

**UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1. **Name:** State full name (include any former names used).

Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe
Anne-Leigh Gaylord
Anne Leigh Gaylord

2. **Position:** State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida

3. **Address:** List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

Office: 1700 North Tampa Street
Tampa, Florida 33602

4. **Birthplace:** State year and place of birth.

1979; Miami, Florida

5. **Education:** List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

2002 – 2005, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University; J.D. (with honors), 2005

1997 – 2001, Furman University; B.A. (with honors), 2001

1999, Colorado Christian University; no degree

6. **Employment Record:** List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

2025 – present
Second District Court of Appeal of Florida
1700 North Tampa Street
Tampa, Florida 33602
District Judge

2017 – 2025
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit
800 East Twiggs Street
Tampa, Florida 33602
Circuit Judge

2007 – 2017
Bush Ross, P.A.
1801 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602
Equity Shareholder (2016–2017)
Non-Equity Shareholder (2012–2016)
Associate (2007–2012)

2005 – 2007
United States District Judge Virginia M. Hernandez Covington
United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida
Fort Myers Division United States Courthouse & Federal Building
2110 First Street
Fort Myers, FL 33901
-and-
Bryan Simpson United States Courthouse
300 North Hogan Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Law Clerk

Fall 2003
Judge Jeffrey Hotham
Maricopa County Superior Court
201 West Jefferson Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85003
Intern

Summer/Fall 2003
Chili's Restaurant
1371 North Litchfield Road
Goodyear, Arizona 85395
Server

Summer 2003
Justice Kenneth B. Bell
Florida Supreme Court
500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399
Intern

December 2002
Bath & Body Works
7700 West Arrowhead Towne Center
Glendale, Arizona 85308
Sales Associate

October 2002 – November 2002
Gaylord Merlin Ludovici & Diaz
5001 West Cypress Street
Tampa, Florida 33607
Research Assistant

2002
Bella Springs Apartments
1050 Milano Point
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80921
Leasing Consultant

2001 – 2002
Ridge Pointe at Gleneagle Apartments
13631 Shepard Heights
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80921
Leasing Consultant

Other Affiliations (Uncompensated):

2018 – 2022
Cambridge Christian School
6101 North Habana Avenue
Tampa, FL 33614
Member, Board of Trustees

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I did not serve in the military. I was not required to register for the selective service.

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or

professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Best Lawyers in America, Commercial Litigation (2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017)

Florida Trend Legal Elite (2014, 2015, 2016)

Florida Trend Up and Coming Legal Elite (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013)

Florida Super Lawyers (2014, 2015, 2016)

Florida Super Lawyers Rising Stars (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013)

AV Preeminent, Martindale-Hubbell

Pro Bono Service & Excellence Award, Federal Bar Association, Tampa Bay Chapter (2015)

Athletic Hall of Fame, Cambridge Christian School (2013)

CALI Excellence for the Future Award, Oral Advocacy (2005)

Pro Bono Distinction, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law (2005)

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

Florida Judicial Education Deanship Recruitment Committee, 2024

United States District Court Bench Bar Fund Committee, Middle District of Florida
Member, 2016

Federal Bar Association (national)
Member, Bench / Bar Relations Committee, 2015 – 2017

United States District Court Merit Selection Panel, Middle District of Florida
Member, 2014 – 2015

Florida Bar Grievance Committee 13-C
Chair, 2012 – 2013
Member, 2010 – 2013

Cheatwood Inn of Court
Master, 2017 – 2024
Barrister, 2013 – 2017
Pupil, 2007 – 2013

Federal Bar Association, Tampa Bay Chapter
Immediate Past President, 2016 – 2017
President, 2015 – 2016
President-Elect, 2014 – 2015
Vice President, 2013 – 2014
Treasurer, 2012 – 2013
Secretary, 2011 – 2012
Board Member, 2007 – 2017

Hillsborough County Bar Association Committee on Professionalism & Ethics
Co-Chair, 2008

Judicial Management Council, 2022 – present
Workgroup on Judicial Practices in the Trial Courts, 2024 – present
Workgroup on Vexatious and Sham Litigation, 2022

Differentiated Case Management Committee, Thirteenth Circuit, 2021

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Florida Bar, 2005

b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, 2007

United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, 2014

United States District Court, Northern District of Florida, 2016

United States Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit, I do not recall the date I became a member but it was likely in connection with a case in which I had been trial counsel in the Middle District of Florida that was later appealed to the Eleventh Circuit. I do not recall when the membership went inactive, but the reason it became inactive was likely because the case that caused me to join had concluded and I did not anticipate a continuing need to maintain that membership.

11. **Memberships:**

a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working

groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

Conference of Florida District Court Judges, 2025 – present

Cambridge Christian School, Board of Trustees, 2018 – 2022

Conference of Florida Circuit Court Judges, 2017 – 2024

Pearl Society of Bay Area Legal Service, 2017

Athena Society, 2017

Federalist Society, 2016 – 2018

American Bar Association, 2006 – 2016

Hillsborough County Bar Association, 2005 – 2017

Hillsborough Association of Women Lawyers, 2005 – 2017

b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

I was invited to join the Athena Society in 2017. It is my recollection that the Athena Society restricts its membership to women. My recollection is that I went to one or two meetings and then decided I was not interested in continuing my involvement with the organization.

I am not a member of Palma Ceia Golf & Country Club, but I have privileges through my husband's membership. Palma Ceia Golf & Country Club discriminated against women through formal membership requirements until it changed those requirements in the early 1990s. To this day, Palma Golf & Country Club maintains a restaurant that serves only men, located in the men's locker room. Other than that restaurant, I am not aware of any current discriminatory membership requirements or policies.

12. **Published Writings and Public Statements:**

a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply copies of all published material to the Committee.

In 2004 to 2005, I was Editor-in-Chief of the law review at Arizona State and in 2003 to 2004 I was a staff writer. While I did not select the articles we published, I conducted many rounds of edits, including the final edit, of every article in the four editions published during my term as Editor-in-Chief. As a staff writer, I edited a selection of the articles published; I do not know how to identify which ones at this point.

As President of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, I also published messages in our Chapter's newsletter. I do not have copies and have not been able to secure a copy from the Tampa Bay Chapter.

Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe, *U.S. District Judge Virginia Hernandez Covington Honored at Her Portrait Unveiling*, 11th Cir. Hist. News, Vol. 19, No. 2, at 14 (2022).

David Kader et al., *The Supreme Court of Arizona: Its 2003-2004 Decisions* 37 Ariz. St. L.J. 17, 93-105 (2005).

b. Supply copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

Final Report and Recommendations of the Florida Supreme Court's Reconvened Workgroup on Judicial Practices in the Trial Courts, September 26, 2024. Copy supplied.

Joinder in Comment of comments of Charles S. Stratton, Joshua S. Stratton, Sidney C. Bigham III, S. Cary Gaylord, Kimbel Merlin, Lorena H. Ludovici, Andrew G. Diaz, Blake H. Gaylord, Andrew Prince Brigham, Trevor S. Hutson, and Christopher C. Bucalo regarding proposed Rule 1.200, December 1, 2023, Case No.: SC23-0962. Copy supplied.

Comment of Circuit Judge Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe, December 1, 2023, Case No.: SC23-0962. Copy supplied.

Memorandum from Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe to Judges of the Circuit Civil Division of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Regarding Proposed Establishment of Division HT, March 2023. I have not been able to locate a copy of this memorandum.

Report and Recommendations of the Florida Supreme Court's Workgroup on Sanctions for Vexatious and Sham Litigation, June 15, 2022. Copy supplied.

What Your Legal Assistant and Paralegal Need to Know About the Differentiated Case Management ("DCM") Process in the Thirteenth Circuit, November 3, 2021. Copy supplied.

Memorandum from Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe to Judges of the Circuit Civil Division of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Regarding Proposed Structure of Differentiated Case Management, April 2021. I have not been able to locate a copy of this memorandum.

c. Supply copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

SC2023-0962 In Re: Amendments to Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, Florida Supreme Court, November 7, 2024. Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pPhzh48bTM>.

SC2023-0962 In Re: Amendments to Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, Florida Supreme Court, March 7, 2024. Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HCC2cp-Cao>.

SC22-122 In Re: Report and Recommendations of the Workgroup on Improved Resolution of Civil Cases, Florida Supreme Court, December 8, 2022. Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hq8gHr2FQP8>.

On April 17, 2007, I emailed Mayor Pam Iorio about the City of Tampa's proposed plan to install a storm sewer drain on our street. Copy supplied.

Public Comment, Tampa City Council, March 27, 2007. Transcript supplied.

d. Supply copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

May 19, 2025: Speaker, Cambridge Christian School Commencement, Grace Family Church. Available at <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/events/cambridge-christian-school-tampa-fl/evt9538f39c6d>.

April 22, 2025: Moderator, "Appellate Insights in Trial Courts," Hillsborough County Bar Association Appellate Section, Chester Ferguson Law Center. Outline supplied.

April 17, 2025: Speaker, Investiture of the Hon. Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe as Judge of the Second District Court of Appeal, Cambridge Christian School. Transcript supplied.

November 21, 2024: Speaker, Tampa Bay Paralegal Association Membership Meeting and CLE Luncheon, Tampa, Florida. Notes supplied.

November 7, 2024: Florida Supreme Court Oral Argument on Proposed Amendments to Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, Tallahassee, Florida. Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pPhzh48bTM>.

