

**PUBLISHER**

Ted M. Hires Sr.

**STAFF WRITER**

Caryn Suarez

**CLERICAL SUPPORT**

Suzann Dukas

**VICTIMS' SERVICES PRACTITIONER**

Ann Dugger

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Ted Hires Sr., Chairman

Scott Adams

Doyle Carter

Bill Gay, Jr.

Sheriff Nat Glover

H. Leon "Dick" Holbrook

Charles Kemp

Charles LaMont

John Perry

John Rutherford

Garry Wiggins

J. Charles Wilson

*The Justice Coalition's*  
**Victims' Advocate**

*A free newspaper supporting victim's rights published monthly by The Justice Coalition. The opinions of contributing writers are not necessarily those of the Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate or the Justice Coalition. The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate welcomes both editorial and photographic submission, but they cannot be returned. Please allow six weeks for a response to submitted works. Calendar information is welcome but must be submitted one month in advance of the event. ©Copyright 2001, The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate. All rights reserved.*

*The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate makes every effort to verify the information contained within, however it assumes no responsibility for claims of advertisers. Should the publication be responsible for a reporting error, it will use twice the amount of space to print a correction. Advertising rates and information are available upon request. The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate retains the right to refuse questionable or offensive advertising as deemed by the publication and will not be held liable for false claims by an advertiser(s). Advertiser purchases right of publication only.*

*All correspondence to the Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate should be sent to:*

**Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate**  
6302 San Juan Ave.  
Jacksonville, Florida 32210  
Phone: (904) 783-6312  
Fax: (904) 783-4172



# Faith Corner

*The Faith Community holds the key to true Restorative Justice for all mankind. There are many churches and businesses who believe in this concept. The Justice Coalition wishes to thank the following for their support in our quest for this goal of compassion and understanding:*



**MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
*'Working Together For Our Lord'*

**REV. DAVID L. HILL**  
Pastor

8081 Lenox Avenue • Jacksonville, FL 32221  
*(at Fowles and Cahoon Roads)*  
Church Phone 781-2233 • Pager: 918-6302 • Home: 739-0286 Mobile: 307-1753

General Contractor State Certified  
CGC 015338

**Williams & Rowe Co.**

5215 HIGHWAY AVE.  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32254

Office:  
387-2333  
387-1414 **BOB WILLIAMS**

*If your business or church would like to appear in this section, please contact Melanie Markham at 783-6312.*

**DR. JAMES W. GIPSON, Pastor**  
(904) 278-0937; Beeper 889-9603

**RIVER CITY FAMILY CHURCH**

6800 West Fifth Street

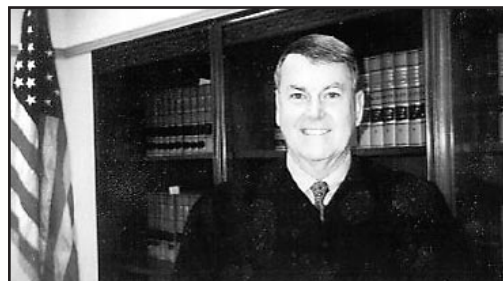
Jacksonville, FL 32254 S.S. 9:00 am  
(904) 786-6800; fax 269-9034 Worship 10:00 am  
Evening 6:00 pm

**KUHN FLOWERS**

**(904) 398-8601**  
3802 Beach Boulevard  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
Ginger King, Vice President

## Enemy...

Continued from the front page



**Justice Harry Anstead**



**Justice Charles Wells**



**Chief Justice Wells, Justice Shaw, Justice Harding, Justice Anstead, Justice Pariente, Justice Lewis and Justice Quince.**

bench. In November 2002, two judges will be up for a retention vote: **Judge Charlie Wells and Judge Harry Anstead.** These two judges will either be removed from the bench or kept for another six years after the vote in November 2002.

### Frivolous Lawsuits

The litigation machine in the State of Florida has spun out of control. Average citizens and small business owners find themselves under an avalanche of lawsuits that threaten their livelihood and the economic security of their family. As a result of expensive, time-consuming litigation, honest employers face far too many frivolous and expensive lawsuits. These lawsuits drive up

the costs of the products people buy and consume time that would be better spent creating new jobs, making capital investments and helping expand the tax base.

### Some examples of recent verdicts from Florida Courts that defy the meaning of fairness

Rental car companies now have a "duty-to-warn" drivers about the condition of neighborhoods in other cities around the state – in other words, they are liable when rental car drivers get lost. Recently, a couple rented a car in Orlando and drove to Miami. They got lost in a bad area of town and were mugged. The couple sued the rental car company saying the Orlando company had a duty to warn the couple of bad neighborhoods in Miami. The couple won the lawsuit.

A gentleman at a pay phone in front of a restaurant got into a confrontation with a man in a car that had just pulled up. The man in the car pulled out a gun and shot the gentleman at the pay phone. The man at the pay phone sued the restaurant owner and won a verdict against the restaurant even though the only fault of the restaurant was to have a pay phone in front of the store.

As a result of Florida Supreme Court reasoning, no criminals are allowed on the jury forum that assigns blame. At the conclusion of any trial by jury, the jury is given a ballot form that asks which people are guilty and what percentage of blame they should receive. The Florida Supreme Court ruled that any intentional perpetrator (someone who meant to commit a crime) cannot receive a percentage of blame. Their reasoning: perpetrators often have no money and the victim is entitled to some compensation. This often leaves a business owner or someone else with money as the responsible party. On the flip side of this reasoning, an unintentional perpetrator can be given a percentage of the blame. Therefore, if someone meant to shoot a victim – that shooter could not be held accountable, but if they accidentally shot a victim—the shooter could be held accountable.

The "Follow the Law" Initiative will spend the next 11 months traveling the state and educating the public about the Florida Supreme Court and lawsuit abuse in our courts. The goal is to travel to at least 10 cities around Florida to give speeches and raise awareness about problems that have developed in our legal system. More information will soon be available at the "Follow the Law" website. A link to the website will appear on the Justice Coalition website ([www.justicecoalition.org](http://www.justicecoalition.org)).

**Don't be a victim!**  
**Helpful tips and more at**  
[www.justicecoalition.org](http://www.justicecoalition.org)