Application for Nomination to the Seventh Judicial Circuit Volusia County Court

Michele Swanberg Simonsen



APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE VOLUSIA COUNTY COURT

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Instructions: Respond fully to the questions asked below. Please make all efforts to include your full answer to each question in this document. You may attach additional pages, as necessary, however it is discouraged. In addition to the application, you must provide a recent color photograph to help identify yourself.

run Name: <u>whichere Swanderg Simonsen</u> Social Security No.: _
Florida Bar No.: 0937878 Date Admitted to Practice in Florida: May 31, 1992
Cell Phone No.: E-Mail: _simonsenm@sao7.org
1. Please state your current employer and title, including any professional position and any public or judicial office you hold, your business address and telephone number.
7 th Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office, Managing Assistant State Attorney, 251 N. Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32114, 386-239-7710
2. Please state your current residential address, including city, county, and zip code. Indicate how long you have resided at this location and how long you have lived in Florida. Additionally, please provide a telephone number where you can be reached (preferably a cell phone number).
Volusia County, FL I have lived at this address for 22 years. I have lived in Florida for a total of 40 years. My cell phone number is
3. State your birthdate and place of birth.
Omaha, Nebraska
4. Are you a registered voter in Florida (Y/N)?
Yes
5. Please list all courts (including state bar admissions) and administrative bodies having special admissions requirements to which you have ever been admitted to practice, giving the dates of admission, and if applicable, state whether you have ever been suspended or resigned. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership

South Carolina Bar – 1991; currently inactive

United States District Court for the District of South Carolina – 1992; currently inactive

United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit – 1993; currently inactive

Florida Bar – 1992

Eull Names Michala Cyyonhana Cimanaan

United States District Court, Middle District of Florida – admitted 1998 but did not practice in federal court in Florida

6. Have you ever been known by any aliases? If so, please indicate and when you were known by such alias. Michele Ann Swanberg 1966-1991; Michele Swanberg Nelson 1991-2009

EDUCATION

7. List in reverse chronological order each secondary school, college, university, law school or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was

received, the date the degree was received, class standing, and graduating GPA (if your class standing or graduating GPA is unknown, please request the same from such school).

University of Florida College of Law January 1988 - December 1990 J.D. – 12/22/1990 class standing has been requested, but not yet received; graduating GPA 2.55

University of Florida College of Liberal Arts & Sciences August 1984 – December 1987 Bachelor of Arts in Sociology – 12/19/1987; class standing and graduating GPA have been requested but not yet received

Apopka High School $\,$ August 1981 – June 1984 $\,$ High school diploma - 6/8/1984; graduated #6 in my high school class, top 2%

8. List and describe any organizations, clubs, fraternities or sororities, and extracurricular activities you engaged in during your higher education. For each, list any positions or titles you held and the dates of participation.

UF Moot Court – 1989-90; Assistant Vice Chairman, 1990; Robert Orseck Memorial Moot Court Competition - Selected Best Oral Advocate, Final Round, by the Florida Supreme Court, 1990 John Marshall Bar Association – 1989-90

Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity – 1989-1990; Elected Secretary

UF Campus Diplomats - 1987

UF Preview Orientation Staff - 1987

UF Resident Assistant – 1986-87

UF Student Senate – 1985-86, Judiciary Chairman – 1986

UF Student Honor Court – 1986

Mortar Board Senior Honorary – 1987

EMPLOYMENT:

9. List in reverse chronological order all full-time jobs or employment (including internships and clerkships) you have held since the age of 21. Include the name and address of the employer, job title(s) and dates of employment. For non-legal employment, please briefly describe the position and provide a business address and telephone number.

State Attorney's Office, 251 N. Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32114, Assistant State Attorney, July 1998 -- Present

Federal Public Defender's Office, 75 Beattie Place, #950, Greenville, SC 29601, Assistant Federal Public Defender, March 1993 -- June 1998

13th Circuit Solicitor's Office, 305 E North St #325, Greenville, SC 29601 and 214 E. Main Street, Pickens, SC 29671, Assistant Solicitor, March 1991 -- March 1993

9th Circuit State Attorney's Office, 415 N. Orange Avenue, Orlando, FL 32801, Intern, Summer 1989

Law Firm of Turner and Griscti, 204 W. University Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32601, Law Clerk; September 1989 -- February 1991

10. Describe the general nature of your current practice including any certifications which you possess; additionally, if your practice is substantially different from your prior practice or if you are not now practicing

law, give details of prior practice. Describe your typical clients or former clients and the problems for which they sought your services.

As a Managing Attorney at the State Attorney's Office, I am a member of the Executive Staff, and I supervise the victim advocates and domestic violence prosecutors in our Daytona Beach office. I also handle the intake and prosecution of felony domestic violence cases on two criminal dockets before Judge Raul Zambrano and Judge Sandra Upchurch. I meet with victims and witnesses, review evidence, and make charging decisions in felony arrest and non-arrest cases. After cases are filed, I handle them in court through disposition. I train law enforcement agencies on various topics, including domestic violence related issues and report writing. The client I serve is the State of Florida where my responsibility is to pursue justice and protect the safety of the public.

11. What percentage of your appearance in court in the last five years or in the last five years of practice (include the dates) was: Criminal 2019-2020; Indirect criminal contempt hearings pertaining to injunction violations in Family Court 2007-2011

Court			Area of Practice		
Federal Appellate		%	Civil	%	
Federal Trial		%	Criminal	85%	
Federal Other		%	Family	15 %	
State Appellate		%	Probate	%	
State Trial	100	%	Other	%	
State Administrative		%			
State Other		%			
TOTAL	100 %		TOTAL	100 %	

If your appearance in court the last five years is substantially different from your prior practice, please provide a brief explanation: I have been in court much more frequently in the last year and a half because my position in the office changed from one where I exclusively made charging decisions to a position where I make charging decisions and handle cases in court through disposition.

12. In your lifetime, how many (number) of the cases that you tried to verdict, judgment, or final decision were:

Jury? <u>10-12</u>	Non-Jury? <u>12-15</u>	
Arbitration?0	Administrative Bodies?	0
Appellate?1		

13. Please list every case that you have argued (or substantially participated) in front of the United States Supreme Court, a United States Circuit Court, the Florida Supreme Court, or a Florida District Court of Appeal, providing the case name, jurisdiction, case number, date of argument, and the name(s), e-mail address(es), and telephone number(s) for opposing appellate counsel. If there is a published opinion, please also include that citation.

- <u>U.S. vs. Brinston Wilson, et al.</u>, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, Case Nos. 94-5242, 94-5244, 94-5250, Argued: November 4, 1994. Opposing counsel was David C. Stephens, Assistant United States Attorney, now retired, <u>dcsjd77@gmail.com</u>, 864-292-3373. I have attached a copy of the unpublished opinion for this case. **See attached Exhibit A.**
- **14.** Within the last ten years, have you ever been formally reprimanded, sanctioned, demoted, disciplined, placed on probation, suspended, or terminated by an employer or tribunal before which you have appeared? If so, please state the circumstances under which such action was taken, the date(s) such action was taken, the name(s) of any persons who took such action, and the background and resolution of such action.

No

15. In the last ten years, have you failed to meet any deadline imposed by court order or received notice that you have not complied with substantive requirements of any business or contractual arrangement? If so, please explain fully.

