



ITA M. NEYMOTIN CRIMINAL CONFLICT AND CIVIL REGIONAL COUNSEL SECOND DISTRICT

WHO ARE WE?

- The Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel (OCCRC) was created by the Legislature (Statute 27.511) in 2007 to provide legal representation to indigent persons and to control rising costs from the private court appointed registry attorneys. Regional Counsel's main three classes of cases are: 1) criminal conflict cases that the court grants the Public Defender's motion to withdraw and appoints to the OCCRC, 2) dependency and civil cases, and 3) certain statutorily authorized civil commitment proceedings. OCCRC also handles appeals and post-conviction motions.
- Regional Counsel Offices are divided by the Florida District Court of Appeals. The Office of Regional Counsel, Second District is comprised of five judicial circuits and fourteen counties (Charlotte, Collier, Desoto, Glades, Hendry, Hardee, Highlands, Lee, Manatee, Pasco, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota).

SAVINGS TO THE STATE

Cost of Court Appointed Counsel	
Fiscal Year	Amount
2004-2005	\$48.6M*
2005-2006	\$68.2M*
2006-2007	\$94.6M*
2007-2008	\$120.7M*
2008-2009	\$76.2M
2009-2010	\$79.6M
2010-2011	\$79.6M
2011-2012	\$76.9M

*Indicates years prior to Regional Conflict Counsel (was not fully functional until the latter part of the 3rd quarter of Fiscal Year 2007-2008). 2011-2012 includes certified forward as of Sept. 19, 2012.

- The OCCRCs were created to reduce private court appointed counsel cost when these costs increased from \$49 million to nearly \$95 million dollars in just two years.
- It has been estimated that to date, the OCCRCs have saved the state over \$180 million dollars over court appointed counsel.

Despite increased caseload and a rise in the cost of court fees, the Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel will stay committed to saving taxpayers money by being a cost effective and budget conscious agency, while still providing quality legal representation.