

OCI ACRONYMS AND TERMS

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Acronym/Term	Meaning	Description
ABA	American Bar Association	A national organization for legal professionals.
ACE	Adverse Childhood Experience	A term used to describe negative childhood experiences that have an impact on future violence, victimization, and perpetration.
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act	The federal act that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disabilities.
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution	A term used to describe methods other than litigation used to settle cases (e.g. mediation or arbitration).
AFCC	Association of Family and Conciliation Courts	An interdisciplinary association of professionals dedicated to the resolution of family conflict.
APD	Agency for Persons with Disabilities	A Florida state agency that serves individuals with developmental disabilities.
AHCA	Agency For Health Care Administration	Florida's chief health policy and planning entity.
AJS	College of Advanced Judicial Studies	A large judicial education program, typically held in May or June, for Florida's judges.
APPLA	Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement	A permanency option in dependency cases.
ASFA	Adoption and Safe Families Act	A federal law designed to correct problems in the foster care system and encourage adoption of children with special needs.
BOG	Florida Bar Board of Governors (a/k/a "FBBOG")	The governing body of The Florida Bar.
CASA	Court Appointed Special Advocate	The national counterpart to Florida's Guardian ad Litem Program for abused/neglected children.
CBC	Community Based Care Agency	Private organizations responsible for foster care and services provided to children within the dependency system.
CC	Community Control	A program created as a diversion to incarceration.
CETF	Court Education Trust Fund	A legislatively established fund developed to ensure a funding source for the support of most judicial education and training activities. It is funded by a surcharge on all civil filings.
CFRC	Central Florida Reception Centers	A facility that handles prisoner intake within the Department of Corrections and provides some specialized medical care.
CFSR	Child and Family Services Review	A study conducted by the federal Children's Bureau, within the United States Department of Health and Human Services, to help states

		improve safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for children and families who receive services through the child welfare system.
CINS/FINS	Children in Need of Services, Families in Need of Services	Classification of cases (Chapter 984, Florida Statutes) for youths involved in status offenses.
CIP	Court Improvement Program	A federal grant used to improve the dependency court process.
CJ	Chief Judge	A circuit judge who exercises administrative supervision over the trial courts within each circuit.
CJE	Continuing Judicial Education	The requirement found in Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, rule 2.320, which sets out requirements for judges to complete a minimum of 30 approved credit hours every three years.
CJIS	Criminal Justice Information System	The central repository of criminal history records for the state of Florida.
CJJIS Council	Criminal and Juvenile Justice Information Systems Council	A legislatively created council within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement that facilitates the identification, standardization, sharing, and coordination of criminal and juvenile justice data and other public safety system data among federal, state, and local agencies.
CJNet	Criminal Justice Network	A cooperative effort by criminal justice agencies to establish a statewide computer network.
CLS	Children’s Legal Services	Attorneys employed by the Department of Children and Families that represent the state in dependency cases.
CLE	Continuing Legal Education	A term used to describe compulsory training courses designed for attorneys.
CM	Close Management	A restrictive form of confinement within the Department of Corrections reserved for inmates who show themselves to be security or management problems.
CO	Correction Officer	An officer responsible for the supervision, safety, and security of prisoners in a prison, jail, or similar form of secure custody.
CPI	Child Protective Investigator	A Department of Children and Families’ employee or a sheriff’s employee who investigates allegations involving abused, abandoned, neglected, or exploited children.
CQI	Continuous Quality Improvement	“A process to ensure programs are systematically and intentionally improving services and increasing positive outcomes for the families they serve.” http://friendsnrc.org/continuous-quality-improvement CQI is a data-driven process and involves a “plan, do, study, act” cycle.