October 28, 2024: Informal Remarks, Cambridge Christian School Student Leadership Institute, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Cambridge Christian School is 6101 N Habana Ave., Tampa, FL 33614.

October 25, 2024: Swearing In of Caroline Webb, Esq. to the Florida Bar, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Courthouse is 800 E. Twiggs St., Tampa, FL 33602.

June 7, 2024: Panelist, “Practicing with Ethics, Civility, and Professionalism,” American Board of Trial Advocates Seminar, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Florida Chapters American Board of Trial Advocates is P.O. Box 551174, Jacksonville, FL 32255.

April 10, 2024: Panelist, “Annual Update with the Civil Bench,” Hillsborough County Bar Association, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Hillsborough County Bar Association is 1610 N Tampa St., Tampa, FL 33602.

March 7, 2024: Florida Supreme Court Oral Argument on Proposed Amendments to Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, Tallahassee, Florida. Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HCC2cp-Cao>.

February 2, 2024: Moderator, Federalist Society Florida Chapters Conference Panel Discussion, “Amending the Florida Constitution: Ballot Initiatives and Judicial Review,” Kissimmee, Florida. Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZkiY4y4DO0>.

January 17, 2024: Panelist, “ADR Panel Discussion—A View From the Bench,” Hillsborough County Bar Association Mediation & Arbitration Luncheon/CLE, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Hillsborough County Bar Association is 1610 N Tampa St., Tampa, FL 33602.

September 20, 2023: Swearing In of Kiernan O’Keefe, Esq. to the Florida Bar, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Courthouse is 800 E. Twiggs St., Tampa, FL 33602.

September 14, 2023: Speaker, Separation of Powers, James Otis Constitution Day Lecture Series, American Board of Trial Advocates, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Florida Chapters American Board of Trial Advocates is P.O. Box 551174, Jacksonville, FL 32255.

August 24, 2023: Moderator, “Staying in the Game: Practicing With Purpose” Panel

Discussion, Federal Bar Association, Tampa, Florida. Outline supplied.

June 2, 2023: Moderator, "Practicing with Ethics, Civility, and Professionalism," American Board of Trial Advocates Seminar, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Florida Chapters American Board of Trial Advocates is P.O. Box 551174, Jacksonville, FL 32255.

April 19, 2023: Panelist, Hillsborough County Bar Association State of the Civil Bench Luncheon, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Hillsborough County Bar Association is 1610 N Tampa St., Tampa, FL 33602.

March 22, 2023: Speaker, Bench/Bar Brown Bag Lunch to Discuss Surge of Cases Filed In Anticipation of HB837, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit & Hillsborough County Bar Association, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Hillsborough County Bar Association is 1610 N Tampa St., Tampa, FL 33602.

December 8, 2022: Florida Supreme Court Oral Argument on Proposed Amendments to Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, Tallahassee, Florida. Available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hq8gHr2FQP8>.

November 3, 2022: Speaker, "Free Speech Isn't Free: Intellectual Readiness in the Land of the Free and Home of the Fragile," Student Leadership Institute, Cambridge Christian School, Tampa, Florida. Presentation supplied.

September 25, 2022: Speaker, Separation of Powers, James Otis Constitution Day Lecture Series, American Board of Trial Advocates, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Florida Chapters American Board of Trial Advocates is P.O. Box 551174, Jacksonville, FL 32255.

September 20, 2022: Swearing In of Susannah Crotts, Esq. to the Florida Bar, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Courthouse is 800 E. Twiggs St., Tampa, FL 33602.

July 21, 2022: Remarks, Portrait Ceremony for the Hon. Virginia M. Hernandez Covington, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The portrait unveiling took place at the Tampa Theater, 711 N Frankin St., Tampa, Florida 33602.

March 16, 2022: Presenter, "Differentiated Case Management Orders and the Proposed Amendments to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure," Trial & Litigation Section, Hillsborough County Bar Association, Online Webinar. Presentation supplied.

March 8, 2022: Speaker, Law Week, Hillsborough County Bar Association, Ms. Phillips' U.S. Constitutional Law Class, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Hillsborough County Bar Association is 1610 N Tampa St., Tampa, FL 33602.

November 2, 2021: Presenter, "Decoding DCM: Everything You Need to Know About the 13th Circuit's Differentiated Case Management Plan for Circuit Civil Cases Filed Before April 30, 2021," Hillsborough County Bar Association, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Hillsborough County Bar Association is 1610 N Tampa St., Tampa, FL 33602.

October 12, 2021: Panelist, "View from the Civil Bench," Hillsborough County Bar Association, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Hillsborough County Bar Association is 1610 N Tampa St., Tampa, FL 33602.

April 26, 2021: Presenter, "What You Don't Know Could Hurt You: A Crash Course on How the 13th Circuit's Civil New Differentiated Case Management Will Impact Your Practice," Hillsborough County Bar Association, Online Webinar. Presentation supplied.

April 8, 2021: Panelist, "Civil Discourse and Difficult Conversations," Tampa Bay Chapter of Federal Bar Association, Zoom. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

April 7, 2021: Panelist, "Annual Civil Bench Update," Hillsborough County Bar Association, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Hillsborough County Bar Association is 1610 N Tampa St., Tampa, FL 33602.

April 9, 2019: Moderator, "A Conversation with U.S. District Judge Virginia M. Covington, Moderated by Thirteenth Circuit Judge Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe," Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, Gulfport, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

February 1, 2019: Panelist, "Collaborative Law Practice: A Judicial Conversation," Hillsborough County Bar Association, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Hillsborough County Bar Association is 1610 N Tampa St., Tampa, FL 33602.

February 22, 2018: Informal Remarks, Courthouse Tour for Students Visiting Thirteenth Circuit from Westminster Academy, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Courthouse is 800 E. Twiggs St., Tampa, FL 33602.

2018: Panelist, "Privileged Communications: What's Protected Under Federal and Florida Rules of Evidence," Federal Bar Association, Tampa Bay Chapter, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

November 3, 2017: Swearing In of Chelsea Cromer, Esq. to the Florida Bar, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Thirteenth Judicial

Circuit Courthouse is 800 E. Twiggs St., Tampa, FL 33602.

October 5, 2017: Swearing In of Kristin DuPont, Esq. to the Florida Bar, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Courthouse is 800 E. Twiggs St., Tampa, FL 33602.

June 1, 2017: Speaker, Investiture of the Hon. Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe as Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Tampa, Florida. Transcript supplied.

May 18, 2017: Commencement Address, Cambridge Christian School, Tampa, Florida. Available at <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/events/cambridge-christian-school-tampa-fl/76f99ccad7>.

May 2, 2017: Speaker, Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, Reception Honoring Middle District of Florida Re-Entry Program & United States Attorney Lee Bentley, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. University Club of Tampa, 201 North Franklin Street #3800, Tampa, Florida 33602.

March 20, 2016: Guest Lecturer, Cambridge Christian School, Student Leadership Institute, Short Course on Leadership. I gave students a tour and spoke to them about faith and leadership. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Cambridge Christian School is 6101 N Habana Ave., Tampa, FL 33614.

February 27, 2017: Guest Lecturer, Cambridge Christian School, Student Leadership Institute, Short Course on Leadership. I spoke about faith and leadership. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Cambridge Christian School is 6101 N Habana Ave., Tampa, FL 33614.

December 8, 2016: Speaker, Annual Luncheon, Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, Tampa, Florida. Notes supplied. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

November 2, 2016: Speaker, Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, Reception for the Hon. Amanda Sansone, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The Tampa Club, 101 East Kennedy Boulevard #4200, Tampa, Florida 33602.

November 2016: Speaker, Legal Writing Workshop with Bryan A. Garner, Federal Bar Association, Tampa Bay Chapter, Tampa, Florida. I do not recall the exact date. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

September 9, 2016, Speaker, Investiture of the Hon. Amanda Sansone as Magistrate Judge of the Middle District of Florida, Tampa, Florida. Notes supplied.

July 17, 2016: Presenter, "Subject Matter Jurisdiction and Removal," Federal Bar

Association, Tampa Bay Chapter, Young Lawyers Division Seminar on Basics of Federal Practice, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

July 7, 2016: Presenter, "What You Need to Know About Practicing in the Middle District of Florida," Federal Bar Association, Tampa Bay Chapter, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

April 28, 2016, Speaker, Congratulations to Retiring United States Magistrate Judge Elizabeth Jenkins, Federal Bar Association, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

2016: Welcoming Remarks, Congratulations to New U.S. Magistrate Judges Julie Sneed and Mac McCoy, Federal Bar Association, Tampa Bay Chapter, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

2016: Speaker, Desirability of Assisting Ex-Offenders Find Purpose & Accountability in a Law-Abiding Community, Saving Grace Ministries, Inc., Seminole Heights Baptist Church, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the venue for this event is Seminole Heights Baptist Church, 801 E Hillsborough Ave., Tampa, Florida 33604.

October 29, 2015: Speaker, Eighth Annual Civil Seminar, Federal Bar Association, Tampa Bay Chapter, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

July 17, 2015: Speaker, "Subject Matter Jurisdiction & Removal," Federal Practice Seminar, Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

January 29, 2015: Remarks & Panelist, "Staying in the Game: Women, Leadership, and the Law," Federal Bar Association, Tampa Bay Chapter, Tampa, Florida. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federal Bar Association is 4250 N Fairfax Dr. Ste. 301, Arlington, VA 22203.

e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

In 2024, I was interviewed by the Florida Defense Lawyers Association and the interview was published in a recent edition of the Trial Advocate. Anne-Leigh Moe, *Judicial Perspectives*, TRIAL ADVOC., 2024, at 10. Copy supplied.

