

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**Second Judicial Circuit of Florida Press Release  
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**Circuit Judge Charles W. Dodson  
2016 ABOTA Trial Judge of the Year**

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The American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) is a National Association formed in 1957 dedicated to the preservation of the 7th Amendment right to jury trial, access to the courts and independence of the Judiciary. Membership is equally comprised of Plaintiff and Defense Trial lawyers who have demonstrated extensive jury trial experience. The Tallahassee ABOTA Chapter was chartered in 1995.

At the Winter Tallahassee ABOTA meeting on January 28, 2017, the Tallahassee ABOTA Chapter President Sidney L. Matthew presented the annual 2016 ABOTA Trial Judge of the Year Award to Second Judicial Circuit Judge Charles Dodson. Judge Dodson is a native of Sneads, Florida. He received his college education at the United States Military Academy in West Point, NY and Florida State University. He graduated from Florida State University College of Law with high honors in 1976 and practiced civil trial law for 31 years before becoming a circuit judge. He was elected to the bench in 2008. He was also selected by the Tallahassee Chapter of ABOTA as Trial Lawyer of the Year in 2005 and is the first person to be selected for Trial Judge of the Year and Trial Lawyer of the Year by the Tallahassee Chapter.



American Board of Trial Advocates  
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Board of Advocates  
Honorable Charles Dodson

Presented To  
HONORABLE CHARLES W. DODSON  
2016 TRIAL JURIST OF THE YEAR  
THE TALLAHASSEE CHAPTER