led introductions of officers for the meeting including:

- i. Elaine Walter, Chair-Elect
- ii. Mary Walter, Treasurer
- iii. Chance Lyman, Secretary
- iv. Courtney Brewer, Immediate Past Chair
- v. Amy Walker, Section Administrator

b. Other attendees at the meeting: Brandon K. Breslow, Alyssa Cory, Christine Davis, Christopher Donovan (PC), Bailey Howard, Dimitri Peteves, Alison E. Preston, Sarah Roberge, Dwayne Robinson, Eleanor Sills, Garrett Tozier, Nick Shannin (PC), Carol Shannin, Alexis Fields, Michael Korn, Tom Hall (PC), Jack Reiter (PC), Kristin Norse (PC), Andrew Abramovich, Gabriella Lopez, Erin Newell, Hon. Morris Silberman (Second District Court of Appeal judicial liaison) (live attendees); David L. Gunion, Jr., Eric S. Kay, Krystle Cacci, Allen Bonner, Samuel Alexander, Nicholas Lynch, Lara Breslow, Kimberly Berman, Sarah Lahlou-Amine (PC), Jonathan Taylor, Hala Sandridge (PC), Grace Streicher, Dineen Wasylik, Matt Conigliaro (PC), Christopher Carlyle (PC), Gretchen Cothron, Lissette Gonzalez (Zoom attendees).

III. Approval of Minutes from October 2025 Meeting – Chance Lyman (Exhibit A to Agenda): Secretary Lyman reported on the minutes from the last Executive Council meeting. The minutes were ready for approval. Nick Shannin moved to approve the minutes, and Chris Donovan seconded the motion. The minutes were then approved by acclamation.

IV. Treasurer & Finance Committee's Report – Mary Walter (Exhibit B to Agenda): Treasurer Mary Walter reported on the Section's finances. There were no comments or questions.

V. Old Business

- A. Section Social Events – Chair Eagleton reported on the success of the Section's recent social events and meetups, including an event in Tallahassee in connection with the Florida Supreme Court Historical Society's "A Supreme Evening," event.
- B. Free CLEs – Chair Eagleton provided a report on recent CLEs the Section has provided free of charge. Brandon Breslow reported on the recent Board Certification Town Hall event, which had large attendance and was a success as it continues to be of interest to a large audience.

VI. New Business

- A. 2026 Section Retreat – Chair-Elect Elaine Walter provided a report, which included revealing that the location will be Boston. Attendees will stay at the Ritz-Carlton, Boston, October 1st through 4th, 2026.
- B. Bench Briefs – Alison Preston reported regarding this upcoming program, which will cover best practices at oral argument. A variety of judges and justices will be providing their input. We hope to have the program posted for view once the compilation of individual presentations is finished. Alison thanked Evan Dix for

his contributions on this project as well.

- C. William A. Van Nortwick Advanced Appellate Advocacy Workshop – Courtney Brewer & Judge Carrie Ann Wozniak: Immediate Past Chair Brewer reported that, as the Section has done in the past, this will be an intensive 3-day workshop with five (5) active and recently-retired judges and five (5) board certified attorneys serving as faculty. The faculty will provide feedback on participants’ brief writing and oral argument performance. The Workshop will be held at Barry University, Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law in Orlando from April 22 through 24, 2026. The Workshop is geared toward junior lawyers or lawyers new to appellate practice. There are scholarship opportunities available, and CLE is included for appellate board certification credit. Chair Eagleton reported that this is a Section service project, so it is being offered at cost.