In 2016, I was interviewed in the Winter Edition of the Cambridge Christian School newsletter. *Testimony*, CONNECTIONS, 2016, at 13. Copy supplied.

13. **Judicial Office:** State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

2017–2025

Circuit Judge

Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

I was appointed to this position in 2017 by Senator Rick Scott, who at that time was the Governor of Florida. The Thirteenth Judicial Circuit's territorial jurisdiction includes all of Hillsborough County, Florida. Pursuant to article V, § 5 of the Florida Constitution:

Circuit courts shall have original jurisdiction not vested in the county courts, and jurisdiction of appeals when provided by general law. They shall have the power to issue writs of mandamus, quo warranto, certiorari, prohibition and habeas corpus, and all writs necessary or proper to the complete exercise of their jurisdiction. . . They shall have the power of direct review of administrative action prescribed by general law.

2025

District Judge

Second District Court of Appeal

I was appointed to this position in December 2024 by Governor Ron DeSantis and took office on January 1, 2025. The Second District Court of Appeal's territorial jurisdiction includes Florida's Sixth, Twelfth, and Thirteenth Circuits, including the counties of Pinellas, Pasco, Manatee, Sarasota, DeSoto, and Hillsborough. Pursuant to article V, § 4 of the Florida Constitution:

District courts of appeal shall have jurisdiction to hear appeals, that may be taken as a matter of right, from final judgments or orders of trial courts, including those entered on review of administrative action, not directly appealable to the supreme court or a circuit court. They may review interlocutory orders in such cases to the extent provided by rules adopted by the supreme court. District courts of appeal shall have the power of direct review of administrative action, as prescribed by general law. A district court of appeal or any judge thereof may issue writs of habeas corpus returnable before the court or any judge thereof or before any circuit judge within the territorial jurisdiction of the court. A district court of appeal may issue writs of mandamus, certiorari, prohibition, quo warranto, and other writs necessary to the complete exercise of its jurisdiction. To the extent necessary to dispose of all issues in a cause properly before it, a district court of appeal may exercise any of the appellate jurisdiction of the circuit courts.

- a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment?

I do not maintain records of this information.

Between 2017 and 2021, I was assigned to a Domestic Relations division where every case was resolved through entry of a final judgment that was either entered after a contested bench trial or following a brief hearing at which I found that I had jurisdiction and approved the parties' marital settlement agreement and/or parenting plan. Several days a month were also aside to conduct bench trials. In a typical month, I might have entered 50 or more final judgments.

Between 2021 and 2024, I was assigned to a Circuit Civil division where I had a 1-3 week jury trial docket every month. When I took over the division in mid-January of 2021, civil cases were not being tried at all in the Thirteenth Circuit. I resumed jury trials in my division in June of 2021. Although sometimes all cases on a given docket would settle, I would often offer to try cases assigned to other judges' divisions. Consequently, it is a reasonable estimate to say that I tried about one case per month to jury verdict in those years. In addition to my jury trial docket, I also conducted bench trials and regularly granted summary judgment motions; particularly considering the number of foreclosure cases involved, it is not possible to state with any degree of accuracy to what number of cases this applied. For statistical purposes, it is relevant that a civil case can be resolved through a settlement that does not require the judge to enter a final judgment, which is not true in family law.

The percentages below reflecting jury trials versus bench trials reflects the length of time I was assigned to a family law division, where no cases are tried to a jury and every case can only be resolved by entry of a final judgment.

i. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

jury trials:	75%
bench trials:	25%

ii. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

civil proceedings:	100%
criminal proceedings:	0%

b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.

In Re: the Former Marriage of R.D.L. and D.L., 28 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 58 (Fla. 13th Cir. Ct. May 29, 2020)

Sapp v. Brooks, 31 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 123b (Fla. 13th Cir. Ct. May 19, 2023)

Torres-Aponte v. Hudnall, 31 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 255b (Fla. 13th Cir. Ct. Jul. 18, 2023)

Grisar v. Brate, 31 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 350a (Fla. 13th Cir. Ct. Aug. 23, 2023)

c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature of the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (4) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

1. *Adams v. Penske Truck Leasing Co., L.P., et al.*, Case No.: 18-CA-1399.
Decision supplied.

This car accident case involved a dispute over non-party discovery targeted at the plaintiff's medical damages, which the defendant sought to prove were unreasonable. After the defendant sought non-party discovery from one of the plaintiff's providers, the provider moved for a protective order on the basis that its realization rates were privileged trade secrets. I denied the motion for protective order. The case settled.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Michael Bird, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan
201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 577-4758

John S. Mills, Esq.
Bishop Page & Mills
510 North Julia Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 598-0034

Counsel for Defendant:

Scott Hutchens, Esq.
Luks Santaniello
100 North Tampa Street, Suite 2120
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 226-0081

Counsel for Non-Parties Physician Partners of America, Physician Partners of America CRNA, and Armenia Surgery Center:

Aaron Proulx, Esq.
The Doctor's Lawyer, PLLC
346 Bailey Court
Palm Harbour, FL 34684-3537

(813) 486-7321

2. *Grisar v. Brate*, Case No.: 19-CA-12920. Decision supplied.

This car accident case involved the application of new state law that took effect in 2023. I ruled that the portion of the new law that Defendant sought to apply should apply. The case was tried to a verdict.

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

Sumeet Kaul, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan
Morgan & Morgan, P.A.
201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602-5157
(813) 223-5505

Counsel for Defendant:

Julian Wood, Esq.
Wood & Wood, P.A.
1500 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street North
Saint Petersburg, FL 33704-4202
(727) 823-6888

3. *Jaroch v. Hillsborough County, et al.*, Case No.: 22-CA-7158. Decision supplied.

During the November 2022 election, a ballot initiative was found to be affirmatively misleading so it was stricken from the ballot. Hillsborough County filed a notice of appeal and the judgment was automatically stayed. Plaintiff moved to lift the automatic stay and established that she was likely to succeed on the merits of her appeal, so the stay was lifted. Hillsborough County then requested that the Second District Court of Appeal reinstate the stay, which it did. Reinstatement of the stay allowed for voting to continue. Ultimately, the voters did not approve the initiative and the appeal was dismissed after the election.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Samuel J. Salaro, Jr.
Lawson Huck Gonzalez
1700 South MacDill Avenue, Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33629
(850) 825-4334

Joseph T. Eagleton, Esq.
Brannock Berman & Seider
1111 West Cass Street, Suite 200

Tampa, FL 33606
(813) 223-4300

Counsel for Defendant:

Mark Herron, Esq.
Messer Caparello, P.A.
2618 Centennial Place
Tallahassee, FL 32308
(850) 222-0720

Raymond T. Elligett, Jr., Esq.
Buell Elligett Farrior & Faircloth, P.A.
805 West Azeele Street
Tampa, FL 33606
(813) 874-2600

Counsel for Proposed Intervenors:

David L. Smith, Esq.
GrayRobinson, P.A.
101 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 4000
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 273-5000

Pamela D. Cichon, Esq.
City Attorney City of Temple Terrace
11250 North 56th Street
Temple Terrace, FL 33617
(813) 506-6491

Colleen E. O'Brien, Esq.
Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections
Fred B. Karl County Center
601 East Kennedy Boulevard, 16th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 574-1285

David E. Harvey, Esq.
Assistant City of Tampa Attorney
315 East Kennedy Boulevard, 5th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 274-8791

Kenneth W. Buchman, Esq.
City Attorney City of Plant City

302 West Reynolds Street
Plant City, FL 33563
(813) 659-4242

Ursula D. Richardson, Esq.
Office of the City Attorney
315 East Kennedy Boulevard, 5th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 274-8996

4. *Liberty Hospitality Mgmt. v. City of Tampa*, Case No.: 22-CA-5055. Decisions supplied.

This case related to a real estate developer's efforts to rezone property it owns on Harbour Island, near downtown Tampa. The Tampa City Council denied the rezoning, so the developer filed a petition for writ of certiorari and a complaint that alleged various civil claims. After entering an order to show cause why the petition for writ of certiorari should not be dismissed for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, I dismissed the petition. I granted summary judgment on the civil claims. The case is currently pending before the Second District Court of Appeal.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Ethan J. Loeb, Esq.
Bartlett Loeb Hinds & Thompson, PLLC
1001 Water Street, Suite 475
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 223-3888

Jacob T. Cremer, Esq.
Stearns Weaver Miller
Truist Place
401 East Jackson Street
Suite 2100
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 223-4800

Counsel for Defendant:

Toyin K. Aina-Hargrett, Esq.
Office of the City Attorney
315 East Kennedy Boulevard, 5th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 274-8996

5. *L.S., through her parent, S.H., and S.H., individually vs. Orlando Gudes*, Case No.: 22-CA-4051. Decision supplied.

A then-sitting member of Tampa's City Council, Orlando Gudes, was sued by his former legislative aide and her minor child for intentional infliction of emotional distress. The legislative aide also alleged that Councilman Gudes defamed her. The claims were dismissed.