No

- **16.** For your last six cases, which were tried to verdict or handled on appeal, either before a jury, judge, appellate panel, arbitration panel or any other administrative hearing officer, list the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of the trial/appellate counsel on all sides and court case numbers (include appellate cases). *This question is optional for sitting judges who have served five years or more*.
 - a. State vs. Peter Stites, 1998 031201 CFAES
 - 1. Attorneys for the State Applicant and Kip Miller, kip@millerdui.com, 386-872-7800
 - 2. Defense counsel Steven DeLaroche, stevendelaroche@delaroche-law.com, 386-947-0909
 - b. Lorraine Jasmin vs. William Joe Mathias, Jr., 1996 32690 FMCI
 - 1. Attorney for Petitioner Applicant
 - 2. Respondent Pro Se Respondent
 - c. U.S. vs. Ramona Tucker, 7:97-cr-985-HMH-1
 - 1. Defense Counsel Applicant and AFPD Benjamin T. Stepp, <u>benjamin_stepp@fd.org</u>, 386-235-8714
 - 2. U.S. Counsel David C. Stephens, retired, dcsid77@gmail.com, 864-292-3373
 - d. U.S. vs. Pamela Lavern Williams, 7:95-cr-01011-MBS-1
 - 1. Defense Counsel Applicant
 - 2. U.S. Counsel Harold W. Gowdy, III, trey.gowdy@nelsonmullins.com, 864-373-2251
 - e. U.S. vs. Wong E. Jackson, 6:95-cr-01052 HMH-1
 - 1. Defense Counsel Applicant
 - 2. U.S. Counsel David C. Stephens, retired, dcsjd77@gmail.com, 864-292-3373
 - f. U.S. vs. Donald Cheatham, 6:94-cr-00771-WBT-1
 - 1. Defense Counsel Applicant
 - U.S. Counsel E. Jean Howard, retired, <u>jeannehowardsc@yahoo.com</u>, 864-241-0944 Harold W. Gowdy, III, trey.gowdy@nelsonmullins.com, 864-373-2251

17. For your last six cases, which were either settled in mediation or settled without mediation or trial, list the names and telephone numbers of trial counsel on all sides and court case numbers (include appellate cases). *This question is optional for sitting judges who have served five years or more.*

I have not participated as an attorney in formal mediation. However, I work with a number of private attorneys and assistant public defenders and have resolved many cases short of trial. The assistant public defenders I have been working with during the past year and a half are: Jay Crocker, Ashley Gilger, Natalie Gossett, Matthew Metz, Mitch Novas, and Vivian Williams. Any one of them can be reached at 386-239-7730.

18. During the last five years, on average, how many times per month have you appeared in Court or at administrative hearings? If during any period you have appeared in court with greater frequency than during the last five years, indicate the period during which you appeared with greater frequency and succinctly explain.

I have appeared in court an average of 12 days per month for the last year and a half. Prior to that time, I did not appear in court regularly for several years because I shifted my practice to part-time work so I could be available for my three children while they were in school. My job was limited to meeting with victims and witnesses and making charging decisions in a high volume of misdemeanor and felony domestic violence cases. I shifted back to courtroom work a year and a half ago when my youngest child was in his senior year of high school. Prior to then, I appeared in court most frequently between 1993 and 1998, when I represented clients charged with crimes in federal court in South Carolina.

19. If Questions 16, 17, and 18 do not apply to your practice, please list your last six major transactions or other legal matters that were resolved, listing the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of the other party counsel.

Not applicable

20. During the last five years, if your practice was greater than 50% personal injury, workers' compensation or professional malpractice, what percentage of your work was in representation of plaintiffs or defendants?

Not applicable

- **21.** List and describe the five most significant cases which you personally litigated giving the case style, number, court and judge, the date of the case, the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of the other attorneys involved, and citation to reported decisions, if any. Identify your client and describe the nature of your participation in the case and the reason you believe it to be significant.
 - a. <u>U.S. vs. Brinston Wilson, et al.</u>, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, Case Nos. 94-5242, 94-5244, 94-5250, Argued: November 4, 1994. <u>U.S. vs. Calvin Jones, Terry Brice, and Brinston Wilson</u>, U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, 7:92-cr-00328-HMH-3. Jury trial held November 17-18, 1993. The government was represented by David C. Stephens, Assistant United States Attorney, now retired, <u>dcsjd77@gmail.com</u>, 864-292-3373. I represented the defendant, Brinston Wilson. He had two codefendants at trial who were represented by William B. Long, Jr., <u>blongjr@bellsouth.net</u>, 864-242-8888, and Thomas G. Nessler, Jr. <u>tnesslerscoast@gmail.com</u>, no listed phone number. This was a complicated federal jury trial wherein multiple defendants were tried together on charges of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute crack cocaine and use of a firearm in a drug trafficking offense. Our clients were convicted of the offenses at trial and sentenced to significant prison terms after contested sentencing hearings. We appealed the

- convictions and sentences and went to Richmond, Virginia, almost a year after the trial, where we argued and lost before the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. This case is significant to me because it was the only case I ever handled from arraignment through oral argument to a U.S. Court of Appeals.
- b. <u>U.S. vs. Donald Cheatham</u>, 6:94-cf-00771-WBT-1, U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, Judge William B. Traxler, Jr. Jury trial held August 28 and 29, 1995. The government. was represented by AUSA E. Jean Howard, now retired, <u>jeannehowardsc@yahoo.com</u>, 864-241-0944, and Harold W. Gowdy, III, <u>trey.gowdy@nelsonmullins.com</u>, 864-373-2251. My client was charged with constructive possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The facts were stacked against us, and my client, who was serving a state prison sentence at the time I represented him, was passionate about his innocence. He was strong-willed and had firm ideas about how he wanted his case presented at trial. He expressed little to no confidence in me, as a lawyer with only four years of experience, to represent him at trial. We were able to work together, and he was acquitted of the charge on August 29, 1995, after a two day jury trial. This case is significant to me because it showed me that I can work with challenging people and still achieve favorable results. It was also the one "Perry Mason" case that I will probably ever try in my lifetime.
- c. <u>United States vs. Wong Jackson</u>, 6:95-cr-01052-HMH-1, U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, Judge Henry M. Herlong, Jr. Jury trial held March 7, 1996. The government was represented by David C. Stephens, now retired, <a href="design: design: design
- d. McCue vs. Walker, 2006 20342 FMNS, Volusia County Family Court, Judge S. James Foxman. Indirect criminal contempt hearing held on May 31, 2006. Counsel for the respondent was Nancy Ryan, Assistant Public Defender, ryan.nancy@pd7.org, 386-254-3758. The petitioner in this case filed two affidavits of violation of injunction alleging that the respondent made third party contact with her via email to a friend as well as text messages to the petitioner's phone. Both parties testified at the hearing. Judge Foxman found that the state did not prove a violation of the injunction through third party contact by email, but did find the respondent guilty of indirect criminal contempt for the text messages, and the court sentenced him to 60 days in jail. APD Nancy Ryan appealed the court's decision, and the 5th DCA reversed the court's finding. The 5th DCA found that the state did not present sufficient evidence to prove that the respondent sent the text messages to the petitioner. We could not tie the respondent to the phone number from which the text messages were sent. Rather, the petitioner testified that the content of the text messages she received was unique to the respondent as opposed to coming from someone else. I respect the appellate court's decision, and it formulated a new threshold for me regarding sufficiency of evidence for pursuing or not pursuing cases. I have referred to this case many times over the years when talking with victims about why I cannot go forward in a particular case.
- e. <u>State vs. Darryl Lorenzo Smith</u>, 2019 306097 CFDB, Volusia County Circuit Court, Judge Sandra C. Upchurch. Stand your ground hearing held February 18, 2020. Assistant Public Defender Natalie Gossett represented the defendant in this case. In November of 2019, I filed an information against the defendant charging him with aggravated battery deadly weapon/great bodily harm, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, battery, and resisting an officer without violence. The defendant struck his

brother in law with a piece of wood which resulted in stitches and fractured ribs for the victim. The defendant also hit his sister, threatened her with a knife, and fled from officers. After taking the depositions of several witnesses, I reduced the aggravated assault charge to an improper exhibition of a dangerous weapon. The defendant filed a motion to dismiss the charges, and after a contested hearing, the Court granted the motion in part and denied the motion in part. The defendant ultimately chose to enter a plea in the case to all of the charges against him in exchange for a five year prison sentence. This case was significant to me because it was the first time I had to research and argue against a stand your ground motion.

22. Attach at least two, but no more than three, examples of legal writing which you personally wrote. If you have not personally written any legal documents recently, you may attach a writing sample for which you had substantial responsibility. Please describe your degree of involvement in preparing the writing you attached.

I have attached copies of three pleadings I prepared myself and filed in three separate cases in 1998, 2004, and 2020. My practice in recent years has not involved a significant amount of legal writing beyond standard motions and charging documents. **See attached Exhibits B, C and D.**

PRIOR JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE OR PUBLIC OFFICE

23. Have you ever held judicial office or been a candidate for judicial office? If so, state the court(s) involved, the dates of service or dates of candidacy, and any election results.

No

24. If you have previously submitted a questionnaire or application to this or any other judicial nominating commission, please give the name(s) of the commission, the approximate date(s) of each submission, and indicate if your name was certified to the Governor's Office for consideration.

Not applicable

25. List any prior quasi-judicial service, including the agency or entity, dates of service, position(s) held, and a brief description of the issues you heard.

