

Helen Pedigo

From: Helen Pedigo
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 8:11 AM
To: Senator Owens
Cc: 'Theresa Kiernan'
Subject: SB 60 Eliminating Direct Appeals to the Supreme Court

Good morning, Senator Owens,

In response to Senator Umbarger's question regarding how Florida handles Jessica's law cases, below is the reply from the Public Information Office of the Florida Supreme Court. Only death penalty cases have direct appeals to the Florida Supreme Court. I hope this adequately answers the question. Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Helen Pedigo

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From: Craig Waters [<mailto:watersc@flcourts.org>] **On Behalf Of** Public Information
Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 7:56 AM
To: Helen Pedigo
Subject: RE: To the Supreme Court

Florida only has direct appeal to its Supreme Court in cases in which the death penalty is imposed. All cases involving life or lesser sentences first go to the lower appellate courts. This is established by our Constitution and thus could only be changed by a constitutional amendment.

Craig Waters
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