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

Ethan J. Loeb, Esq.
Bartlett Loeb Hinds & Thompson, PLLC
1001 Water Street, Suite 475
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 223-3888

Cynthia G. Angelos, Esq.
The Law Office of Cynthia G. Angelos, P.A.
Post Office Box 9163
Port St. Lucie, FL 34985
(772) 252-3000

Counsel for Defendant:

Ryan D. Barack, Esq.
Kwall Barack Nadeau, PLLC
304 South Belcher Road, Suite C
Clearwater, FL 33765
(727) 441-4947

6. *Nieves v. Senior Health TNF, LLC*, Case No.: 21-CA-2558

This case involved a nursing home patient who died in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic. Just days before the COVID-19 Protection Act (Sections 768.38 and 768.381, Florida Statutes) took effect, this lawsuit was filed against the nursing home alleging that the nursing home was negligent in its failure to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The nursing home moved to dismiss the complaint, alleging that the plaintiff lacked standing. I granted the motion to dismiss. Plaintiff appealed. The Second District affirmed both the dismissal of the complaint for lack of standing and the denial of leave to amend, citing the transcript of the hearing and the written order somewhat extensively. *See Nieves v. Senior Health TNF, LLC*, 369 So. 3d 760 (Fla. 2d Dist. 2023).

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Lindsey E. Gale, Esq.
Domnick Cunningham & Yaffa

2401 PGA Boulevard, Suite 140
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
(561) 625-6260

Counsel for Defendant:

Amy L. Christiansen, Esq.
Spector Gadon Rosen Vinci, LLP
360 Central Avenue, Suite 1550
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 896-4600

7. *Sapp v. Brooks*, Case No.: Case No.: 17-CA-5664. Decision supplied.

This car accident case involved the application of new state law that took effect in 2023. I ruled that the portion of the new law that Defendant sought to apply should apply. The case settled.

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

David Henry, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan, P.A.
201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602-5157
(813) 223-5505

Christopher Borzell, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan, P.A.
101 Riverfront Boulevard, Suite 600
Bradenton, FL 34205-8841
(813) 577-4744

Counsel for Defendants:

Heather Stover, Esq.
Ogden Sullivan Stover & Saar, P.A.
5422 Bay Center Drive, Suite 100
Tampa, FL 33609-3420
(813) 223-5111

Susan Wilson, Esq.
Ogden Sullivan Stover & Saar, P.A.
5422 Bay Center Drive, Suite 100
Tampa, FL 33609-3420
(813) 223-5111

8. *Torres-Aponte v. Hudnal*, Case No.: 20-CA-7146. Decision supplied.

This car accident case involved the application of new state law that took effect in 2023. I ruled that the portion of the new law that Defendant sought to apply should apply. The case was tried to a verdict.

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

Joshua Wright, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan, P.A.
201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602-5157
(813) 559-4899

Counsel for Defendants:

Lindsay Brigman, Esq.
Wicker, Smith, O'Hara, McCoy & Ford, P.A.
100 North Tampa Street, Suite 1800
Tampa, FL 33602-5853
(813) 222-3939

Michael Reed, Esq.
Wicker, Smith, O'Hara, McCoy & Ford, P.A.
100 North Tampa Street, Suite 1800
Tampa, FL 33602-5853
(813) 222-3939

9. *United Soccer Leagues, LLC v. Wyke*, 23-CA-13082

The plaintiff in this defamation case is a professional soccer player for the Tampa Bay Rowdies. He sued the United Soccer Leagues, alleging that the league defamed him in the course of announcing a 12-game suspension due to allegations of racist conduct during an October 2, 2022 soccer game. The USL later overturned the suspension in full. When the plaintiff sued USL alleging state law defamation claim, USL moved to dismiss and argued that an arbitration provision in a collective bargaining agreement between USL and the USL Players Association required that the claim be litigated either in arbitration or in federal court. I denied USL's motion to dismiss. USL appealed and moved to stay the state court action pending consideration by the Second District Court of Appeal. I denied USL's motion to stay. The Second District Court of Appeal dismissed USL's appeal.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

John D. Goldsmith, Esq.
Trenam Law Firm

101 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 2700
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 227-7474

Counsel for Defendant:

Katherine L. Ender, Esq.
Dinsmore & Shohl, LLP
200 South Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 2401
Miami, FL 33131
(786) 957-1136

10. *Unsworth v. Barsoumian*, Case No.: 20-CA-7575. Decisions supplied.

This car accident case involved the application of new state law that took effect in 2023. I ruled that the portion of the new law that Defendant sought to apply should apply. I also ruled that the new law did not represent an unconstitutional violation of the separation of powers in the Florida Constitution. The case was tried to a verdict. After the case was tried, Florida's Fifth District Court of Appeal ruled in a different case that the new law should not be applied to cases that were pending when it took effect. Because the Second District Court of Appeal had not yet resolved that question, I was bound by that decision so I granted a motion for new trial. Defendant has appealed the motion for new trial and the case is now pending before the Second District Court of Appeal.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

James D. Arnold, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan, PA
201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 477-1992

John S. Mills, Esq.
Bishop Page & Mills
510 North Julia Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 598-0034

Counsel for Defendant:

Mark D. Tinker, Esq.
Cole Scott & Kissane, P.A.
500 North Westshore Boulevard, Suite 700
Tampa, FL 33609
(813) 289-9300

Jeffrey M. James, Esq.
Banker Lopez Gassler, P.A.
501 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 1700
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 222-3310

d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.

1. *Adams v. Penske Truck Leasing Co., L.P., et al.*, Case No.: 18-CA-1399.
Decision supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Michael Bird, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan
201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 577-4758

John S. Mills, Esq.
Bishop Page & Mills
510 North Julia Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 598-0034

Counsel for Defendant:

Scott Hutchens, Esq.
Luks Santaniello
100 North Tampa Street, Suite 2120
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 226-0081

Counsel for Non-Parties Physician Partners of America, Physician Partners of America
CRNA, and Armenia Surgery Center:

Aaron Proulx, Esq.
The Doctor's Lawyer, PLLC
346 Bailey Court
Palm Harbour, FL 34684-3537
(813) 486-7321

2. *Grisar v. Brate*, Case No.: 19-CA-12920
Published decision: *Grisar v. Brate*, 31 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 350a (Fla. 13th Cir. Ct. Aug. 23, 2023)

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

Sumeet Kaul, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan
Morgan & Morgan, P.A.
201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602-5157
(813) 223-5505

Counsel for Defendant:

Julian Wood, Esq.
Wood & Wood, P.A.
1500 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street North
Saint Petersburg, FL 33704-4202
(727) 823-6888

3. *In Re: the Former Marriage of R.D.L. and D.L.*, Case No.: 09-DR-9251 (Mar. 9, 2020)
Published decision: *In Re: the Former Marriage of R.D.L. & D.L.*, 28 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 58 (Fla. 13th Cir. Ct. May 29, 2020).

Counsel for Former Husband:

Carl J. Ohall, Esq.
6800 Gulfport Boulevard South, Suite 210-288
South Pasadena, FL 33707
(813) 341-3333

Counsel for Former Wife:

Adrian R. Castro, Esq.
Adrian R. Castro, P.A. Attorney At Law
505 East Jackson Street, Suite 210
Tampa, FL 33602-4935
(813) 229-9195

4. *Jaroch v. Hillsborough County, et al.*, Case No.: 22-CA-7158.
Decisions supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Samuel J. Salaro, Jr.
Lawson Huck Gonzalez
1700 South MacDill Avenue, Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33629
(850) 825-4334

Joseph T. Eagleton, Esq.
Brannock Berman & Seider
1111 West Cass Street, Suite 200
Tampa, FL 33606
(813) 223-4300

Counsel for Defendant:

Mark Herron, Esq.
Messer Caparello, P.A.
2618 Centennial Place
Tallahassee, FL 32308
(850) 222-0720

Raymond T. Elligett, Jr., Esq.
Buell Elligett Farrior & Faircloth, P.A.
805 West Azeele Street
Tampa, FL 33606
(813) 874-2600

Counsel for Proposed Intervenors:

David L. Smith, Esq.
GrayRobinson, P.A.
101 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 4000
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 273-5000

Pamela D. Cichon, Esq.
City Attorney City of Temple Terrace
11250 North 56th Street
Temple Terrace, FL 33617
(813) 506-6491

Colleen E. O'Brien, Esq.
Hillsborough County Supervisor of Elections
Fred B. Karl County Center
601 East Kennedy Boulevard, 16th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602

(813) 574-1285

David E. Harvey, Esq.
Assistant City of Tampa Attorney
315 East Kennedy Boulevard, 5th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 274-8791

Kenneth W. Buchman, Esq.
City Attorney City of Plant City
302 West Reynolds Street
Plant City, FL 33563
(813) 659-4242

Ursula D. Richardson, Esq.
Office of the City Attorney
315 East Kennedy Boulevard, 5th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 274-8996

5. *Liberty Hospitality Mgmt. v. City of Tampa*, Case No.: 22-CA-5055.
Decisions supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

Ethan J. Loeb, Esq.
Bartlett Loeb Hinds & Thompson, PLLC
1001 Water Street, Suite 475
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 223-3888

Jacob T. Cremer, Esq.
Stearns Weaver Miller
Truist Place
401 East Jackson Street
Suite 2100
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 223-4800

Counsel for Defendant:

Toyin K. Aina-Hargrett, Esq.
Office of the City Attorney
315 East Kennedy Boulevard, 5th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 274-8996