Not applicable

- **26.** If you have prior judicial or quasi-judicial experience, please list the following information:
 - (i) the names, phone numbers and addresses of six attorneys who appeared before you on matters of substance;
 - (ii) the approximate number and nature of the cases you handled during your tenure;
 - (iii) the citations of any published opinions; and
 - (iv) descriptions of the five most significant cases you have tried or heard, identifying the citation or style, attorneys involved, dates of the case, and the reason you believe these cases to be significant.

Not applicable

27. Provide citations and a brief summary of all of your orders or opinions where your decision was 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, attach copies of the opinions.

Not applicable

28. 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, attach copies of the opinions.

Not applicable

29. Has a complaint about you ever been made to the Judicial Qualifications Commission? If so, give the date, describe the complaint, whether or not there was a finding of probable cause, whether or not you have appeared before the Commission, and its resolution.

No

30. Have you ever held an attorney in contempt? If so, for each instance state the name of the attorney, case style for the matter in question, approximate date and describe the circumstances.

No

31. Have you ever held or been a candidate for any other public office? If so, state the office, location, dates of service or candidacy, and any election results.

No

NON-LEGAL BUSINESS INVOLVEMENT

32. If you are now an officer, director, or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise, state the name of such enterprise, the nature of the business, the nature of your duties, and whether you intend to resign such position immediately upon your appointment or election to judicial office.

Not applicable

33. Since being admitted to the Bar, have you ever engaged in any occupation, business or profession other than the practice of law? If so, explain and provide dates. If you received any compensation of any kind outside the practice of law during this time, please list the amount of compensation received.

Yes. From 2015 until 2019, I delivered flowers for New Smyrna Beach Florist two or three times a year. I received the following compensation: 2015 - \$395; 2016 - \$600; 2017 - \$490; 2018 - \$505, and 2019 - \$300.

Since March of 2014, I have been employed part time as a server by the Castaway Restaurant Group d/b/a the Lost Lagoon restaurant in New Smyrna Beach. I have received the following compensation: 2014 - \$5,398.02; 2015 - \$10,435.90; 2016 - \$13,132.19; 2017 - \$15,558.65; 2018 - \$17,427.75; 2019 - \$12,446.15; 2020 – approximately \$5,000.

POSSIBLE BIAS OR PREJUDICE

34. The Commission is interested in knowing if there are certain types of cases, groups of entities, or extended relationships or associations which would limit the cases for which you could sit as the presiding judge. Please list all types or classifications of cases or litigants for which you, as a general proposition, believe it would be difficult for you to sit as the presiding judge. Indicate the reason for each situation as to why you believe you might be in conflict. If you have prior judicial experience, describe the types of cases from which you have recused yourself.

None

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

35. List the titles, publishers, and dates of any books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published materials you have written or edited, including materials published only on the Internet. Attach a copy of each listed or provide a URL at which a copy can be accessed.

Not applicable

36. List any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed to the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. Provide the name of the entity, the date published, and a summary of the document. To the extent you have the document, please attach a copy or provide a URL at which a copy can be accessed.

I have contributed to the creation of several Power Point presentations used for training prosecutors and law enforcement agencies in the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

37. List any speeches or talks you have delivered, including commencement speeches, remarks, interviews, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place they were delivered, the sponsor of the presentation, and a summary of the presentation. If there are any readily available press reports, a transcript or recording, please attach a copy or provide a URL at which a copy can be accessed.

a. As part of a grant project with Daytona State College, I filmed two videos on domestic violence and stalking with Deb Cheslow called "Breaking the Cycle". They were filmed in 2017 and released in 2018.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=C-Fb8cxJYfs https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PWcY5g0JSXw

b. In 2012 and 2013, I coordinated and presented at two community events, "Circuit 7 Domestic Violence Summit" on March 23, 2012, and April 5, 2013. Both events were held at the Calvary Christian Center in Ormond Beach, Florida. Both events involved lectures and interactive presentations for community partners and attendees to learn about various issues related to domestic violence. I have attached links to media articles and brochures for both events. **See attached exhibits E and F.**

c. I have given many hours of training at the State Attorney's Office and to various law enforcement agencies and community agencies on domestic violence issues and report writing over the last ten years.

My presentations have included training on collecting evidence, presenting evidence in court, building stronger cases for prosecution, and trauma based interviewing techniques to utilize when working with victims of crime.

38. Have you ever taught a course at an institution of higher education or a bar association? If so, provide the course title, a description of the course subject matter, the institution at which you taught, and the dates of teaching. If you have a syllabus for each course, please provide.

No

39. List any fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement. Include the date received and the presenting entity or organization.

Daytona State College Campus Safety Wall of Fame – April 15, 2016 Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church Law Enforcement Day Community Service Award – April 10, 2016 State Attorney's Office Intake Top Gun Award – 2013, 2014, 2015

40. Do you have a Martindale-Hubbell rating? If so, what is it and when was it earned?

BV Distinguished Rating for 20 years

41. List all bar associations, legal, and judicial-related committees of which you are or have been a member. For each, please provide dates of membership or participation. Also, for each indicate any office you have held and the dates of office.

Volusia County Bar Association – 1998-1999 Greenville County Bar Association – 1994-1998

42. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in the previous question to which you belong, or to which you have belonged since graduating law school. For each, please provide dates of membership or participation and indicate any office you have held and the dates of office.

Board of Directors, Domestic Abuse Council, n/k/a The Beacon Center, Volusia County, Florida, Member from 2012 – 2018; Chairwoman, 2014 – 2015; Immediate Past Chairwoman, 2015 – 2016

Member since 1998; Staff Parish Relations Committee, 2015 – 2017; currently a Communion Steward since 2018

Spruce Creek High School Volunteer – 2010 – 2019 City of NSB Parks and Recreation Volunteer Youth Soccer Coach – 2006 – 2008

43. Do you now or have you ever belonged to a club or organization that in practice or policy restricts (or restricted during the time of your membership) its membership on the basis of race, religion (other than a church, synagogue, mosque or other religious institution), national origin, or sex (other than an educational institution, fraternity or sorority)? If so, state the name and nature of the club(s) or organization(s), relevant policies and practices and whether you intend to continue as a member if you are selected to serve on the bench.

44. Please describe any significant pro bono legal work you have done in the past 10 years, giving dates of service.

As an Assistant State Attorney, my options for providing pro bono legal work have been limited. However, I have participated in a significant number of events and worked with a variety of organizations as well as my church to provide service to my community during the past 10 years as described in question 42 above.

45. Please describe any hobbies or other vocational interests.

I enjoy watching SEC college football, working in my yard, traveling, and spending time with my family.

46. Please state whether you have served or currently serve in the military, including your dates of service, branch, highest rank, and type of discharge.

No

47. Please provide links to all social media and blog accounts you currently maintain, including, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

https://www.facebook.com/michele.simonsen.56
Twitter - @SimonsenMichele
https://www.linkedin.com/in/michele-simonsen-45378538/

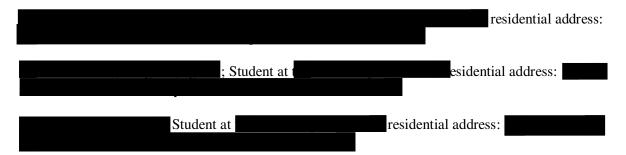
FAMILY BACKGROUND

48. Please state your current marital status. If you are currently married, please list your spouse's name, current occupation, including employer, and the date of the marriage. If you have ever been divorced, please state for each former spouse their name, current address, current telephone number, the date and place of the divorce and court and case number information.

Spouse: Self employed owner of a Pepperidge Farm cookie and cracker route Date of marriage: October 17, 2009

Former spouse: John R. Nelson, 1811 Creekwater Blvd., Port Orange, FL 32128; 386-576-6183 Date of divorce: 12/30/03, Volusia County, FL, case no. 2003-32327 FMCI

49. If you have children, please list their names and ages. If your children are over 18 years of age, please list their current occupation, residential address, and a current telephone number.





CRIMINAL AND MISCELLANEOUS ACTIONS

50. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor, including adjudications of guilt withheld? If so, please list and provide the charges, case style, date of conviction, and terms of any sentence imposed, including whether you have completed those terms.

No

51. Have you ever pled nolo contendere or guilty to a crime which is a felony or misdemeanor, including adjudications of guilt withheld? If so, please list and provide the charges, case style, date of conviction, and terms of any sentence imposed, including whether you have completed those terms.