VII. Liaison Reports

- A. Appellate Court Rules Committee – Dwayne Robinson provided the report, which included the following: the Florida Supreme Court’s recent amendments included a revision to Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.510 to address recent statutory changes involving citizen initiated petitions to amend the Florida Constitution and a revision to the appellate rules governing the preparation of the record in indigent criminal appeals. ACRC submitted a proposal to amend Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.100 with respect to service of responses and other non-petition documents in writ proceedings. ACRC also submitted proposal to amend Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.400 with respect to the deadline to file appellate attorney fee motions. Finally, ACRC has created an ad hoc subcommittee to study a proposal to change the appellate rules governing rendition of a trial court order, which may affect the tolling provisions throughout the appellate rules.
- B. Appellate Practice Certification Committee – Immediate Past Chair Brewer provided the report, informing the Section that a new exam is being prepared for this year and there were fewer than ten (10) test takers but several recertifications.

- C. Board of Governors – Liaison Jesse Butler was absent but Chair Eagleton reported that our liaison remains available to address any concerns that may arise relating to the Section.
- D. Council of Sections – Nick Shannin gave the report as follows: Chair-Elect Elaine Walter attended the Council of Section's February 10, 2026 meeting on behalf of the Section via Zoom, where all sections in attendance gave a short report. During that meeting, Judge Forst, Chair of Council of Sections, requested a one-page summary that could be provided to encourage young lawyers and law students to join the Appellate Practice Section. Further, by June 30, 2027, the Bar administration plans to be phasing out DVD and CD aftermarket CLE sales and move to on-demand only aftermarket products due to cost issues; this proposal is awaiting approval from the Board of Governors. The Bar will also be providing a seminar regarding amicus briefs on behalf of the Sections. Further, the Council of Sections noted concerns with costs for CLE (e.g., registration costs and hotel stays) and the strain it is putting on member funds. The next Council of Sections meeting will be in June 17, 2026, at the Annual Convention at 3:00 p.m. Tom Hall offered a comment regarding a recent request for amicus brief input in a pending case from Sections of the Bar.
- E. Standing Committee on Pro Bono – Sarah Lahlou-Amine provided the report to the Section as follows: Sarah noted the requirement that every circuit is required to report to the Bar regarding its pro bono programming and events. There was a discussion regarding whether work for the Guadian ad Litem program qualified as pro bono work and the consensus was generally, yes, especially that work as handled by the Section. The Law Firm Subcommittee discussed events at various firms. The Judicial Advisory Subcommittee discussed representation of appellees in domestic violence appeals. Appellate and trial judges noted reversals have been occurring that might not have occurred had appellee been represented by appellate counsel. Emeritus attorneys (retired but still practicing pro bono) also provided a report. It was noted that Section member Steven Senn received the Tobias Simon award for pro bono work this year.

VIII. Section Committee Reports

- A. Advocacy Committee – Diane DeWolf & Dan Nordby – Chair
Eagleton reported on behalf of the committee, noting that the committee has been helpful at reviewing incoming requests and screening for whether the Section should get involved.
- B. Communications Committee – Dineen Wasylik & Dimitri Peteves
Dimitri provided the report as follows: the last report was on October 23, 2025. Since then, we've had over 9,000 impressions on LinkedIn, with our most popular posts being the pictures of our statewide social hours. On Facebook, we've had over 18,000 views. Viewers engage most with posts that feature a picture as opposed to a link. Approximately 36% of our viewers on Facebook are non-followers. Our most viewed Facebook post was about the new Second District Court of Appeal courthouse. Approximately 26% of our Facebook followers live in Tampa. By contrast, only 8% live in Miami—so we continue to encourage our Miami members to follow us on Facebook. On Instagram, we've had almost 7000 views, and again the posts about the social activities were our most popular. Miami is our top city for followers in Instagram, so it seems Miamians prefer Instagram over Facebook. On our website, we've had 22,000 views. About 40% of those were on the home page, and then 25% were on the Pro Se Handbook. If anyone has something they'd like to be shared on social media or our website—or if anyone has suggestions or ideas for our social media and the website—please reach out to Dimitri Peteves, Dineen Wasilyk, or Lara Breslow—the communications committee. Finally, the communications committee is very grateful for Tracey Eller, who takes care of the bulk of the work behind the scenes. Dineen also reported that last night's pictures have also been posted.
- C. Continuing Legal Education Committee – Allen Bonner & Garrett Tozier: Allen Bonner reported regarding Section Webinars. The seventh webinar of the season was yesterday, regarding jury instructions, which had a very strong ninety (90) attendees. The committee is hosting a meeting tomorrow at 1:00pm to brainstorm topic ideas. There is also a free CLE coming up with Judge Logue regarding the Florida Constitution's unique structure. Garrett Tozier reported on the board certification review course, which was a great success