6. *L.S., through her parent, S.H., and S.H., individually vs. Orlando Gudes*, Case No.: 22-CA-4051.
Decision supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

Ethan J. Loeb, Esq.
Bartlett Loeb Hinds & Thompson, PLLC
1001 Water Street, Suite 475
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 223-3888

Cynthia G. Angelos, Esq.
The Law Office of Cynthia G. Angelos, P.A.
Post Office Box 9163
Port St. Lucie, FL 34985
(772) 252-3000

Counsel for Defendant:

Ryan D. Barack, Esq.
Kwall Barack Nadeau, PLLC
304 South Belcher Road, Suite C
Clearwater, FL 33765
(727) 441-4947

7. *Parker v. Superior Siteworks*, Case No.: 22-CA-3062
Decision supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

Scott Brown, Esq.
Winters & Yonker, P.A.
Post Office Box 3342
Tampa, FL 33601-3342
(813) 223-6200

Counsel for Defendants:

Daja S. Craig, Esq.
Kubicki Draper
400 North Ashley Drive, Suite 1200
Tampa, FL 33602-4457
(813) 204-9776

8. *Sapp v. Brooks*, Case No.: Case No.: 17-CA-5664

Citation to published decision: *Sapp v. Brooks*, 31 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 123b (Fla. 13th Cir. Ct. May 19, 2023)

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

David Henry, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan, P.A.
201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602-5157
(813) 223-5505

Christopher Borzell, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan, P.A.
101 Riverfront Boulevard, Suite 600
Bradenton, FL 34205-8841
(813) 577-4744

Counsel for Defendants:

Heather Stover, Esq.
Ogden Sullivan Stover & Saar, P.A.
5422 Bay Center Drive, Suite 100
Tampa, FL 33609-3420
(813) 223-5111

Susan Wilson, Esq.
Ogden Sullivan Stover & Saar, P.A.
5422 Bay Center Drive, Suite 100
Tampa, FL 33609-3420
(813) 223-5111

9. *Torres-Aponte v. Hudnal*, Case No.: 20-CA-7146

Citation to published decision: *Torres-Aponte v. Hudnall*, 31 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 255b (Fla. 13th Cir. Ct. Jul. 18, 2023)

Counsel for Plaintiffs:

Joshua Wright, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan, P.A.
201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602-5157
(813) 559-4899

Counsel for Defendants:

Lindsay Brigman, Esq.

Wicker, Smith, O'Hara, McCoy & Ford, P.A
100 North Tampa Street, Suite 1800
Tampa, FL 33602-5853
(813) 222-3939

Michael Reed, Esq.
Wicker, Smith, O'Hara, McCoy & Ford, P.A
100 North Tampa Street, Suite 1800
Tampa, FL 33602-5853
(813) 222-3939

10. *Unsworth v. Barsoumian*, Case No.: 20-CA-7575. Decisions supplied.
Unpublished decision supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:

James D. Arnold, Esq.
Morgan & Morgan, PA
201 North Franklin Street, 7th Floor
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 477-1992

John S. Mills, Esq.
Bishop Page & Mills
510 North Julia Street
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 598-0034

Counsel for Defendant:

Mark D. Tinker, Esq.
Cole Scott & Kissane, P.A.
500 North Westshore Boulevard, Suite 700
Tampa, FL 33609
(813) 289-9300

Jeffrey M. James, Esq.
Banker Lopez Gassler, P.A.
501 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 1700
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 222-3310

e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.

Certiorari Granted:

Erin W. Phillips v. Donald E. Phillips; Lost Heaven Trust; Encore Trust; and Legacy Trust, Case No.: 2D18-1025

Heather Deroner Horowitz v. Michael Horowitz, Case No.: 2D18-2074

Certiorari Requested But Denied:

Johnson v. Williams, 330 So. 3d 1067 (Fla. 2d DCA 2022)

f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

Mota v. USAA Cas. Ins. Co., Inc., 396 So. 3d 849 (Fla. 2d DCA 2024)

In this personal injury action, the plaintiff appealed a summary judgment I entered in favor of defendant USAA on plaintiff Mota's claim to enforce a settlement agreement between them. Following an accident in which Ms. Mota was struck by a vehicle driven by the valet driver at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa, Florida, Ms. Mota reached a settlement with USAA, which insured the vehicle's owner. USAA agreed to pay Ms. Mota \$100,000 and sent her a cover letter, a proposed release, and the \$100,000 check. USAA's letter stated that the proposed release was not a condition of the settlement, was not intended to be a counter-offer, and stated that "the language of the proposed release can be changed so that it is mutually acceptable." Ms. Mota responded with adding language to the proposed release that would waive USAA's indemnification and subrogation rights. USAA then rejected the modification and stopped payment. Ms. Mota then amended her complaint to add a claim for breach of the settlement agreement. USAA moved for summary judgment on that claim and I granted summary judgment for USAA, finding that there was never a meeting of the minds on Ms. Mota's proposed release language. The Second District Court of Appeal reversed.

Lyons Heritage of Tampa, LLC v. Phillips, 385 So. 3d 656 (Fla. 2d DCA 2024)

An arbitration award was entered in favor of homeowners against their homebuilder. The builder sought modification or vacatur of the arbitration award. In a decision made prior to my assignment to the Circuit Civil division, the predecessor judge entered a final judgment in favor of the homeowners that made no mention of attorneys' fees or costs. After that judge had retired, the homeowners moved for an award of fees and costs based on the final judgment. I granted their motion because the predecessor judge granted all relief requested in the homeowner's motion for summary judgment, making no exception for their claims for fees and costs. The builder then appealed the fee order, arguing that Rule 1.525 of the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure required notice. The Second District Court of Appeal agreed with the home builder and reversed the entry of fees and costs in favor of the homeowner.

E.W.P. v. D.E.P., et al., 264 So. 3d 1129 (Fla. 2d DCA 2019)

In this dissolution of marriage proceeding, the wife served update discovery on several non-party trusts for the purposes of identifying the Husband's ability to pay alimony. The trusts objected because they were non-parties and neither the Wife nor the Husband were trustees or beneficiaries of two of the three trusts. The Husband was a beneficiary of the third trust, but he was neither the grantor nor the trustee.

The trusts asserted that the subpoenas sought confidential and propriety information of the trusts that violated the trusts' right to informational privacy under article I, Section 23 of the Florida Constitution. The Husband stipulated to his ability to pay any amount of alimony and—after considering the constitutional privacy interests involved and that the discovery was purportedly sought for an issue that was no longer contested—the objections of the non-party trusts were sustained and the wife's subpoenas to them were quashed. The Second District Court of Appeal granted the wife's petition for writ of certiorari.

H.D.H. v. M.H., 273 So. 3d 263 (Fla. 2d DCA 2019)

In this dissolution of marriage proceeding, the wife's request for permanent alimony was denied, she was awarded bridge-the-gap alimony as reimbursement rather than prepayment, and income was imputed to her immediately on the basis that she was able to work immediately. Durational alimony was also awarded. The wife appealed and the Second District Court of Appeal affirmed on the first two issues and reversed on the latter two issues.

g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.

Consistent with the ordinary practice of Florida's trial courts, most decisions I issued as a trial court judge were unpublished. Opinions on the Second District Court of Appeal are typically published; however, I have not yet issued any written opinions, given that I joined the court on January 1, 2025.

h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

Jaroch v. Hillsborough County, et al., Case No.: 22-CA-7158. Decision supplied.

Liberty Hospitality Mgmt. v. City of Tampa, Case No.: 22-CA-5055. Decisions supplied.

Sapp v. Brooks, Case No.: Case No.: 17-CA-5664

Torres-Aponte v. Hudnal, Case No.: 20-CA-7146

Grisar v. Brate, Case No.: 19-CA-12920

Unsworth v. Barsoumian, Case No.: 20-CA-7575. Decisions supplied.

i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority, dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.

None.

14. **Recusal:** If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an “automatic” recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information:

- a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;
- b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;
- c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;
- d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself, including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

Throughout my career as a judge, I have followed the standards in Canon 3E(1) of the Florida Code of Judicial Conduct in evaluating whether to grant a motion to disqualify or recuse myself sua sponte. That Canon provides that “[a] judge shall disqualify himself or herself in a proceeding in which the judge’s impartiality might reasonably be questioned.”

On the Second District Court of Appeal, I maintain a recusal list with the Clerk of Court, which automatically would recuse me from any cases involving my brother or father, my husband’s private equity fund (Osceola Capital Management) or a limited liability company in which I have a financial interest (Gulf Drive Ventures, LLC). I have also recused myself from a case involving a litigant named Angela DeBose, due to my involvement as a trial judge in a related case. Additionally, I would recuse myself from any case in which I was involved as the trial judge.

For the first two years that I was on the trial bench, I recused myself from cases involving my brother, father, and their law firm; my former law firm; and my former law partners.

The Clerk would automatically reassign those cases to other judges when they were filed, without notice to me. There were other instances in which I recused myself voluntarily either because I had personal knowledge of the people involved or the circumstances, or because a close personal friend was counsel of record. However, I did not maintain a list of the cases in which I recused myself under those circumstances.