No

52. Have you ever been arrested, regardless of whether charges were filed? If so, please list and provide sufficient details surrounding the arrest, the approximate date and jurisdiction.

No

53. Have you ever been a party to a lawsuit, either as the plaintiff, defendant, petitioner, or respondent? If so, please supply the case style, jurisdiction/county in which the lawsuit was filed, case number, your status in the case, and describe the nature and disposition of the matter.

Respondent in a dissolution of marriage case, Volusia County, FL, 03-32327 FMCI; finalized 12/30/03

54. To your knowledge, has there ever been a complaint made or filed alleging malpractice as a result of action or inaction on your part?

No

55. To the extent you are aware, have you or your professional liability carrier ever settled a claim against you for professional malpractice? If so, give particulars, including the name of the client(s), approximate dates, nature of the claims, the disposition and any amounts involved.

No

56. Has there ever been a finding of probable cause or other citation issued against you or are you presently under investigation for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by any court, administrative agency, bar association, or other professional group. If so, provide the particulars of each finding or investigation.

7/30/02 - Citation for careless driving 8/12/02 - adjudication withheld; clerk school election 11/04/09 - Citation for careless driving 12/09/09 - adjudication withheld; clerk school election

57. To your knowledge, within the last ten years, have any of your current or former co-workers, subordinates, supervisors, customers, clients, or the like, ever filed a formal complaint or accusation of misconduct including, but not limited to, any allegations involving sexual harassment, creating a hostile work environment or conditions, or discriminatory behavior against you with any regulatory or investigatory agency or with your employer? If so, please state the date of complaint or accusation, specifics surrounding the complaint or accusation, and the resolution or disposition.

No

58. Are you currently the subject of an investigation which could result in civil, administrative, or criminal action against you? If yes, please state the nature of the investigation, the agency conducting the investigation, and the expected completion date of the investigation.

No

59. Have you ever filed a personal petition in bankruptcy or has a petition in bankruptcy been filed against you, this includes any corporation or business entity that you were involved with? If so, please provide the case style, case number, approximate date of disposition, and any relevant details surrounding the bankruptcy.

No

60. In the past ten years, have you been subject to or threatened with eviction proceedings? If yes, please explain.

No

61. Please explain whether you have complied with all legally required tax return filings. To the extent you have ever had to pay a tax penalty or a tax lien was filed against you, please explain giving the date, the amounts, disposition, and current status.

Yes

HEALTH

62. Are you currently addicted to or dependent upon the use of narcotics, drugs, or alcohol?

No

63. During the last ten years have you been hospitalized or have you consulted a professional or have you received treatment or a diagnosis from a professional for any of the following: Kleptomania, Pathological or Compulsive Gambling, Pedophilia, Exhibitionism or Voyeurism? If your answer is yes, please direct each such professional, hospital and other facility to furnish the Chairperson of the Commission any information the Commission may request with respect to any such hospitalization, consultation, treatment or diagnosis. ["Professional" includes a Physician, Psychiatrist, Psychologist, Psychotherapist or Mental Health Counselor.] Please describe such treatment or diagnosis.

No

64. In the past ten years have any of the following occurred to you which would interfere with your ability to

work in a competent and professional manner: experiencing periods of no sleep for two or three nights, experiencing periods of hyperactivity, spending money profusely with extremely poor judgment, suffering from extreme loss of appetite, issuing checks without sufficient funds, defaulting on a loan, experiencing frequent mood swings, uncontrollable tiredness, falling asleep without warning in the middle of an activity. If yes, please explain.

No

65. Do you currently have a physical or mental impairment which in any way limits your ability or fitness to properly exercise your duties as a member of the Judiciary in a competent and professional manner? If yes please explain the limitation or impairment and any treatment, program or counseling sought or prescribed.

No

66. During the last ten years, have you ever been declared legally incompetent or have you or your property been placed under any guardianship, conservatorship or committee? If yes, provide full details as to court, date, and circumstances.

No

67. During the last ten years, have you unlawfully used controlled substances, narcotic drugs, or dangerous drugs as defined by Federal <u>or</u> State laws? If your answer is "Yes," explain in detail. (Unlawful use includes the use of one or more drugs and/or the unlawful possession or distribution of drugs. It does not include the use of drugs taken under supervision of a licensed health care professional or other uses authorized by Federal <u>or</u> State law provisions.)

No

68. In the past ten years, have you ever been reprimanded, demoted, disciplined, placed on probation, suspended, cautioned, or terminated by an employer as result of your alleged consumption of alcohol, prescription drugs, or illegal drugs? If so, please state the circumstances under which such action was taken, the name(s) of any persons who took such action, and the background and resolution of such action.

No

69. Have you ever refused to submit to a test to determine whether you had consumed and/or were under the influence of alcohol or drugs? If so, please state the date you were requested to submit to such a test, the type of test required, the name of the entity requesting that you submit to the test, the outcome of your refusal, and the reason why you refused to submit to such a test.

No

70. In the past ten years, have you suffered memory loss or impaired judgment for any reason? If so, please explain in full.

No

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

71. Describe any additional education or experiences you have which could assist you in holding judicial office.

For the last 29 years, I have worked in public service. I have been a defense attorney, representing individuals accused of crimes who could not afford to hire private counsel, and a prosecuting attorney, holding individuals accountable for their actions while also protecting the safety of the public. I have worked in different states and in state and federal court systems. I have handled misdemeanor and felony criminal cases from both sides, as well as appellate issues and some family court cases.

After I graduated from law school in December of 1990, I moved to South Carolina where I studied for and successfully passed the South Carolina Bar exam in 1991. I was fortunate to be hired as an Assistant Solicitor in Pickens and Greenville counties shortly after passing the bar exam. I prosecuted juvenile cases, represented the Department of Social Services in child abuse and neglect cases in family court, supervised and coordinated the office's Magistrate and Municipal Court program, and prosecuted adult criminal cases in General Sessions Court. Since my parents lived in Florida, and I had graduated from law school in Florida, I wanted to take the Florida bar exam while the information was still somewhat fresh in my mind. I passed the Florida bar exam in 1992.

After two years with the 13th Circuit Solicitor's Office, I was privileged to accept a job with the Federal Public Defender's Office in Greenville in 1993. From 1993 to 1998, I represented a multitude of clients charged with various federal criminal offenses. I visited with them at my office, in jails and prisons, and at their homes. I learned to build confidence by trying cases against experienced U.S. Attorneys, winning some trials and losing others. I gained experience in legal writing by having to write my own appellate briefs.

After five years as an Assistant Federal Public Defender, I relocated back to Florida in order to be closer to my family. In 1998, I began my career as an Assistant State Attorney under State Attorney John Tanner in the special prosecution unit where I handled mostly sex cases. By 2001, I had three small children, and I had transitioned to making charging decisions in misdemeanor domestic violence cases. I also prosecuted indirect criminal contempt cases in family court against respondents who were accused of violating injunctions.

For several years, I made the charging decisions in almost all of the misdemeanor domestic violence cases at the State Attorney's Office on the east side of Volusia County. The numbers grew to a point where I was handling over 2,000 cases a year. At the same time, I was also training local law enforcement agencies on how to collect evidence and make stronger cases for our office to prosecute. In 2012, I joined the Board of Directors for the Domestic Abuse Council, now known as the Beacon Center. I served two terms on the board for a total of six years and served as the Chairwoman and Immediate Past Chairwoman. I participated in many community events to raise awareness about domestic violence while on the board and after my board service ended.

In 2016, State Attorney R.J. Larizza created a domestic violence unit. He hired two attorneys to intake and prosecute misdemeanor domestic violence cases, and promoted me to the felony division to make charging decisions in all of the felony domestic violence cases on the eastside of Volusia County. In 2018, he expanded the felony domestic violence unit to hire another attorney to work on felony cases. We split the cases on four felony criminal dockets, so that we each handle cases from intake through disposition in front of two judges apiece. This has proven to be very challenging for several reasons, as we are often scheduled in two courtrooms at the same time.

In addition to my job as an Assistant State Attorney, I have worked as a server in a restaurant for the last six and a half years. Both of my daughters and my stepdaughter have worked at the restaurant with me at various times, which has given us a close bond. My experiences in life have helped me learn how to manage my time efficiently, how to work with people of varying personalities and challenges, and how to prioritize tasks, so I can balance my responsibilities to work and family successfully.

72. Explain the particular contribution you believe your selection would bring to this position and provide any additional information you feel would be helpful to the Commission and Governor in evaluating your application.