with twenty-four (24) in-person attendees and twenty-one (21) who attended via live stream. The committee is preparing for the Practicing Before the Florida Supreme Court program which will be in early May 2026 and which the Section is hosting on its own. There will be a similar seminar for the Fourth District Court of Appeal to be planned soon.

D. Delegated Reserves Committee – Chair Eagleton reported on behalf of Duane Diaker that the committee has nothing to report.

E. Fellows Program Committee – Courtney Brewer & Nicholas Lynch: Immediate Past Chair Brewer provided the report, which included the upcoming round of new applicants for the next fellow; she encouraged anyone who has five (5) or less years of practice to apply if interested in the Section.

F. Outreach Committee – Brandon Breslow provided the Outreach Committee’s report, which included the following:

1. **Board Certification Town Hall:** This hour-long webinar returned on January 13, 2026, with (as promised) an all-star lineup of board-certified attorneys--Duane Daiker, Jamie Moses, Alyssa Cory, and Sam Alexander--discussing the qualifications, application, and exam for Appellate Practice. Joe Eagleton graciously agreed to moderate and did a stellar job. The program was free to APS members and included certification CLE credit. As was the case with the first program in 2025, we had excellent turnout at over 60 attendees. And it prompted a few attorneys to join the Section! This was followed up by a virtual happy hour. We hope to keep this program on our slate for 2026-27.
2. **Table of Authorities:** Since our last Executive Council meeting, we have hosted one Table of Authorities program, where Joe Eagleton moderated a sold-out, small-group, virtual discussion with Judge Robin Rosenbaum of the federal Eleventh Circuit. For our next program on February 24, Alison Preston will moderate another sold-out discussion with Justice John Couriel of the Florida Supreme Court. Alison is also working to secure a judge from the Fourth DCA for

the next installment, which will be in April or early May. Alison also noted that the subcommittee would be open to any ideas for future judicial and moderator candidates for this program.

3. **Law Clerk Subcommittee:** Evan Dix is no longer a law clerk, so we need to replace him and are actively soliciting interested law clerks. No updates otherwise from the subcommittee. Brandon also thanked the officers, particularly Mary Walter, for their continued support.

G. Programs Committee – Alyssa Cory provided the report, as follows: the committee planned and executed the APS Welcome Reception featuring a Presidents’ Day theme to kick off the 2026 Education Program of the Florida Conference of District Courts of Appeal Judges, which was a total success with lots of positive feedback from attendees. Given the retreat location this year, the Dessert Reception Theme will be “Boston Tea Party.” The Dessert Reception planning timeline will have a Spring heavy timeline (March-May), and one proposal from hotel preferred vendor consideration by committee. The Ad Hoc Retreat Committee is finalizing locations and agenda for the retreat, which will be in Boston, October 1-4, 2026. The Committee has identified several great options for locations and activities. We are working with a DMC to finalize schedule for committee considerations. Thank you to Amy Walker for helping particularly with contracts and vendors.

H. Pro Bono Committee – Jamie Moses & Bailey Howard – Bailey provided the report as follows: as part of the Defending Best Interests initiative, forty-three (43) attorneys took over 100 cases. The committee also continues to relay ad hoc requests to its 223-person listserv. The statewide Guardian ad Litem will have three-part CLE that will target appellate attorneys interested in handling defending best interests cases. The first presentation will be at the Annual convention. Please let Bailey know if you would like to be looped in.