Motions to disqualify are a routine practice in the types of divorce and paternity cases that I handled in my first three and a half years as a trial court judge. I have listed below the cases in which I recall that such a motion was filed but given that I do not keep records of these motions there could be others about which I simply have no recollection. When I was transferred to the Circuit Civil division in 2021, motions to disqualify are less frequent. Although it is reasonable to assume that they were filed in the civil division, I have no independent recollection and was not able to find records except as indicated below.

Schaefer v. 302 BIG, LLC d/b/a Bar Hwrd, LLC, 22-CA-961. I do not recall any details about this case. Plaintiff moved to disqualify me because the defense lawyers were members of the Federal Bar Association and I am a past president of the chapter and plaintiff believed that I was still actively involved with the organization. Without addressing the truth of any of his allegations, I denied the motion because it was not legally sufficient under Rule 2.330 of the Florida Rules of General Practice & Judicial Administration.

In Re: the Matter of G.G. and T.Q.-V., 16-DR-8305. The father in a paternity action moved to disqualify, alleging that I gave preferential treatment to the mother when I granted her motion to continue a final hearing. The mother, who was pro se and required an interpreter, appeared at the final hearing and objected that it had not been coordinated with her and conflicted with an appointment related to her breast cancer treatment. Without addressing the truth of any of his allegations, I denied the motion because it was not legally sufficient under Rule 2.330 of the Florida Rules of General Practice & Judicial Administration.

In Re: the Marriage of M.B.B.-F. and M.T.F., 17-DR-3251. The wife moved to disqualify, alleging that I favored the husband because he had suffered a stroke and had difficulty walking to the witness stand. She claimed that I favored the husband's attorney because he was a former judge who had presided over one of my cases as an attorney. She also alleged that I questioned her attorney's truthfulness when the attorney invoked the rule to exclude the husband's parents (the parents were a major source of conflict) from the hearing but then made no effort to call them as witnesses. She further alleged that I was biased because I expressed frustration with her counsel for failing to comply with deadlines and respect hearing time limitations. The husband filed a written response, alleging that the wife was seeking my disqualification because of unfavorable rulings and that the motion should be denied because the facts alleged in it were not true. Without addressing the truth of any of his allegations, I granted the motion because it was legally sufficient under Rule 2.330 of the Florida Rules of General Practice & Judicial Administration.

In Re: the Matter of D.G. and M.M., 16-DR-17315. The pro se father filed repeated motions to disqualify over the course of the litigation. Some were directed to me, some to my judicial assistant, some to the opposing attorneys, some to the judge who I succeeded in the division, and some to the judge who was assigned to this case after I disqualified myself. The motions generally alleged that adverse rulings had denied the father his rights, that I had exhibited partiality to the mother, and that my judicial assistant did not give him hearing time. Without addressing the truth of any of the allegations, I denied the motion based on legal sufficiency under Rule 2.330 of the Florida Rules of General Practice & Judicial Administration. After this, I learned that the father had threatened non-parties so I recused myself and contacted the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office.

In Re: the Marriage of D.E.P and E.W.P., 16-DR-12838. The wife moved to disqualify, based on the following: (1) my decisions had been adverse to her, (2) I had fast-tracked the case, (3) the Second District Court of Appeal reversed a discovery ruling, and (4) I had questioned her character. Because she had already secured the disqualification of the predecessor judge, I denied the motion pursuant to Rule 2.330(g) of the Florida Rules of General Practice & Judicial Administration after concluding that I could be fair and impartial.

In Re: the Marriage of T.A.C. and E.L.C., 16-DR-8077. The wife filed three motions to disqualify. The first motion was directed to the predecessor judge, who granted the motion based on legal sufficiency alone. Because he granted that motion, the case was reassigned to me and the wife then moved to disqualify me twice. Because I was a successor judge, the legal standard for the motion was set by Rule 2.330 of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, which requires that "[i]f a judge has been previously disqualified on motion for alleged prejudice or partiality . . . a successor judge shall not be disqualified based on a successive motion by the same party unless the successor judge rules that he or she is in fact not fair or impartial in the case." I denied both motions because I could be fair and impartial.

In Re: the Matter of S.P.T.Y. and P.P., 16-DR-9079. The pro se father filed a motion to disqualify arguing that (1) I was either biased against him or not able to comprehend his positions, (2) my rulings reflected an inaccurate understanding of his mental health diagnosis, and (3) he believed I had stated "I do not want to hear this case." Without addressing the truth of any of his allegations, I granted the motion because it was legally sufficient under Rule 2.330 of the Florida Rules of General Practice & Judicial Administration.

In Re: the Former Marriage of M.M. and M.M., 92-DR-1538. The former husband filed a motion to disqualify based on the following allegations: (1) that I prejudged the case, (2) that I referred to him as being "guilty" of civil contempt, (3) that I required him to comply with rules but overlooked violations by the wife, (4) that I denied him access to the hearing after allowing him to appear by phone because I had also permitted his expert to appear by phone and could not accommodate both incoming calls on the same line at

the same time, and (5) that I provided a "litigation tip" to the wife's counsel. Without addressing the truth of any of the allegations, I granted the motion because it was legally sufficient under Rule 2.330 of the Florida Rules of General Practice & Judicial Administration.

In Re: the Former Marriage of J.M.L. and S.S.L, 14-DR-11194. The former husband in a post-judgment case filed a motion to disqualify on the grounds that his lawyer believed that I had referred her to the Florida Bar. Without addressing the truth of any of the allegations, I denied the motion based on legal sufficiency under Rule 2.330 of the Florida Rules of General Practice & Judicial Administration.

15. **Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

While he was Governor of Florida, Senator Rick Scott appointed me to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit on March 31, 2017. I took office on May 3, 2017 and served as a Circuit Judge until December 31, 2024. I was retained in office without opposition in the 2018 and 2024 elections.

Governor Ron DeSantis appointed me to the Second District Court of Appeal on December 17, 2024 and I took office on January 1, 2025.

I have never been an unsuccessful candidate for elective office.

I have unsuccessfully sought nomination to appointed office as follows: 2019, United States District Court. 2019, Florida Supreme Court. 2020, United States District Court. 2020, Second District Court of Appeal. 2022, Florida Supreme Court.

b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

I have never held office in a political party. My campaign-related activities prior to becoming a judge were very limited. Specifically, I believe I volunteered at a phone bank for the Republican Party in Arizona during the 2004 presidential campaign. I lived in Avondale, Arizona at the time but I do not have records about and do not recall the date or location of this volunteer activity. In 2008, I volunteered at a phone bank for the Republican Party in Florida. I do not recall the date but the office was in South Tampa close to the intersection of Platt Street and Bayshore Boulevard. In either 2008 or 2012, I volunteered as a poll watcher for the Republican Party of Florida on election night. I do

not recall the date or the address, but it was in the vicinity of Palm River, Florida.

16. **Legal Career:** Answer each part separately.

a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:

- i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

From 2005 to 2007, I clerked for the Hon. Virginia M. Hernandez Covington on the United States District Court in and for the Middle District of Florida. I clerked for her in the Ft. Myers Division and the Jacksonville Division.

- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I have never practiced alone.

- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each;

From 2007 to 2017, I was affiliated with the law firm of Bush Ross, P.A. I joined Bush Ross as an associate and then later became a non-equity shareholder and then an equity shareholder. Although I handled a variety of types of litigation, my primary area of practice was commercial litigation.

Bush Ross, P.A., 1801 North Highland Avenue, Tampa, FL 33602.

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I did not.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

I began my legal career as a law clerk for United States District Judge Virginia Covington, and I worked for her from 2005 to 2007. Starting in 2007, I was an associate at Bush Ross, P.A. working in commercial litigation. I was elected non-equity shareholder in 2013. I was elected equity shareholder effective in 2016. The general character of my private

practice was commercial litigation. I represented a wide range of clients including Fortune 500 and Fortune Global 500 companies, governmental entities, a Franciscan nun, an ex-offender in the Middle District of Florida's Intensive Re-Entry Program, and a convicted murderer serving three life sentences in federal prison.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

From 2005 to 2007, I was a federal judicial law clerk for United States District Judge Virginia Covington so in that period I did not have clients.

From 2007 to 2017, my typical clients were either people or companies who were engaged in or trying to avoid disputes over commercial or investment-related matters. I also handled pro bono matters during this time, including representation of a Franciscan nun, an ex-offender in the Middle District of Florida's Intensive Re-Entry Program, and a convicted murderer serving three life sentences in federal prison. In the early years of my time in private practice, I defended medical malpractice, accounting malpractice, legal malpractice, premises liability, and negligent supervision cases. I also represented a plaintiff in a federal medical malpractice case against the United States. My client was an elderly widow whose husband died after being given the wrong dose of medicine at the VA hospital in Tampa, Florida.

- c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

- i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1. federal courts: | 50% |
| 2. state courts of record: | 50% |
| 3. other courts: | 0% |
| 4. administrative agencies: | 0% |

- ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------|
| 1. civil proceedings: | 100% |
| 2. criminal proceedings: | 0% |

- d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

I was chief counsel in one two-week arbitration and three bench trials. I was associate

counsel in one jury trial and one bench trial. I also succeeded in obtaining summary judgment in a number of cases, but I do not know the number and no longer have access to my files from private practice.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

- | | |
|--------------|-----|
| 1. jury: | 15% |
| 2. non-jury: | 85% |

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I represented a law firm sued for professional negligence by a *pro se* litigant. Once the district court granted our motion to dismiss, the plaintiff sought review in both the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. On July 19, 2011, we sought and were granted waiver of the right to respond, and did not file a brief. The United States Supreme Court dismissed the plaintiffs' petition for writ of mandamus on October 3, 2011.

