

STATE OF FLORIDA
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Judge R. Lee Smith joins Seventh Judicial Circuit

BUNNELL - The Seventh Judicial Circuit welcomed Circuit Judge R. Lee Smith to the bench today.

The newly-appointed jurist officially started at the Kim C. Hammond Justice Center in Bunnell where he has been assigned. Judge Smith presides over family law cases in Division 47 and fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge J. David Walsh.

"I am honored and excited to take the bench in the Kim C. Hammond Justice Center in Flagler County. Having worked and lived in Volusia and St. Johns counties as a lawyer, it is fitting that I begin my career on the bench here in the center for the Seventh Circuit," Judge Smith said Monday.

He added: " I know the work will be challenging but rewarding and I look forward to serving the citizens of the Seventh Judicial Circuit."

Before his appointment, Judge Smith served as an Assistant State Attorney and the Chief of the Traffic Homicide Division for the Fourth Judicial Circuit since 2009. He previously served as an Assistant State Attorney for the Seventh Judicial Circuit from 2007-2008 and as legislative counsel for Congressman Ander Crenshaw in Washington, D.C. from 2002-2007. He received his bachelor's degree from Florida State University and his juris doctor from the Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville.

An investiture, a ceremony during which a judge formally receives a judicial robe and takes the oath of office, is planned for this summer.

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