



NOVEMBER 17\*

## Hon. John Antoon II

Judge, U.S. District Court,  
Middle District of Florida

### “America’s Courts State and Nation”

The Honorable John Antoon II will draw from his vast experience with the legal system to address what he considers to be the most significant issues facing today’s courts. Among the topics he will address will be the importance of maintaining the judiciary’s freedom from political influences. Attendees will have the unique opportunity to engage with a premier legal expert and gain an insider’s perspective on the American judicial system.

The Honorable Judge John Antoon earned his bachelor’s degree from Florida Southern College (1968) and his law degree from the Florida State College of Law (1971). He has earned an M.S. from the Florida Institute of



FEBRUARY 16

## Tracy Jean Revels

Professor, Wofford College

### “Sunshine Paradise: A History of Florida Tourism”

Walt Disney’s entertainment empire looms in the minds of many when they think of Florida, along with other tourism magnets such as beachside resorts, extensive nature preserves, and numerous theme parks. This intricate and inextricable relationship between tourism and the Sunshine State has been thoroughly explored by Tracy Revels, author of *Sunshine Paradise: A History of Florida Tourism* (2010). Revels argues that Florida’s tourism industry has immeasurably shaped the state’s identity, economy, and residents. Incorporating 200 years of historical perspectives from tourists, politicians, and Floridians, Revels paints a vivid picture of the continual evolution of the state’s tourism industry as it works to create the ultimate tourist haven.

A native of Madison, Florida, Tracy Revels is professor and chair of the history department at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. She earned her bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees in history from Florida State University. Revels has written numerous essays and four books covering subjects ranging from the impact of the Civil War on Florida women to a humorous collection of stories featuring Sherlock Holmes.



MARCH 29

## Isabel Wilkerson

Professor of Journalism  
and Director, Narrative Nonfiction,  
Boston University



### “The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America’s Great Migration and the Odyssey of George Swanson Starling”

In 1945, George Swanson Starling was in fear for his life after hearing of his boss’ plan to lynch him. As a result, he fled to Harlem, leaving behind his life of picking citrus fruit in a Florida grove. In doing so, Starling joined the estimated six million African Americans who left the South to seek out new opportunities in the country’s northern cities. This phenomenon became known as the Great Migration. Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist Isabel Wilkerson highlights Starling’s story, as well as many others, in her acclaimed book, *The Warmth of Other Suns: the Epic Story of America’s Great Migration* (2010).

Isabel Wilkerson became the first African American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize in journalism when she was awarded the 1994 Pulitzer for feature writing. A celebrated journalist and former Chicago Bureau Chief of *The New York Times*, Wilkerson has lectured in Canada and Denmark and at Harvard, Emory, Princeton, and Northwestern Universities.