In Re Lawrence Cowan, Jr., et ux., 11-3 (pet. den. Oct. 3, 2011).

17. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation;
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

1. *Seminole Tribe of Florida v. State of Florida*, Case No. 4:15-cv-516 (N.D. Fla.)

I represented the State of Florida and the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation in a dispute with the Seminole Indian Tribe over a Class III gaming compact. The dates of my representation were 2015-2016. The case was heard and decided by United States District Judge Robert Hinkle.

Opposing Counsel:

Barry Scott Richard, Esq.
Barry Richard Law Firm
101 East College Avenue, Suite 400
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 251-9678

Joseph H. Webster, Esq.
Hobbs Strauss Dean & Walker
1899 L Street, Northwest, Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 822-8282

Co-Counsel:

Jason L. Maine, Esq.
PinPoint Results, LLC
110 East College Avenue, Suite 110
Tallahassee, FL 32301-7704
(850) 901-4206

William N. Spicola, Esq.
Komisar Spicola P.A.
Post Office Box 664
Tallahassee, FL 32302-0664
(850) 328-4447

J. Carter Andersen, Esq.
Bush Ross, P.A.
1801 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 204-6405

Harold Holder, Esq.
Bush Ross, P.A.
1801 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 204-6436

Robert Stocker, Esq.
Robert Stocker, PLLC
Post Office Box 13068
East Lansing, Michigan 48823
(517) 881-7687

Dennis Whittlesey, Esq.
Dickinson Wright, PLLC

1825 I St NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 659-6928

Patrick Sullivan, Esq.
Dickinson Wright
1825 I St NW, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 659-6928

2. *Cooper v. United States of America, et al.*, Case No.: 5:12-cv-162 (M.D. Fla.)

I represented a federal prisoner who was convicted of murder. While serving three life sentences for murder, he alleged that officials at Coleman Federal Penitentiary conducted an illegal body cavity search on him in violation of prison protocol. He sued the United States and the Federal Bureau of Prisons for civil rights violations. I took this case on pro bono six weeks before it was set for trial in approximately 2015. The case was set for trial before United States District Judge Virginia Hernandez Covington. It settled the last business day before trial.

Co-counsel:

Meredith A. Freeman, Esq.
Shutts & Bowen, LLP
4301 West Boy Scout Boulevard, Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33607
(813) 227-8115

Amanda Buffinton, Esq.
Shutts & Bowen, LLP
4301 West Boy Scout Boulevard, Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33607
(813) 229-8900

Opposing Counsel:

Christopher Emden, AUSA
United States Attorney's Office
U.S. Attorney's Office
400 North Tampa Street
Suite 3200
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 276-6000

Jeffrey Thomas Middendorf, Esq.
Federal Bureau of Prisons
320 1st Street Northwest

Washington, D.C. 20534
(202) 307-3198

Matthew H. Perry, AUSA
United States Attorney's Office
U.S. Attorney's Office
400 North Tampa Street
Suite 3200
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 276-6000

3. *Office of the Attorney General, Department of Legal Affairs, State of Florida v. Botfly, LLC, et al.*, 51-2010-CA-2912-WS/G (Florida's Sixth Judicial Circuit)

I represented the receiver appointed by the court to marshal the assets of a purported foreign exchange trading fund that proved to be a Ponzi scheme. The case number listed above was the main case, which established our client's authority to bring each of the related fraudulent transfer actions. I was part of a team of lawyers who handled the efforts to recover false profits from the scheme. We resolved the majority of the fraudulent transfer claims via settlement pre-suit. My recollection is that 76 of the claims did not resolve pre-suit so suits were filed in the Sixth Judicial Circuit. Of those, most resolved on either summary judgment motions or through subsequent settlement. Of the cases assigned to me, three went to trial and I was first chair in each. The dates of my representation were approximately 2010 to 2014. Circuit Judge Stanley Mills heard and decided all of the cases involving the receivership, including the main case and each of the recovery actions.

Co-Counsel:

Karen S. Cox, Esq.
Appleton Reiss, PLLC
501 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 802
Tampa, FL 33602-5201
(813) 542-0023

Opposing Counsel:

W. Dale Gabbard, Esq.
Law Office of W. Dale Gabbard, P.A.
3609 West Azeele Street
Tampa, FL 33609-2805
(813) 877-8444

Constaintine Kalogianis, Esq. (*)
Kalogianis Law Firm, P.A.
8141 Bellarus Way, Suite 103
Trinity, FL 34655-1789

(727) 817-0950

(*The Florida Bar Member Directory lists Mr. Kalogianis as disbarred.)

4. *Phoenix Aviation Managers, Inc. v. Woolie Enterprises, Inc. and M.S.*, Case No.: 08-8068-CI (Florida's Sixth Judicial Circuit)

I represented an aviation insurance company that sold an aircraft for scrap in an online auction. Our client sued to enforce its contract with the purchaser after the purchaser refused to comply with a contractual requirement that proof be provided that certain parts had been cut so that the aircraft, which was not airworthy, could never be returned to flight. The dates of my representation were approximately 2009 to 2012. The case was heard and tried before Circuit Judge George Jirotko.

Co-Counsel:

J. Carter Andersen, Esq.
Bush Ross, P.A.
1801 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 204-6405

Opposing Counsel:

Tyler Wolas, Esq.
Wolas Law Group, PLLC
3959 Van Dyke Road # 95
Lutz, FL 33558-8025
(727) 831-0173

Stephanie L. Velasquez, Esq.
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research
12902 USF Magnolia Drive MBC-OGC
Tampa, FL 33612-9416
(813) 745-4673

Richard Edward Huff, Jr., Esq.
Brown Huff Zohar
1480 Beltrams Street, Suite 7
Dunedin, FL 34698-8302
(727) 214-1179

Douglas J. Barnard, Esq.
Plane Law, P.A.
76 4th Street North, Unit 1023
St Petersburg, FL 33731-7049
(888) 752-6352

(*The Florida Bar Member Directory lists Mr. Barnard as disbarred.)

Jesse James Waluda, Esq.(*)

Jesse James Law Firm

(727) 327-5700

(* I could not locate Mr. Waluda in the Florida Bar Member Directory.)

5. *In Re: the Matter of A.P., a Minor Child*, Case No.: 09-DP-1039 (Florida's Thirteenth Judicial Circuit)

I represented a nun with the Order of Franciscan Sisters who was serving as the Graduate Support Director of a tuition-free preparatory school for under-privileged children in Tampa. Our client learned that the single mother of one of the eighth-grade students had died in a car accident. The child was months from graduating from the school. Before her death, his mother had worked with the school to secure her son's admission and full scholarship to a prestigious military boarding school. We assisted our client in activating protective services for the child and setting up a guardianship, which allowed the child to successfully graduate and attend the boarding school. The dates of my representation were 2009 to about 2011. The case was heard by Circuit Judge Tracey Sheehan.

Co-Counsel:

J. Carter Andersen, Esq.

Bush Ross, P.A.

1801 North Highland Avenue

Tampa, FL 33602

(813) 204-6405

Opposing party:

Anthony Pitts, Sr., pro se

Mr. Pitts is now deceased

6. *Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. v. Abdoney, et al.*, 8:14-cv-00389-MSS-EAJ and 8:15-bk-03404-CPM (M.D. Fla.)

My clients were thirteen individuals who executed personal guarantees in connection with their investment in a limited liability company that was developing commercial waterfront property in Tampa. Our clients were sued after the limited liability company in which they had invested failed to make payments due to non-performing tenants. The limited liability company sought protection in the United States Bankruptcy Court. Our clients then financed the plan of reorganization and on those grounds we secured a stay of the lender's claims against them in the District Court during the pendency of the bankruptcy proceeding. The plan of reorganization was then confirmed and the District Court case was dismissed. The dates of my representation were 2014 to 2015. The trial court case was heard and decided by United States District Judge Mary S. Scriven. The bankruptcy court case was heard and decided by United States Bankruptcy

Judge Catherine Peek McEwen.

Co-Counsel:

Jeffrey W. Warren, Esq.
Bush Ross, P.A.
1801 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 204-6423

Co-Defendants' Counsel:

Harley Riedel, Esq.
Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler, P.A.
110 East Madison Street, Suite 200
Tampa, FL 33602-4718
(813) 229-0144

Edward Peterson, Esq.
Berger Singerman, LLP
401 East Jackson Street, Suite 3300
Tampa, FL 33602-5228

(813) 498-3400

Opposing Counsel:

Andrew Brumby, Esq.
6042 Caymus Loop
Windermere, FL 34786-5316
(407) 325-8118

Ryan Reinert, Esq.
Shutts & Bowen, LLP
4301 West Boy Scout Boulevard, Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33607-5716
(813) 229-8900

Janelle Weber, Esq.
Manta Law
4039 Gunn Highway
Tampa, FL 33618-8723
(813) 982-3663

Tirso Carreja, Esq.
Shutts & Bowen, LLP

4301 West Boy Scout Boulevard, Suite 300
Tampa, FL 33607-5716
(813) 227-8190

7. *Sterling Ridge v. Farmer*, Case No.: 14-CA-8872 (arbitration proceeding; arbitration award confirmed in Florida's Thirteenth Judicial Circuit)

I represented homeowners in a dispute with their builder. Our clients filed suit in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit but then the arbitrator moved to compel arbitration. The case was tried in a two-week arbitration with Steve Bennett, P.E. as arbitrator. I was first chair. The dates of my representation were 2014 and 2015. The arbitration award was confirmed by Circuit Judge Lamar Battles.

