

## Bench Battle, Part 2

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IF YOU EVER DOUBTED the power of the federal bench, take a look at a compromise between U.S. District Judge W. Terrell Hodges and the Tampa bus system. Hodges last month ordered U.S. marshals to remove sidewalk bus shelters in front of Tampa's federal courthouse. The shelter crowds were hazardous to people going in and out of the courthouse, Hodges said. None of Tampa's politicians offered a solution to the Hillsborough Area Rapid Transit Authority, which owns the shelters. Its lawyers worked out a compromise with Hodges for a smaller shelter around the corner from the old one. Crowds were never a problem until the courthouse was renovated last year and new security precautions forced everyone going to the courthouse to use the front door only. Guess what federal judge was in charge of the renovation?