

2026 Palm Beach County Bar Association's Bench Bar Conference
March 6, 2025



PROBATE/ESTATE/GUARDIANSHIP SESSION

Time: 10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

This 1 hour and 15-minute session is geared toward probate attorneys and judges and those who want to learn more about the current issues affecting probate practice in the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.

Panelists: Judge Samantha Schosberg Feuer, Judge Charles E. Burton, William Maguire, Karina Rodriguez-Matzen

Moderators: Chioma R. Deere and Brett Barner

A. Welcome & Overview of Session

Session Coordinators Brett Barner and Chioma R. Deere will provide an overview of the session, projects for improving local practice, professionalism, and ethics, opportunities for probate related education, and introduce the panelists.

B. Bench-Bar Discussion with Judges

Judges: Honorable Samantha Schosberg Feuer, Honorable Charles E. Burton, – A unique opportunity to engage directly with the judiciary. Fifteenth Judicial Circuit Judges will address issues with the probate and guardianship practitioners that they believe will streamline and simplify litigation and evidentiary issues.

C. Florida Rule & Case Law Update: The Ones You Can't Afford to Miss

Speaker: William Maguire, Esq. – An in-depth bench-bar update on recent developments in probate, trust, and guardianship law, including significant case law decisions and updates to the as they impact probate and guardianship matters. This session is designed to provide probate, trust, and guardianship practitioners with practical insight into recent and anticipated changes, and to highlight how those developments are being applied in practice and from the bench.

D. Inside the Clerk's Office: Operational Updates Impacting Probate and Guardianship Practice

Speaker: Karina Rodriguez-Matzen, Esq., Director over Civil Court Services who oversees the Civil, Probate, Guardianship, Unified Family Court, and Tax Deed divisions for the Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller, who will discuss operational changes aligning the Clerk's Office with the Court's Probate, Guardianship, and Mental Health Divisions, including 24/7 service for Vulnerable Adult Injunctions, expanded automation, and responsible use of AI to improve efficiency amid staffing challenges.