I believe that my diverse legal background in which I have handled many different types of cases on opposite sides of the law has prepared me for the position of being a Volusia County Judge. I feel confident that I can manage a docket timely and efficiently and treat people with respect. I show up for court on time, return phone calls and respond to emails in a timely fashion, and I work extremely hard. My prior experiences have enabled me to identify and narrow down issues that need to be addressed in a particular case, and I will follow the law even if it means having to make an unpopular decision. As a domestic violence prosecutor, I frequently have to make challenging decisions in cases. While someone might not like my decision, I will take the time to explain why I made it in a manner they can understand.

The coronavirus pandemic has created new opportunities for learning and for resolving cases in ways we had not previously utilized. With Zoom as a tool, we are able to get people into court who might not otherwise be able to attend. Volusia County attracts a lot of visitors to our area because of the beach and many special events. Zoom provides the opportunity to handle cases while people are in remote locations or are at work. I believe we can continue to use this tool and others even after the coronavirus pandemic is over to resolve certain issues and hearings in various types of cases. I am flexible and willing to try new ways of using technology to assist in resolving cases. I look forward to the opportunity to have a positive impact on people's lives. Based on my past experience, I think the chances are good that I might see litigants more than one time, and they will remember how I treated them, or I might run into them in the community, and they will remember how I treated them. My reputation for honesty and integrity means a great deal to me. I am grateful for this opportunity.

REFERENCES

- **73.** List the names, addresses, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers of ten persons who are in a position to comment on your qualifications for a judicial position and of whom inquiry may be made by the Commission and the Governor.
 - a. R.J. Larizza, State Attorney, 251 N. Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL, 32114, larizzar@sao7.org; 386-239-7710
 - b. Judge Karen A. Foxman, 101 N. Alabama Avenue, Deland, FL 32724, kfoxman@circuit7.org, 386-626-6590
 - c. Judge Dawn Nichols, 101 N. Alabama Avenue, Deland, FL 32724, dnichols@circuit7.org, 386-822-5744
 - d. Robert W. Lloyd, Brown & Brown Insurance, 220 S Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32114-4318, rlloyd@bbins.com, 386-395-7529
 - e. Philip J. Bonamo, 222 Seabreeze Boulevard, Daytona Beach, FL 32118, PBonamo@RiceLawFlorida.com, 386-257-1222
 - f. Judge Leah R. Case, 125 E. Orange Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32114, lease@circuit7.org, 386-257-6071

- g. Benjamin T. Stepp, Assistant Federal Public Defender, 75 Beattie Place, Suite 950, Greenville, SC, 29601; benjamin_stepp@fd.org; 864-235-8714
- h. Julie Ozburn, Assistant State Attorney, 251 N. Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32114, ozburnj@sao7.org, 386-239-7710
- i. Cyndi Ritchey, 4624 Harbour Village Boulevard, #4304, Ponce Inlet, FL 32127, cyn6bud@gmail.com, 386-547-4364
- j. Kevin Dunn, 245 E Broad St b, Greenville, SC 29601, <u>Kevin.dunn.rd9g@statefarm.com</u>, 864-516-5809

CERTIFICATE

I have read the foregoing questions carefully and have answered them truthfully, fully and completely. I hereby waive notice by and authorize The Florida Bar or any of its committees, educational and other institutions, the Judicial Qualifications Commission, the Florida Board of Bar Examiners or any judicial or professional disciplinary or supervisory body or commission, any references furnished by me, employers, business and professional associates, all governmental agencies and instrumentalities and all consumer and credit reporting agencies to release to the respective Judicial Nominating Commission and Office of the Governor any information, files, records or credit reports requested by the commission in connection with any consideration of me as possible nominee for appointment to judicial office. Information relating to any Florida Bar disciplinary proceedings is to be made available in accordance with Rule 3-7.1(1), Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. I recognize and agree that, pursuant to the Florida Constitution and the Uniform Rules of this commission, the contents of this questionnaire and other information received from or concerning me, and all interviews and proceedings of the commission, except for deliberations by the commission, shall be open to the public.

Further, I stipulate I have read, and understand the requirements of the Florida Code of Judicial Conduct.

(Pursuant to Section 119.071(4)(d)(1), F.S.), . . . The home addresses and telephone numbers of justices of the Supreme Court, district court of appeal judges, circuit court judges, and county court judges; the home addresses, telephone numbers, and places of employment of the spouses and children of justices and judges; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of justices and judges are exempt from the provisions of subsection (1), dealing with public records.

FINANCIAL HISTORY

1.	State the amount of gross income you have earned, or losses you have incurred (before deducting expenses and taxes) from the practice of law for the preceding three-year period. This income figure should be stated on a year to year basis and include year to date information, and salary, if the nature of your employment is in a legal field.
	Current Year-To-Date: <u>\$63,333.36</u>
	Last Three Years: \$_\$95,000.04 \qua
2.	State the amount of net income you have earned, or losses you have incurred (after deducting expenses but not taxes) from the practice of law for the preceding three-year period. This income figure should be stated on a year to year basis and include year to date information, and salary, if the nature of your employment is in a legal field.
	Current Year-To-Date:\$49,281.89
	Last Three Years: _\$74,410.22\$56,167.75\$46,763.92
3.	State the gross amount of income or loses incurred (before deducting expenses or taxes)
	Current Year-To-Date: <u>\$71,467.69</u>
	Last Three Years: _\$108,846.70\$91,356.30\$83,464.18
4.	State the amount you have earned in the preceding three years on a year by year basis from all sources other than the practice of law, and generally describe the source of such income or losses.
	Current Year-To-Date: ~\$5000
	Last Three Years: \$12,746.15 \$17,932.75 \$16,048.65 The income listed here came from my job as a server at the Lost Lagoon restaurant as well as my income from delivering flowers for NSB Florist.
5.	State the amount of net income you have earned or losses incurred (after deducting expenses) from all sources other than the practice of law for the preceding three-year period on a year by year basis, and generally describe the sources of such income or losses.
	Current Year-To-Date:~\$5000
	Last Three Years: \$12,746.15 \$17,932.75 \$16,048.65 The income listed here came from my job as a server at the Lost Lagoon restaurant as well as my income from delivering flowers for NSB Florist.

FORM 6 FULL AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST

PART A - NET WORTH

Please enter the value of your net worth as of December 31 or a more current date. [Note: Net worth is not calculated by subtracting your *reported* liabilities from your *reported* assets, so please see the instructions on page 3.]

My net worth as of 08/31/2020 was \$ 614,694.14.

PART B - ASSETS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS:

Household goods and personal effects may be reported in a lump sum if their aggregate value exceeds \$1,000. This category includes any of the following, if not held for investment purposes; jewelry; collections of stamps, guns, and numismatic items; art objects; household equipment and furnishings; clothing; other household items; and vehicles for personal use.

The aggregate value of my household goods and personal effects (described above) is \$ 48,800

ASSETS INDIVIDUALLY VALUED AT OVER \$1,000: DESCRIPTION OF ASSET (specific description is required – see instructions p. 3)

VALUE OF ASSET

2013 Ford Edge automobile \$8800

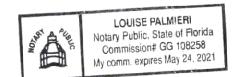
Household equipment, items and furnishings; clothing \$40,000
Residence at \$550,000

Checking/savings accounts at Bank of America \$30,582.78

Fidelity Rollover IRAs \$68,407.37

Janus Roth IRA \$36,379.51

		APTD	INCOME	
You may <i>EITHER</i> (1) file a complete copy of your latest federal income tax return, <i>including all W2's</i> , <i>schedules</i> , and attachments, <i>OR</i> (2) file a sworn statement identifying each separate source and amount of income which exceeds \$1,000 including secondary sources of income, by completing the remainder of Part D, below.				
I elect to file a copy of my latest federal income to (if you check this box and attach a copy of your latest				
PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOM	E (See instructions on	page 5)	•	
NAME OF SOURCE OF INCOME EXCEEDING \$1,000			DRESS OF SOURCE OF INCOME	AMOUNT
State Attorney's Office		251 N.	Ridgewood Ave, DB, FL 32114	\$63,333.36
Castaway Restaurant Group, LL	C DBA	2004 N	N. Dixie Freeway, NSB, FL 32168	~\$5,000.00
Sale of family investment property	ty		ake Lizzie Dr., St. Cloud, FL 34771	\$15,461.41
SECONDARY SOURCES OF IN	ICOME [Major customers, c	clients, et	c., of businesses owned by reporting per	son—see instructions on page 6]
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PART E	- INTERESTS IN SPI	ECIFIC	BUSINESS [Instructions on page	age 71
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Form 6

Full and Public Disclosure of Financial Interest

Part B - Assets individually valued at over \$1,000 (continued)

American Century – Mutual Fund \$10,260.83

FRS Investment Plan \$18,259.79

Schwab – NCL stock \$5,003.86

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FORM 6:

PUBLIC RECORD: The disclosure form and everything attached to it is a public record. **Your Social Security Number is not required and you should redact it from any documents you file.** If you are an active or former officer or employee listed in Section 119.071(4)(d), F.S., whose home address is exempt from disclosure, the Commission is required to maintain the confidentiality of your home address *if you submit a written request for confidentiality*.

