| **Federal Judges** | **Topic Area** | **State Judges** |
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| U.S. Supreme Court Justices  Court of Appeals Judges  District Court Judges | **Types of Judges** | County Court Judges  Circuit Court Judges  Appellate Court Judges  Florida Supreme Court Justices |
| All appointed | **Elected or Appointed** | County and Circuit are elected  District Courts of Appeal and Supreme Court are appointed (with merit retention votes) |
| None | **Qualifications** | Law degree  Member of Florida Bar (County and Circuit 5 yrs; Appellate 10 yrs)  Reside in geographical area of office |
| Non-Partisan | **Political Party Affiliations** | Non-Partisan |
| Life (assuming good behavior) | **Tenure** | 6 year terms  Mandatory retirement at age 75 |
| Oversee trials and hearings  Facilitate trials  Provide jury instructions  Read briefs  Listen to oral arguments  Decide whether to affirm or reverse decisions of lower courts | **Job Requirements** | Oversee trials and hearings  Facilitate trials  Provide jury instructions  Read briefs  Listen to oral arguments  Decide whether to affirm or reverse decisions of lower courts |
| Examine facts and arguments of case  Consider state and federal laws  Review past precedence and case law  U.S. Constitution ultimate guide | **Decision-Making Process** | Examine facts and arguments of case  Consider state and federal laws  Review past precedence and case law  Consider Florida Constitution  U.S. Constitution ultimate guide |