



**Second Judicial Circuit of Florida Press Release
May 26, 2015**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Grant Slayden @ office 850.577.4420
cell 850.508.3843**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INVESTITURE OF LEON COUNTY JUDGE J. LAYNE SMITH

Who: Judge J. Layne Smith, 2d Judicial Circuit

What: Investiture of Leon County Judge J. Layne Smith

Where: Leon County Courthouse, Courtroom 2-E, 301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee

When: Friday, May 29, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

The investiture of recently appointed Leon County Judge J. Layne Smith will be held on Friday, May 29, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. in the Leon County Courthouse, Courtroom 2-E, 301 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida.

Judge Smith assumed the bench on March 29, 2015. The investiture is a formal public welcome and celebration held during a ceremonial session of Court.

Leon County Judge J. Layne Smith grew up in Tallahassee and was educated in Leon County public schools. He graduated from The Florida State University College of Law in the top six percent of his class. He has twenty-four years of private practice experience trying civil, criminal defense, and administrative cases throughout Florida. Judge Smith has served as a special designated assistant public defender and as a special designated assistant statewide prosecutor.

With regard to peer rating, Florida Trend recognizes Judge Smith as one of Florida's Legal Elite, and for many years he has been AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell. He served with distinction in the executive branch as General Counsel for the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, General Counsel for the Florida Department of the Lottery, and as a Commissioner on the State Retirement Commission. Judge Smith has created and regularly teaches courses at the FSU College of Law.