



BUSINESS COURT

Ninth Judicial Circuit Court

*The Ninth Judicial Circuit Court
of Florida in and for **Orange County**
Office of the Court Administrator
www.ninja9.org*

BUSINESS COURT
425 North Orange Avenue
Orlando, Florida 32801
407-836-1464

*W*elcome to Business Court
in the Ninth Judicial Circuit.
Circuit Court Judge Renee A.
Roche serves as the Business
Court Judge.

*This brochure will give you a
general overview of Business
Court, the types of cases it
handles and the benefits it
provides. Additional
information including case
scheduling, form orders,
procedural information and
published rulings are available
on the web, at [www.ninja9.org/
Courts/Business/Index-BC.htm](http://www.ninja9.org/Courts/Business/Index-BC.htm)*



*Circuit Judge
Renée A. Roche*





What is BUSINESS COURT ?

The Ninth Judicial Circuit's Business Court is the first specialty court in Florida devoted entirely to complex business litigation. It serves as a sub division of the Circuit Civil Division and hears cases that are typically more complicated and require a high degree of case management. Business Court provides a streamlined process for resolving corporate and commercial disputes, reducing the time and costs involved in lengthy litigation.

What cases are appropriate for Business Court?

Approximately 15 percent of the 13,000 civil cases filed each year in Orange County are eligible for assignment to Business Court. Cases involving complex contracts, Article 9 and antitrust suits, intellectual property, franchise disputes or unfair competition disputes are a few examples of cases suitable for adjudication in Business Court. The Court will not hear collection actions, zoning issues, construction disputes or consumer claims involving personal injury or product liability.

Cases are assigned to Business Court pursuant to the criteria and procedures established by Administrative Order. Parties or attorneys should indicate on the Civil Cover Sheet if an action is appropriate for assignment to the Business Court Sub Division. Also, a "Business Court Addendum to Civil Cover Sheet" must be filed with all initial filings.



Technology


At trial, parties have at their disposal state-of-the-art technology to aid in evidence presentation, data

retrieval and remote testimony. The Ninth Circuit's high tech Courtroom 23 is equipped to support evidence from any medium including laptop, document camera, VHS tape and DVD. Real time annotation of electronically presented evidence is made possible by touch screens. Finally, videoconferencing allows for remote testimony direct to the courtroom from anywhere in the world.

Benefits of Business Court

For Litigants Business Court delivers a higher level of expertise and predictability. Because the court is specialized, the Judge has increased knowledge on issues that arise repeatedly in business litigation. For this reason, litigants and their attorneys are better able to assess from previous rulings how principles of law will be applied to their cases. This helps promote early settlement, through mediation and other pre-trial forms of dispute resolution, reducing the time and costs of litigation.

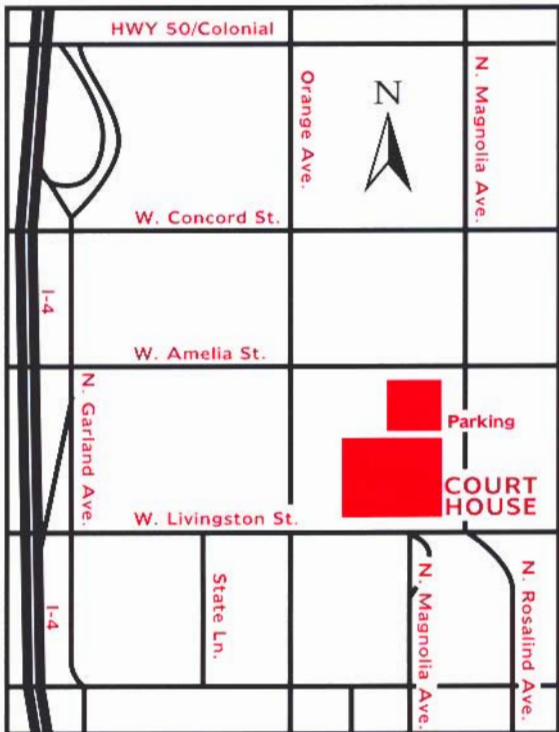
Because the court is specialized with standardized procedures, attorneys too, are able to specialize and focus their practices, delivering a higher quality of legal services to their clients.



For the Community Business Court saves tax dollars by reducing judicial workloads and court expenses. Because the court puts great emphasis on avenues of alternative dispute resolution and pre-trial settlement, many cases never go to trial, which significantly reduces costs of court operations. Also, because the Judge proactively manages each case, cases move through the process more efficiently and effectively.

Finally, Business Court makes Orange County a more attractive place to do business by removing some of the legal uncertainties of complex litigation, opening the doors to a more diverse business community.

LOCATION MAP



CONCLUSION

We hope this pamphlet assists you in understanding Business Court. Should you have any questions or need further information about Business Court, please call:

Phone 407-836-1464

FAX 407-835-5143



Orange County Courthouse
425 N. Orange Avenue
Orlando, Florida 32801

NOTE: In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in **Business Court**, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Court Administration at 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 2130, Orlando, Florida 32801, Telephone: 407-836-2050 for more information and to ensure that reasonable accommodations are available. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.

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C O U R T
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F L O R I D A

For more information about the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court, please visit our web site at
www.ninjas9.org