CS/SB	Committee Substitute for a Senate Bill	The replacement of a bill filed by a Florida senator with a committee bill within the Senate.
CS/HB	Committee Substitute for a House Bill	The replacement of a bill filed by a Florida representative with a committee bill within the House of Representatives.
CSE	Child Support Enforcement	A program within the Florida Department of Revenue designed to help children get the financial support they need when it is not provided by one or both parents.
CSHO	Child Support Hearing Officer	A judicial officer responsible for hearing Title IV-D child support cases.
D	Defendant	A party charged with a crime.
DC	Disciplinary Confinement	The term used to describe punitive confinement within a prison; DC is ordered when a prisoner is found guilty of violating a rule of conduct.
DCA	District Court of Appeal	There are five DCAs in Florida. These courts provide the opportunity for thoughtful review of decisions of lower tribunals.
DCF	Department of Children and Families	A state agency in Florida tasked with providing services that aid families and children in need.
DEL	Sometimes used as shorthand for delinquency	A term used to describe the system that addresses juveniles who have committed a crime.
DEP	Sometimes used as shorthand for dependency	A term used to describe the system designed to address children that are dependent upon the state for their welfare.
DJJ	Department of Juvenile Justice	A state agency in Florida tasked with managing the state's juvenile justice system.
DOH	Department of Health	A state agency in Florida tasked with managing health issues in Florida.
DMS	Department of Management Services	The administrative department for Florida's government.
DOAH	Division of Administrative Hearings	An executive branch agency that is responsible for the initial review of challenges to executive agency actions arising under chapter 120 of the Administrative Procedures Act.
DOC	Department of Corrections	The state agency responsible for the custody of inmates.
DOE	Department of Education	The name used for both state and national departments that focus on educational issues.
DOJ	United States Department of Justice	The federal agency that handles all criminal prosecutions and civil suits in which the United States had an interest.
DOM	Dissolution of Marriage	Another term for divorce.
DOR	Department of Revenue	The state agency that addresses taxes, child support, and other issues in Florida.

DR	Disciplinary Report	A disciplinary action taken against a prisoner within the Department of Corrections for violating a rule of conduct.
DRC	Dispute Resolution Center	The entity responsible for administering the state courts system's alternative dispute resolution program and certifying mediators.
DV	Domestic Violence	"Any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another family or household member." s. 741.28, Florida Statutes.
EAP	Employee Assistance Program	A 24/7 program offering referrals, counseling, and similar services to state employees.
EBP	Evidence-Based Practice	Programs or practices that incorporate the best research evidence and the best clinical experience, and are consistent with family/client values.
ECC	Early Childhood Court	A specialized family court docket utilized to focus on cases involving children ages 0-3 who have been abused, abandoned, or neglected.
FA	First Appearance	A defendant's first appearance in criminal court; at this hearing he/she is advised of the charges.
FADAA	Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association	An association that represents individuals and Florida's community-based substance abuse and co-occurring treatment and prevention agencies, managing entities, and community anti-drug coalitions.
FB	The Florida Bar	The organization comprised of all lawyers who are licensed to practice in Florida.
FCADV	Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence	An advocacy group focused on eliminating violence between intimate partners.
FCASV	Florida Council Against Sexual Violence	An advocacy group focused on eliminating criminal sexual violence.
FCC	Steering Committee on Families and Children in the Court	A Supreme Court committee designed to establish a fully integrated, comprehensive approach to handling family court cases.
FCEC	Florida Court Education Council	The governing body for Florida's judicial education programs. It is composed of representatives of the Florida Conference of County Court Judges, the Florida Conference of Circuit Judges, the Appellate Judges' Conference, and Florida Court Personnel.
FCP	Florida Court Personnel	Employees of the Florida Court System.
FDCCMS	Florida Drug Court Case Management System	A case management system designed to handle Florida's adult drug court cases.

FDCIS	Florida Dependency Court Information System	A web-based case management system that provides the judiciary with resources to ensure timeliness of court events, with a goal of achieving positive outcomes for Florida's abused and neglected children.
FDLE	Florida Department of Law Enforcement	A state law enforcement agency that provides services in partnership with local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies to prevent, investigate, and solve crimes while protecting Florida's citizens and visitors.
FIIV	Florida Institute on Interpersonal Violence	A repository within the Office of Court Improvement that provides articles, webinars, videos, and training opportunities to enhance Florida's response to domestic violence.
FLAFCC	Florida Chapter of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts	An association dedicated to the constructive resolution of family disputes.
FLAG	Family Law Advisory Group	Local groups created to support and advise the court in the implementation of statewide family court programs.
FJC	Florida Judicial College a/k/a "New Judges College"	The two-part educational program for new trial and appellate judges.
FLAIR	Florida Accounting Information Resource	A computer-based accounting system used to perform Florida's accounting and financial management functions.
FRS	Florida Retirement System	The State of Florida's retirement system for public employees including state, county, university, and special districts.
FY	Fiscal Year	A period of time the government uses for accounting purposes and preparing financial statements; the fiscal year differs from the calendar year. The state fiscal year is from July 1 to June 30. The federal fiscal year is from October 1 to September 30.
GAL	Guardian ad Litem Program	A partnership of community volunteers and professional volunteers that advocate for the best interests of children in dependency cases.
HB	House Bill	A proposed piece of Florida legislation filed by a House representative or committee.
ICPC	Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children	A contract among member states and U.S. territories that authorizes them to work together to ensure that children who are placed across state lines for foster care or adoption receive adequate protection and support services.
IGT	Incentive Gain Time	An incentive for prisoners to participate in productive activities, and to reward prisoners who perform outstanding deeds or services.