I. Publications Committee – Sarah Roberge

1. The Record – Eleanor Sills reported for The Record as follows: We have published three more substantive articles since the fall meeting. One article addressed changes to the family law rules evolved, another was an update from CREC, and the most recent was a discussion on preservation and the DCA split on motions for rehearing. In the next quarter, we are hoping to finalize some judicial profiles, continue our series on conflict certified, and post some more federal court and criminal law content. We are still slow for content so if anyone would like to volunteer, it would be incredibly helpful. We have also talked about discussing after the EC meeting setting a separate meeting for ourselves to talk more about how to solicit more authors for The Record, since that has been and continues to be a consistent problem. Sarah noted that the Record was mentioned during Chief Justice Muniz’s presentation during the DCA Judge’s conference.
2. Florida Bar Journal – Sarah provided report for Benjamin Paley, who noted that we have articles scheduled out currently until July/August 2026. Please let them know if you are interested in writing.
3. Self-Represented Litigant Committee – Sarah reported for Keith Upson regarding the Pro Se Handbook and indicated the committee is in a holding pattern. There has been a lot of communication between Keith and Chance (and administrators at the Bar) about obtaining a funding grant, to assist with translations and ADA compliance.
- J. Section History Committee – Kimberly Berman reported that the committee is continuing to gather information from past chairs regarding the Section for purposes of a visual timeline and hopes to present a finished product for the annual convention in June.

XI. Elaine Walter announced that if anyone is interested in joining the EC, please let her know.

X. Judge Silberman reported that the Second District has moved into its new location in St. Petersburg. He thanked the Section for its

support on those efforts. He also reiterated that the Second District generally allows oral argument, including in the Guardian ad Litem cases.

XI – Chair Eagleton noted next meeting will be in Orlando at the annual convention on June 18, 2026, at 10:00am.

XII. Adjournment – Christopher Donovan moved to adjourn the meeting and Nick Shannin seconded; Chair Eagleton adjourned the meeting at 1:59 PM.

THE FLORIDA BAR
Appellate Practice Section
For the Ten Months Ending April 30, 2026