PART A - NET WORTH

Report your net worth as of December 31 or a more current date, and list that date. This should be the same date used to value your assets and liabilities. In order to determine your net worth, you will need to total the value of <u>all</u> your assets and subtract the amount of <u>all</u> of your liabilities. <u>Simply subtracting the liabilities reported in Part C</u> from the assets reported in Part B will not result in an accurate net worth figure in most cases.

To total the value of your assets, add:

form;

- (1) The aggregate value of household goods and personal effects, as reported in Part B of this
- (2) The value of all assets worth over \$1,000, as reported in Part B; and
- (3) The total value of any assets worth less than \$1,000 that were not reported or included in the category of "household goods and personal effects."

To total the amount of your liabilities, add:

- (1) The total amount of each liability you reported in Part C of this form, <u>except for</u> any amounts listed in the "joint and several liabilities not reported above" portion; and,
- (2) The total amount of unreported liabilities (including those under \$1,000, credit card and retail installment accounts, and taxes owed).

PART B - ASSETS WORTH MORE THAN \$1,000

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS:

The value of your household goods and personal effects may be aggregated and reported as a lump sum, if their aggregate value exceeds \$1,000. The types of assets that can be reported in this manner are described on the form

ASSETS INDIVIDUALLY VALUED AT MORE THAN \$1,000:

Provide a description of each asset you had on the reporting date chosen for your net worth (Part A), that was worth more than \$1,000 and that is not included as household goods and personal effects, and list its value. Assets include: interests in real property; tangible and intangible personal property, such as cash, stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, interests in partnerships, beneficial interest in a trust, promissory notes owed to you, accounts received by you, bank accounts, assets held in IRAs, Deferred Retirement Option Accounts, and Florida Prepaid College Plan accounts. You are not required to disclose assets owned solely by your spouse.

How to Identify or Describe the Asset:

- Real property: Identify by providing the street address of the property. If the property has no street address, identify by describing the property's location in a manner sufficient to enable a member of the public to ascertain its location without resorting to any other source of information.
- Intangible property: Identify the type of property and the business entity or person to which or to whom it relates. **Do not list simply "stocks and bonds" or "bank accounts."** For example, list "Stock (Williams Construction Co.)," "Bonds (Southern Water and Gas)," "Bank accounts (First

National Bank)," "Smith family trust," Promissory note and mortgage (owed by John and Jane Doe)."

How to Value Assets:

- Value each asset by its fair market value on the date used in Part A for your net worth.
- Jointly held assets: If you hold real or personal property jointly with another person, your interest equals your legal percentage of ownership in the property. <u>However</u>, assets that are held as tenants by the entirety or jointly with right of survivorship must be reported at 100% of their value.
- Partnerships: You are deemed to own an interest in a partnership which corresponds to your interest in the equity of that partnership.
- Trusts: You are deemed to own an interest in a trust which corresponds to your percentage interest in the trust corpus.
- Real property may be valued at its market value for tax purposes, unless a more accurate appraisal of its fair market value is available.
- Marketable securities which are widely traded and whose prices are generally available should be valued based upon the closing price on the valuation date.
- Accounts, notes, and loans receivable: Value at fair market value, which generally is the amount you reasonably expect to collect.
- Closely-held businesses: Use any method of valuation which in your judgment most closely approximates fair market value, such as book value, reproduction value, liquidation value, capitalized earnings value, capitalized cash flow value, or value established by "buy-out" agreements. It is suggested that the method of valuation chosen be indicated in a footnote on the form.
- Life insurance: Use cash surrender value less loans against the policy, plus accumulated dividends.

PART C—LIABILITIES

LIABILITIES IN EXCESS OF \$1,000:

List the name and address of each creditor to whom you were indebted on the reporting date chosen for your net worth (Part A) in an amount that exceeded \$1,000 and list the amount of the liability. Liabilities include: accounts payable; notes payable; interest payable; debts or obligations to governmental entities other than taxes (except when the taxes have been reduced to a judgment); and judgments against you. You are not required to disclose liabilities owned *solely* by your spouse.

You do not have to list on the form any of the following: credit card and retail installment accounts, taxes owed unless the taxes have been reduced to a judgment), indebtedness on a life insurance policy owned to the company of issuance, or contingent liabilities. A "contingent liability" is one that will become an actual liability only when one or more future events occur or fail to occur, such as where you are liable only as a partner (without personal liability) for partnership debts, or where you are liable only as a guarantor, surety, or endorser on a promissory note. If you are a "co-maker" on a note and have signed as being jointly liable or jointly and severally liable, then this is not a contingent liability.

How to Determine the Amount of a Liability:

- Generally, the amount of the liability is the face amount of the debt.
- If you are the only person obligated to satisfy a liability, 100% of the liability should be listed.
- If you are jointly and severally liable with another person or entity, which often is the case where more than one person is liable on a promissory note, you should report here only the portion of the liability that corresponds to your percentage of liability. *However*, if you are jointly and severally liable for a debt relating to property you own with one or more others as tenants by the entirely or jointly, with right of survivorship,

report 100% of the total amount owed.

— If you are only jointly (not jointly and severally) liable with another person or entity, your share of the liability should be determined in the same way as you determined your share of jointly held assets.

Examples:

- You owe \$10,000 to a bank for student loans, \$5,000 for credit card debts, and \$60,000 with your spouse to a saving and loan for the mortgage on the home you own with your spouse. You must report the name and address of the bank (\$10,000 being the amount of that liability) and the name and address of the savings and loan (\$60,000 being the amount of this liability). The credit cards debts need not be reported.
- You and your 50% business partner have a \$100,000 business loan from a bank and you both are jointly and severally liable. Report the name and address of the bank and \$50,000 as the amount of the liability. If your liability for the loan is only as a partner, without personal liability, then the loan would be a contingent liability.

JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITIES NOT REPORTED ABOVE:

List in this part of the form the amount of each debt, for which you were jointly and severally liable, that is not reported in the "Liabilities in Excess of \$1,000" part of the form. Example: You and your 50% business partner have a \$100,000 business loan from a bank and you both are jointly and severally liable. Report the name and address of the bank and \$50,000 as the amount of the liability, as you reported the other 50% of the debt earlier.

PART D - INCOME

As noted on the form, you have the option of either filing a copy of your latest federal income tax return, including all schedules, W2's and attachments, with Form 6, or completing Part D of the form. If you do not attach your tax return, you must complete Part D.

PRIMARY SOURCES OF INCOME:

List the name of each source of income that provided you with more than \$1,000 of income during the year, the address of that source, and the amount of income received from that source. The income of your spouse need not be disclosed; however, if there is a joint income to you and your spouse from property you own jointly (such as interest or dividends from a bank account or stocks), you should include all of that income.

"Income" means the same as "gross income" for federal income tax purposes, even if the income is not actually taxable, such as interest on tax-free bonds. Examples of income include: compensation for services, gross income from business, gains from property dealings, interest, rents, dividends, pensions, IRA distributions, distributive share of partnership gross income, and alimony, but not child support. Where income is derived from a business activity you should report that income to <u>you</u>, as calculated for income tax purposes, rather than the income to the business.

Examples:

- If you owned stock in and were employed by a corporation and received more than \$1,000 of income (salary, commissions, dividends, etc.) from the company, you should list the name of the company, its address, and the total amount of income received from it.
- If you were a partner in a law firm and your distributive share of partnership gross income exceeded \$1,000, you should list the name of the firm, its address, and the amount of your distributive share.
- If you received dividend or interest income from investments in stocks and bonds, list only each individual company from which you received more than \$1,000. Do not aggregate income from all of these investments.
- If more than \$1,000 of income was gained from the sale of property, then you should list as a source of income the name of the purchaser, the purchaser's address, and the amount of gain from the sale. If the purchaser's

identity is unknown, such as where securities listed on an exchange are sold through a brokerage firm, the source of income should be listed simply as "sale of (name of company) stock," for example.