ICWA	Indian Child Welfare Act	A federal law that seeks to ensure placement of American Indian children who are involved in dependency cases with American Indian foster families.
IEP	Individualized Education Plan	A written document developed for each public school child eligible for special education services.
IL	Independent Living	A program developed to assist children in foster care in becoming successful adults.
JA	Judicial Assistant	State or county employees who perform administrative tasks for judges.
JAC	Justice Administrative Commission	The state agency that manages the employment of public defenders and state attorneys.
JAC	Juvenile Assessment Center	Receiving centers established around the state for processing youth alleged to have committed delinquent acts.
JASP	Juvenile Alternative Services Program	Intervention programs in juvenile delinquency cases similar to pre-trial probation programs.
JPO	Juvenile Probation Officer	An officer who assesses the needs and risks of youth on probation in Florida and monitors court-ordered sanctions.
JR	Judicial Review	An evidentiary review by the court to determine the status of the case.
LEO	Law Enforcement Officer	An officer whose duty it is to enforce the laws.
MEPA	Multiethnic Placement Act	A federal law passed to reduce delays in the permanent placement of children in out-of-home care.
NCJFCJ	National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges	An association designed to provide all judges, courts, and related agencies involved with family court cases with the knowledge and skills to improve the lives of the families and children who seek justice.
NCSC	National Center for State Courts	An association designed to improve the administration of justice through leadership and service to the state courts.
OCI	Office of Court Improvement	A unit within the Office of the State Courts Administrator that focuses on family court and problem-solving court improvement projects.
OEL	Office of Early Learning	A division of the Florida Department of Education focused on the educational needs of very young children.
OJJDP	Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	Federal clearing house on juvenile issues, probably under the auspices of the attorney general.
OPPAGA	Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability	The legislative “watchdog” of government business.

OPS	Other Personnel Services	A temporary employer/employee relationship used solely for the accomplishment of short-term tasks.
OSCA	Office of the State Courts Administrator	A statewide office that assists Florida's court system with administrative and policy matters, as well as serves as liaison to the other branches of government.
PCB	Proposed Committee Bill	A bill proposed by a committee as opposed to an individual legislator. Usually a major bill, such as tort reform.
PD	Public Defender	A lawyer employed by the state to represent a defendant in a criminal case who cannot afford a private attorney.
PDR	Predisposition Report	A report usually created by a probation officer that recommends a disposition for a juvenile who has been adjudicated delinquent.
PTSD	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	A mental health condition triggered by a severe injury, psychological shock, or traumatic event.
RED	Racial and Ethnic Disparity	The term used to describe situations when differences are found between groups of people who receive different services and treatment due to race or ethnic background.
RTI	Road to Independence Program	Transition services offered to youth formerly in foster care so that they can become self-sufficient adults.
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	A federal agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that focuses on improving the quality and availability of preventative, treatment, and rehabilitative services for people experiencing problems with substance abuse and/or mental illness.
SB	Senate Bill	A proposed piece of Florida legislation filed by a senator or Senate committee.
SIPP	Statewide Inpatient Psychiatric Program	A residential treatment program for youth with emotional disturbances.
SJP	School-Justice Partnership	A collaborative effort among courts, schools, state agencies, service providers, and law enforcement agencies to keep children in school and out of court.
SRL	Self-represented Litigant A/K/A "Pro Se Litigant"	A party in a court case that is not represented by an attorney.
SRO	School Resource Officer	A law enforcement officer who works on a school campus.
STOP Grants	Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors Formula grants	Federal grants related to the Violence Against Women Act.
SV	Sexual Violence	A sexual act committed against someone without that person's freely given consent.

TCA	Trial Court Administrators	The court administrators in each circuit.
TIC	Trauma Informed Care	An organizational structure and treatment framework that involves identifying, understanding, and responding to the effects of all types of trauma.
TPR	Termination of Parental Rights	The dependency court process used to legally remove a person's parental rights.
UFC	Unified Family Court	A fully integrated, comprehensive approach to handling all cases involving children and families, while at the same time resolving family disputes in a fair, timely, efficient, and cost effective manner. This term is outdated; the more recent term of art is "Family Court."
UCCJA	Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act	The federal act that governs which court has authority to deal with child custody issues when the parties are found in separate states.
UIFSA	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act	The federal act that governs how child support is collected and enforced when the parties are found in separate states.
UPL	Unlicensed Practice of Law	The term used when a person engages in the practice of law without a valid license.
USCIS	U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services	A unit within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security that handles immigration issues, work permits, etc.
VOP	Violation of Probation	The term used to describe an act that breaks the rules after a person has been released from detention.