

Mary S. Scriven
United States District Judge

Judge Mary Stenson Scriven was appointed to serve as a United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida on September 30, 2008, after serving as a Magistrate Judge for over ten years. When she was appointed to serve as a Magistrate Judge in 1997, she became the first African American woman to serve on the federal court in the state of Florida and the second to serve on the federal court in the Eleventh Circuit, which includes Florida, Georgia and Alabama. Prior to her judicial career, Judge Scriven was a shareholder with the law firm of Carlton, Fields, Ward, Emmanuel, Smith & Cutler, P.A., where she practiced for ten years in the Corporate Litigation and Trade Regulation Department. From December 1996 through December 1997, Judge Scriven served as an Associate Professor of Law at Stetson University College of Law, teaching in the area of Commercial Law, Remedies, Legal Malpractice, Banking Law and Contracts. She frequently lectures in trial advocacy, pretrial procedure and in commercial and criminal law courses and seminars. She is a former faculty member with NITA and has also served as a guest faculty member in the Masters Program for Trial Advocacy, Nottingham Law Institute, Nottingham, England. Judge Scriven is an honors graduate of Duke University and Florida State University College of Law, and in 2006, she received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Stetson University College of Law. She has received numerous awards for her service to the Bench, Bar and community at large, including the prestigious Gertrude E. Rush award by which the National Bar Association recognizes individuals for their pioneering spirits, community and professional leadership, concern for human and civil rights, and for being a model of excellence in the legal profession. She currently serves as chair of the Eleventh Circuit Judicial Council's Pattern Jury Instruction Committee and was recently elected by the Florida federal judges of the Eleventh Circuit to serve as the Florida at-large board member to the Federal Judges Association.