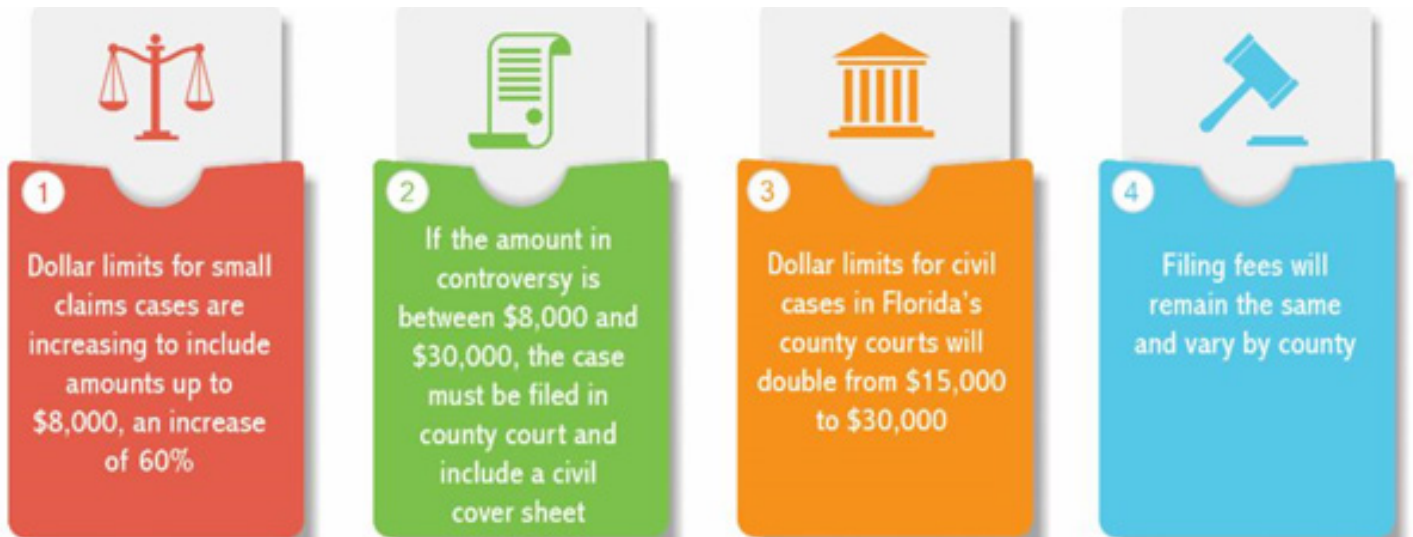




Cole, Scott & Kissane

CHANGES TO FLORIDA'S JURISDICTIONAL AMOUNTS IN CONTROVERSY



These are significant changes - the first of their kind since 1992 - and that may affect many different aspects of civil litigation. First, cases with an amount in controversy of less than \$30,000 will be required to be filed in county court. County court rules generally allow for cases to be moved more quickly and may be more cost-effective. Additionally, if the amount in controversy is greater than \$8,000, the filer must submit a civil cover sheet specifying the amount of damages being sought.

Finally, civil appeals from the county court, for actions between \$15,000 and \$30,000, will be appealed directly to the district courts of appeal instead of the civil courts.