— If more than \$1,000 of your income was in the form of interest from one particular financial institution (aggregating interest from all CD's, accounts, etc., at that institution), list the name of the institution, its address, and the amount of income from that institution.

SECONDARY SOURCE OF INCOME:

This part is intended to require the disclosure of major customers, clients, and other sources of income to businesses in which you own an interest. <u>It is not for reporting income from second jobs.</u> That kind of income should be reported as a "Primary Source of Income." You will *not* have anything to report *unless*:

- (1) You owned (either directly or indirectly in the form of an equitable or beneficial interest) during the disclosure period, more than 5% of the total assets or capital stock of a business entity (a corporation, partnership, limited partnership, LLC, proprietorship, joint venture, trust, firm, etc., doing business in Florida); and
- (2) You received more than \$1,000 in gross income from that business entity during the period.

If your ownership and gross income exceeded the two thresholds listed above, then for that business entity you must list every source of income to the business entity which exceeded 10% of the business entity's gross income (computed on the basis of the business entity's more recently completed fiscal year), the source's address, the source's principal business activity, and the name of the business entity in which you owned an interest. You do not have to list the amount of income the business derived from that major source of income.

Examples:

- You are the sole proprietor of a dry cleaning business, from which you received more than \$1,000 in gross income last year. If only one customer, a uniform rental company, provided more than 10% of your dry cleaning business, you must list the name of your business, the name of the uniform rental company, its address, and its principal business activity (uniform rentals).
- You are a 20% partner in a partnership that owns a shopping mall and your gross partnership income exceeded \$1,000. You should list the name of the partnership, the name of each tenant of the mall that provided more than 10% of the partnership's gross income, the tenant's address and principal business activity.

PART E - INTERESTS IN SPECIFIED BUSINESS

The types of businesses covered in this section include: state and federally chartered banks; state and federal savings and loan associations; cemetery companies; insurance companies; mortgage companies, credit unions; small loan companies; alcoholic beverage licensees; pari-mutuel wagering companies; utility companies; and entities controlled by the Public Service Commission; and entities granted a franchise to operate by either a city or a county government.

You are required to make this disclosure if you own or owned (either directly or indirectly in the form of an equitable or beneficial interest) at any time during the disclosure period, more than 5% of the total assets or capital stock of one of the types of business entities listed above. You also must complete this part of the form for each of these types of business for which you are, or were at any time during the year an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or agent (other than a resident agent solely for service of process).

If you have or held such a position or ownership interest in one of these types of businesses, list: the name of the business, its address and principal business activity, and the position held with the business (if any). Also, if you own(ed) more than a 5% interest in the business, as described above, you must indicate that fact and describe the nature of your interest.

JUDICIAL APPLICATION DATA RECORD

The judicial application shall include a separate page asking applicants to identify their race, ethnicity and gender. Completion of this page shall be optional, and the page shall include an explanation that the information is requested for data collection purposes in order to assess and promote diversity in the judiciary. The chair of the Commission shall forward all such completed pages, along with the names of the nominees to the JNC Coordinator in the Governor's Office (pursuant to JNC Uniform Rule of Procedure).

		(Please Ty	pe or Print)	
Date: 9/10	0/20			
JNC Submitting To:	7th Circuit		the state of the s	
Name (please print): Current Occupation:	Miche	le S. Simon	ransan Athomey	
Telephone Number:			Attorney No.:	0937878
Gender (check one):	JA-MOODINA.	Male 🗶	Female	
Ethnic Origin (check on	ie): 🔯	White, non-	Hispanic	
		Hispanic		
		Black		
		American In	ndian/Alaskan Native	
		Asian/Pacifi	ic Islander	
County of Residence:	Volusia			

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO THE FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT (FCRA)

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) may obtain one or more consumer reports, including but not limited to credit reports, about you, for employment purposes as defined by the Fair Credit Reporting Act, including for determinations related to initial employment, reassignment, promotion, or other employment-related actions.

CONSUMER'S AUTHORIZATION FOR FDLE TO OBTAIN CONSUMER REPORT(S)

I have read and understand the above Disclosure. I authorize the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) to obtain one or more consumer reports on me, for employment purposes, as described in the above Disclosure.

Michele S. Simonsen
Printed Name of Applicant Michel
Signature of Applicant
Date:9/11/20

Exhibit A

Question 13
Case argued before the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals

BTS NSN

UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

V.

No. 94-5242

BRINSTON WILSON,

Defendant-Appellant.

United States of America,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

v.

No. 94-5244

TERRY LAMAR BRICE,

Defendant-Appellant.

United States of America,

Plaintiff-Appellee,

v.

ALONZO CALVIN JONES, a/k/a Calvin A. Jones, Defendant-Appellant. No. 94-5250

Appeals from the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, at Spartanburg. Henry M. Herlong, Jr., District Judge. (CR-92-328)

Argued: November 4, 1994

Decided: December 23, 1994

Before ERVIN, Chief Judge, RUSSELL, Circuit Judge, and MACKENZIE, Senior United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, sitting by designation.

Affirmed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

COUNSEL

ARGUED: Michele Swanberg Nelson, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Greenville, South Carolina, for Appellant Wilson; William Banks Long, Jr., Greenville, South Carolina, for Appellant Brice; Thomas G. Nessler, Jr., Greenville, South Carolina, for Appellant Jones. David Calhoun Stephens, Assistant United States Attorney, Greenville, South Carolina, for Appellee. ON BRIEF: J. Preston Strom, Jr., United States Attorney, Greenville, South Carolina, for Appellee.

Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit. See I.O.P. 36.5 and 36.6.

OPINION

PER CURIAM:

Defendants-Appellants, Brinston Wilson, Terry Lamar Brice, and Alonzo Calvin Jones, appeal their convictions for conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine base in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 846(a)(1) (Count 1), and for possession of a weapon during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c)

and 2 (Count 4). Counts 2 and 3 of the indictment were dismissed by the government before trial.

Defendants Brice and Wilson, on sufficiency of evidence grounds, charge that the district court erred in denying their motion for acquittal. All defendants claim that (1) the district court erred in finding the defendants were each accountable for between 150 grams and 500 grams of crack cocaine at sentencing; (2) the sentencing disparity prescribed by the Sentencing Guidelines between powder cocaine and crack cocaine constitutes a violation of the Eighth Amendment's proscription against cruel and unusual punishment; (3) the district court erred in applying the guideline offense level pertaining to crack cocaine without first making a proportionality determination on the Guideline disparity between cocaine powder and crack cocaine as a due process and fairness matter under the Fifth Amendment; and (4) the district court erred in its finding of the quantity of crack cocaine reasonably foreseeable and attributable to appellant Jones. Finding no error we affirm the district court.

I.

Brice and Wilson's challenge to the district court's denial of their motions for acquittal on evidentiary grounds is totally without merit. The motions, for the most part, were based on a charge of the lack of credibility of the government witnesses. These witnesses included police officers, co-conspirators, informants, undercover police officers. In addition, the government introduced audio tapes of conversations recorded at the time of purchases of crack cocaine. All of this evidence, including evidence that some of the witnesses had long criminal records and were themselves crack users, or had received some favorable treatment from government prosecutors, were weighed by the jury under proper instructions. The jury found the defendants guilty. This court reviews motions for judgment of acquittal under Rule 29 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure by asking "whether, after reviewing the evidence in the light most favorable to the prosecution, any rational trier of fact could have found the essential elements of the crime beyond a reasonable doubt." Jackson v. Virginia, 443 U.S. 307, 319 (1979); United States v. Mills, 995 F.2d 480, 483 (4th Cir.), cert. denied, 114 S. Ct. 283 (1993). Given the lack of any real deficiency in the evidence, this court is bound by the credibility choices of the jury. United States v. Arrington, 719 F.2d 701, 704 (4th Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 465 U.S. 1028 (1984). The district court acted correctly in denying the motions of defendants for acquittal.

П.

Wilson and Brice also challenge their convictions for knowingly possessing a firearm in relation to a drug trafficking crime. The basis for the gun possession charge in count 4 against all three defendants is that when co-conspirator Jones was arrested at the S & S Cafe on October 21, 1991, a date within the time frame of the conspiracy, he had in his possession a loaded .45 caliber pistol and fifteen rocks of crack cocaine. There was other evidence that Brice sometimes carried a weapon during this conspiracy, but there was no evidence that Wilson did.