Co-Counsel:

Stephen French, Esq.
717 King Street, Suite 200
Alexandria, VA 22314-3014
(713) 888-1943

Opposing Counsel:

Bryan Stayton, Esq.
Stayton Law Group, P.A.
711 Lithia Pinecrest Road
Brandon, FL 33511-6116
(813) 662-9829

Leo Meirose, Esq.
Meirose & Associates, P.A.
500 N West Shore Blvd, Suite 405
Tampa, FL 33609-1941
(813) 289-8800

8. *Duke Energy v. GreenPointe Communities, et al.*, Case No.: 8:14-cv-03163-VMC-TBM (M.D. Fla.)

I represented Duke Energy in its dispute with a real estate developer relating to surety bonds issued in relation to a project in Brooksville, Florida. My representation was from approximately 2012 to 2015. The case was assigned to United States Judge Virginia Covington and resolved in a global settlement.

Co-Counsel:

Jeffrey W. Warren, Esq.
Bush Ross, P.A.

1801 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 204-6423

Opposing Counsel:

Scott McLaren, Esq.
Hill Ward Henderson
101 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 3700
Tampa, FL 33602-5195
(813) 227-8418

Patrick Mosely, Esq.
Hill Ward Henderson
101 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 3700
Tampa, FL 33602-5195
(813) 221-3900

Andrew E. Peluso, Esq.
Lafayette RE
12802 Tampa Oaks Boulevard, Suite 101
Tampa, FL 33637-1912

(813) 240-6410

9. *Leone Investment Properties, LLC v. C.J.*, Case No.: 2017-CC-4986 (Hillsborough County Court)

I represented an ex-offender who was participating in the Middle District of Florida's Intensive Re-Entry Program when his landlord filed suit to evict him. As a condition of the Intensive Re-Entry program, he had to have stable housing. My client had been laid off in a reduction in force and while he found another job promptly, his first paycheck would not arrive in time to pay the rent. The landlord threatened to evict him and his disabled minor child. He was ultimately not evicted from the house and was able to resume timely payment of his rent, which allowed him to also continue in the Re-Entry Program. My representation was in 2017. The case was assigned to County Judge Joelle Ober.

No opposing counsel. Leone Investment Properties was pro se.

10. *Current Builders of Florida, Inc. & Industrial Development International, Inc. v. Trans Coastal Construction Company, Inc., et al.*, 11-11507-CACE-03 (Florida's Seventeenth Judicial Circuit)

I represented Celotex in defense of a multi-million dollar products liability case related to a building in Broward County, Florida. My involvement in the case was from approximately 2014 to 2017. The case was heard by Circuit Judge Milly Rodriguez Powell.

Co-Counsel:

Jeffrey W. Warren, Esq.
Bush Ross, P.A.
1801 North Highland Avenue
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 204-

Co-Defendants' Counsel:

William J. ("Bob") Marell, Esq.
5400 Essex Court
West Palm Beach, FL 33405-3382
(561) 586-5092

Ferris G. Solomon, Jr., Esq.
84 Yacht Club Place
Tequesta, FL 33469
(561) 762-9291

Christopher Garcia, Esq.
10621 Southwest 96th Street
Miami, FL 33176-2644
(561) 565-8896

William M. Martin, Esq.
Peterson Bernard, P.A.
707 Southeast 3rd Avenue, Suite 500
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316
(954) 763-3200

Plaintiffs' Counsel:

Vincent Vacarella, Esq.
Vincent F. Vaccarella P.A.
888 East Las Olas Boulevard Suite 700
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301-2396
(305) 932-4044

18. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

Prior to my appointment in 2017, the general nature of my law practice was commercial litigation. Most clients were involved in some type of business dispute. Often the primary issue in the dispute involved a contract, failed business partnership or investment, or an employment relationship. I also represented clients with other types of legal issues, such as those relating to surety bonds, allegations of fraud, product liability, intellectual property, and recovery and defense of allegedly fraudulent transfers. I often served as local counsel for non-resident lawyers who had cases pending in the United States District Courts for the Middle, Southern, and Northern Districts of Florida.

Earlier in my career, I defended claims involving medical malpractice, accounting malpractice, legal malpractice, premises liability, negligent supervision, and commercial foreclosure. A number of the premises liability and negligent supervision cases involved criminal acts by third parties that subjected a property or business owner to tort liability. For example, I defended (1) a security company that provided security services at an apartment complex in Tampa where Dontae Morris shot and killed a man one month before he killed two Tampa Police officers during a traffic stop, (2) managers of a shopping center where a gunman randomly opened fire in a RadioShack, shooting two employees and a customer before turning the gun on himself, and (3) an after school youth program in Manatee County at whose facility an adolescent girl alleged she was gang raped in the workout room.

Of my pro bono work, the two most significant matters involved representing (1) a federal prisoner in a civil rights claim in the Middle District of Florida and (2) a nun who was appointed guardian of a minor child in a juvenile dependency proceeding in Hillsborough County.

19. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide copies to the committee.

Other than the speaking engagements disclosed in my response to question 12d, I have not taught any courses.

20. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

As a judge in the Florida State Court system, I have elected to make monthly contributions to a deferred compensation account through Voya Financial.

21. **Outside Commitments During Court Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

No.

22. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

When my nomination is formally transmitted to the Senate, I will file my Financial Disclosure Report and supplement this Questionnaire with a copy of that Report.

23. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

24. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

My dad and my brother are both attorneys in Tampa, Florida, but they do not regularly practice in the Middle District of Florida. If either of them appeared as counsel in a case assigned to me, I would recuse myself.

My husband and I own stock in publicly traded companies. If I was assigned to a case involving any of those companies, I would either recuse myself or sell the stock pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 1043.

My husband runs a private equity fund. If either the fund itself or any of the companies owned by the fund were a party in a case assigned to me, I would recuse myself.

b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

I will resolve any potential conflict of interest by adhering to the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, 28 U.S.C. § 455, and the decisions construing the Code.

25. **Pro Bono Work:** An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

Between 2007 and 2009, I represented a nun who was appointed guardian of a minor child in a juvenile dependency proceeding. During those years, I spent a significant amount of time on this matter.

Between approximately 2007 and 2008, I served as the pro bono chair of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association and provided one-time legal advice to a number of pro se litigants through that program. I did not keep time records for this, but I would estimate no more than 10 hours.

Around 2015, I was appointed to represent a pro se prisoner in a civil rights case in federal court. I was appointed six weeks before trial, and the case settled the day before trial was set to begin. I spent a significant amount of time during those six weeks preparing for trial.

When I was President of the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, the chapter became involved in a program that assists ex-offenders from the federal prison system who have demonstrated a commitment to obtaining legitimate employment and becoming law-abiding, productive, tax-paying citizens. One component of the program involves recruiting members of the chapter to meet specific one-time pro bono needs that arise for participants of the Middle District of Florida's Intensive Re-Entry Program (the "Re-Entry Program"). I did not keep time records for this, but I would estimate no more than 20 hours.

In 2017, I represented an ex-offender participating in the Re-Entry Program. My client was sued by his landlord in an eviction proceeding. He was required to maintain stable housing as a condition of the Re-Entry Program. I did not have any meaningful experience with eviction law but reached out to local experts in that field who graciously took my calls and walked me through the process. With their help, I identified a good faith strategy to halt the eviction long enough for my client to get his next paycheck. Ultimately, the landlord was paid in full and my client and his five-year-old disabled child were not evicted. He was also able to successfully complete and graduate from the Re-Entry Program.

In 2016, the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Federal Bar Association was asked to consider launching an informational clinic for pro se litigants with cases pending in the Sam M. Gibbons United States Courthouse. During my term as President of the Chapter, the Board of Directors voted to support that effort, began to plan for a program based on a similar one in Jacksonville, and entered into a contract with Bay Area Legal Services to staff the clinic. I did not keep time records for this, but I would estimate no more than 10 hours.

Throughout my time in private practice, with some regularity I performed pro bono and volunteer work for Cambridge Christian School (formerly known as Seminole Presbyterian School), where I attended from first to twelfth grade. I did not keep regular time records for this, but I would estimate 25 hours.

26. **Selection Process:**

- a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from

beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

On January 7, 2025, I called Senator Scott's office to seek consideration for a vacancy in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida. Since February 20, 2025, I have been in contact with officials from the White House Counsel's Office. On February 25, 2025, I interviewed with Senator Moody. On February 27, 2025, I interviewed with attorneys from the White House Counsel's Office in Washington, D.C. On April 18, I was advised that I might receive the President's nomination, and over the next few weeks, attorneys from the Department of Justice contacted me about filling out nomination-related forms and paperwork. On May 27, 2025, I met with President Trump concerning my nomination.

b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

No.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Anne-Leigh Gaylord Moe, do swear that the information provided in this statement is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate.

May 22, 2025
(DATE)

[Signature]
(NAME)

Stacy Heseltan-Stasio
(NOTARY)



STACY HESELTAN-STASIO
Notary Public
State of Florida
Comm# HH633913
Expires 2/3/2029