	April	YTD 2026	Budget Variance (\$)	FY 25-26 Budget	YTD 2025	YTD/Prior YTD Variance (\$)	FYE Actual 2025
3001-Annual Fees	165	81,785	(9,355)	91,140	61,400	20,385	61,400
3002-Affiliate Fees	-	-	(50)	50	25	(25)	25
Total Fee Revenue	165	81,785	(9,405)	91,190	61,425	20,360	61,425
3301-Registration Live	(650)	39,715	(360)	40,075	-	39,715	-
3331-Registration-Ticket Sales	-	-	-	-	100,500	(100,500)	100,500
Total Fee Revenue	(650)	39,715	(360)	40,075	100,500	(60,785)	100,500
3351-Sponsorship	5,000	15,000	(25,000)	40,000	26,500	(11,500)	57,500
3391 Section Profit Split	11,545	74,702	14,702	60,000	55,824	18,878	64,461
3392-Section Differential	420	1,840	(2,160)	4,000	833	1,008	940
Total Other Event Revenue	16,965	91,542	(12,458)	104,000	83,157	8,385	122,901
3901-Eliminated InterFund Revenue	-	40	40	-	40	-	40
Total Other Revenue Sources	-	40	40	-	40	-	40
Total Revenue	16,480	213,082	(22,183)	235,265	245,122	(32,040)	284,866
4134-Web Services	-	2,164	(15,126)	17,290	3,255	(1,091)	3,469
4311-Office Supplies	-	118	(182)	300	163	(45)	163
Total Staff & Office Expense	-	2,282	(15,308)	17,590	3,418	(1,137)	3,632
5031-AV Services & Productions	57	378	(1,622)	2,000	-	378	-
5051-Credit Card Fees	253	2,445	145	2,300	3,788	(1,344)	5,250
5101-Consultant Services	260	3,180	(6,820)	10,000	3,360	(180)	4,360
5121-Printing-Outside	-	-	(8,000)	8,000	8	(8)	8
Total Contract Services	569	6,002	(16,298)	22,300	7,156	(1,154)	9,618
5501-Employee Travel	1,274	4,285	(65)	4,350	9,399	(5,114)	10,079
5531-Board/Off/Memb Travel	-	3,500	(3,000)	6,500	3,578	(78)	679
5561-Judges Travel	-	-	(5,600)	5,600	-	-	2,004
Total Travel	1,274	7,785	(8,665)	16,450	12,977	(5,192)	12,762
6001-Post 1st Class/Bulk	-	13	(287)	300	179	(166)	179
6251-Promotional Sponsorship	-	1,500	(4,390)	5,890	-	1,500	-
6301-TFB Annual Meeting Expense	-	1,082	(58,918)	60,000	139	943	64,014
6311-General Meeting	-	-	(4,700)	4,700	181,631	(181,631)	181,631
6319-Meetings - Other Functions	-	3,713	(4,287)	8,000	7,662	(3,949)	8,362
6321-Meetings - Meals	39,327	41,151	(13,849)	55,000	49,600	(8,449)	49,600
6331-Meetigs Room Rental	-	-	-	-	2,810	(2,810)	2,810
6451-Committee Meeting Expenses	-	2,765	(2,635)	5,400	2,160	605	2,160
7001-Grant/Award/Donation	705	720	(1,330)	2,050	2,171	(1,451)	2,798
7005-Charitable Donations	-	550	(6,950)	7,500	-	550	-
7999-Other Operating Expense	21	338	(1,662)	2,000	-	338	86
Total Other Expense	40,052	51,831	(99,009)	150,840	246,352	(194,520)	311,640
8021-Section Administration	83	40,893	(7,096)	47,988	35,460	5,433	35,460
8101-Printing In-House	158	418	368	50	62	356	141
8171-Course Approval Fee	-	-	(400)	400	-	-	-
8901-Eliminating Expense	750	750	750	-	-	750	-
Total Admin & Internal Expense	990	42,060	(6,378)	48,438	35,522	6,539	35,601
9692-Transfer Out-Council of Sections	-	500	-	500	500	-	500
Total Depreciation Expense	-	500	-	500	500	-	500
Total Expense	42,886	110,460	(145,658)	256,118	305,925	(195,465)	373,754
Operating Income	(26,406)	102,622	123,475	(20,853)	(60,803)	163,425	(88,888)
3899-Investment Allocation	37,121	71,448	50,044	21,404	30,528	40,920	63,838
Total Non-Operating Income	37,121	71,448	50,044	21,404	30,528	40,920	63,838
Change in Net Position	10,715	174,070	173,519	551	(30,275)	204,345	(25,050)
Net Position							

2001-Beginning of the year, restated (Fund Balance)	-	780,829	780,829	805,879	805,879
End of the Year (Current Month)	-	954,899	781,380	775,604	780,829



Proposed Appellate Practice Section Legislative Position

In accordance with Section 900 of The Florida Bar's Standing Board Policies, and Article X of the Appellate Practice Section's Bylaws, the Appellate Practice Section's Advocacy Committee recommends for approval by the Executive Council the following legislative policy position:

The Appellate Practice Section supports establishing and maintaining permanent courthouses for all Florida state appellate courts.



2026-2027 Appellate Practice Section Election
of Officers & Executive Council Members

Proposed Slate from the Nominating Committee

Position

Nominee

CHAIR

Elaine Walter (Miami)

CHAIR-ELECT

Mary Walter (Orlando)

TREASURER

Chance Lyman (Tampa)

SECRETARY

Brandon Breslow (Tampa)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

(3-year terms expiring 6/30/29)

Lara Breslow (Tampa)

Sydney D'Angelo (Miami)

Evan Dix (Tampa)

Bailey Howard (Tallahassee)

Garrett Tozier (Tampa)