



NEWS Release

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County and Circuit Court jurisdiction changes to begin in January

TAVARES, FL — Beginning Jan. 1, 2020, the jurisdictional dollar amounts which determine whether a civil lawsuit is filed in County Court or Circuit Court are changing.

Those filing a civil suit with a value of \$30,000 or less will now file their lawsuit in the County Court. The previous limit was \$15,000.

Those filing a civil suit with a value greater than \$30,000 will continue to file in the Circuit Court.

Small claims cases, which use a simplified procedure for resolution, will now be allowed to follow that procedure for cases whose value is \$8,000 or less. The previous limit was \$5,000.

The change in the County Court jurisdictional limit also carries with it a change in the filing fees for County Court. For County Court cases with a value between \$15,000 and \$30,000, the fee charged will be the same as Circuit Court cases.

Appeals of orders where the amount in dispute is greater than \$15,000 will continue to be heard by District Courts of Appeal until Jan. 1, 2023, regardless of whether those orders are from a County Court or a Circuit Court.

For more information about the changes coming to County and Circuit Courts, visit <https://www.flcourts.org/Know-Your-Court>.

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