It has been determined that a defendant can be convicted of 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) under the conspiracy theory even if the defendant himself never possessed a weapon, if the act of a co-conspirator so armed was reasonably foreseeable. Pinkerton v. United States, 328 U.S. 640, 647 (1946); United States v. Cummings, 937 F.2d 941, 944 (4th Cir.), cert. denied, 112 S. Ct. 395 (1991). The government presented evidence that Jones and Brice often carried guns during the time of this drug conspiracy and that Jones carried a .45 caliber automatic and Brice carried a .357 caliber revolver. These guns were observed on the persons of Jones and Brice when Wilson was with them in the narrow confines of automobiles and in the S & S Cafe. It was reasonably foreseeable to Wilson and Brice that their partner in this drug trafficking venture would be armed. The challenge to their conviction under 18 U.S.C. § 924(c) is without merit.

Ш.

At the sentencing hearing for all three defendants on March 15, 1994, the district court relied upon evidence taken at the trial,

evidence offered at the sentencing hearing and on a "Summary of Evidence Regarding Amounts" prepared by the government.

The probation officer in paragraph 9 of each of the three presentence reports, relying on information he obtained from the United States Attorney's file and ATF, concluded that each of the defendants was accountable for 1.615 kilograms of crack cocaine. The United States Attorney, on the other hand, conceded at sentencing that "... I feel much more comfortable submitting it with a range of 500 [grams] to one point five kilograms "

In making its determination that each of the defendants would be held accountable for 150 grams to 500 grams, the court used its discretion as it viewed the broad spectrum of evidence before it. Part of that evidence was the testimony of Earl Browning and Allen Browning, street dealers involved in the conspiracy with the defendants, that they sold about sixty-four grams of crack cocaine per week, and that Chris Simms, Joey Gist and numerous others were selling "probably the same amount or more." Even limiting the volume of crack cocaine flowing through the conspiracy at the rate indicated by the Brownings to the very short period of the conspiracy as alleged in Count 1, October 10, 1991 to October 21, 1991, the decision of the district court that the accountability of each of these three defendants was 150 grams to 500 grams was well within the range of the evidence to which the district court had access.

We review a district court's findings as to quantity of drugs attributable to a defendant only for clear error. *United States v. Williams*, 986 F.2d 86, 90 (4th Cir.), cert. denied, 113 S. Ct. (1993); *United States v. Mark*, 943 F.2d 444, 450 (4th Cir. 1991). We find no error here.

IV.

Defendants would find constitutional infirmities under the Eighth and Fifth Amendments on the disparate treatment afforded crack cocaine as against powder cocaine (1 to 100 ratio) by the Sentencing Guidelines. Defendants argue that heavy penalties exacted for crack cocaine as against the same quantity of powder cocaine is "cruel and unusual punishment" under the Eighth Amendment, and that due pro-

cess and fairness concepts inherent in the Fifth Amendment are similarly dislodged by this cocaine differential. As to the Fifth Amendment claim, defendants suggest a proportionality inquiry should have been made to examine whether the punishment fits the crime.

We answer all of these arguments in the negative. All of the circuits that have addressed the Eighth Amendment issue on whether the 100:1 ratio, powder cocaine to crack cocaine, promotes cruel and unusual punishment, have ruled to the contrary. *United States v. Wallace*, 22 F.3d 84 (4th Cir. 1994); *United States v. Fisher*, 22 F.3d 574, 579-80 (5th Cir.), *cert. denied*, 63 U.S.L.W. 3386 (1994); *United States v. Jones*, 18 F.3d 1145 (4th Cir. 1994); *United States v. Bynum*, 3 F.2d 769 (4th Cir. 1993); *United States v. Wesley*, 990 F.2d 360, 367 (8th Cir. 1993); *United States v. Pickett*, 941 F.2d 411, 419 (6th Cir. 1991); *United States v. Thomas*, 900 F.2d 37 (4th Cir. 1990); *United States v. Cyrus*, 890 F.2d 1245, 1248 (D.C. Cir. 1989).

Likewise, the weight of authority is overwhelming that the statutes passed by Congress addressing this 100:1 ratio, and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, including the Sentencing Guidelines, are not arbitrary, discriminatory or irrational but are based on a proper legislative purpose, and therefore do not offend principles of due process as included in the Fifth Amendment, *United States v. Lawrence*, 951 F.2d 751, 755 (7th Cir. 1991); *Pickett*, 941 F.2d at 418; *Buckner*, 894 F.2d 975, 978-80 (8th Cir. 1990); *United States v. Francois*, 889 F.2d 1341, 1343 (4th Cir. 1989), *cert. denied*, 494 U.S. 1085 (1990).

Lastly, Courts have been nearly unanimous that sentences imposed under the Sentencing Guidelines for crimes involving crack cocaine are not disproportionate to the seriousness of the offense which Congress rationally concluded necessitated a particularly heavy penalty structure. *United States v. Johnson*, 944 F.2d 396, 407 (8th Cir.), cert. denied, 60 U.S.L.W. 3419 (1991); Buckner, 894 F.2d at 978-80; Francois, 889 F.2d at 1343.

The judgment of the district court is accordingly

AFFIRMED.

Exhibit B

Question 22 Writing Sample

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA

CASE NO: CRC 98-32383 CFAES

VS.

ALBERT STEPHENS, JR. /

STATE'S TRAVERSE TO DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS PURSUANT TO FLA. R. CRIM. P. 3.190 (c)(4) AND STATE'S RESPONSE TO DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS ON OTHER GROUNDS

COMES NOW, John Tanner, State Attorney for the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, by and through the undersigned Assistant State Attorney, and hereby files this Traverse to the defendant's Motion to Dismiss pursuant to Fla. R. Crim. P. 3.190 (b) and (c)(4) and State's Response to the defendant's Motion to Dismiss on other grounds.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 1. Paragraph one of the defendant's motion is ADMITTED. However, the State amends the information to correct a typographical error in the minor's initials which should be A.L.D. rather than A.C.D.
- 2. Paragraph two of the defendant's motion is DENIED. The defendant's exhibit two was given to A.L.D. by the defendant even though it was not the actual questionnaire which A.L.D. completed. The defendant gave the questionnaire to A.L.D. and requested that she give it to a friend to complete. The defendant's exhibit two is not a complete copy of the survey which the State would submit at trial in that it leaves out the words "University of Central Florida" at the top of the first page and question 44 "What do you like most about your private parts?" at the top of the second page. (See attachment.)
- 3. a) Paragraph 3a of the defendant's motion is ADMITTED insofar as A.L.D. testified that she knew and spoke to the defendant at church facilities but A.L.D. indicated that most of the time the defendant approached her to talk to her.
- b) Paragraph 3b of the defendant's motion is ADMITTED insofar as questions were posed to A.L.D. in writing. However, the State asserts that A.L.D. filled out the survey only after the defendant deceived her by telling her he worked at a university and that the survey and response to it were associated with a class he taught there. A.L.D. stated that she probably felt a little bit of pressure, but thought it was okay to fill out the survey based on the defendant's representations that his college class had filled out the survey.
- c) Paragraph 3c of the defendant's motion is ADMITTED in that A.L.D. testified in her deposition that she couldn't remember the defendant's having used bad language. However,

"bad" is not the standard by which the material is judged. The question of whether or not the survey and response thereto are obscene is to be decided by a jury, not the minor, A.L.D. The questionnaire and response thereto contain material which the State contends is obscene as defined by the statute.

- d) Paragraph 3d of the defendant's motion is ADMITTED.
- e) Paragraph 3e of the defendant's motion is ADMITTED.
- f) Paragraph 3f of the defendant's motion is ADMITTED insofar as A.L.D. testified that the questions did not have any bad effect on her, but A.L.D. went on to say that she felt depressed, scared and frightened at the same time when the survey was discovered at her school.
- g) Paragraph 3g of the defendant's motion is ADMITTED, but the State would add that A.L.D. said she didn't really feel anything negative when she read and answered the questionnaire because of the defendant's representation to her that he was doing it for his school.
 - h) Paragraph 3h of the defendant's motion is ADMITTED.
- 4. The State does not have sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in paragraphs 4, 5, and 6 of the defendant's motion.
 - 5. There are significant additional facts that the defendant fails to mention in his motion:
- a) Prior to giving the questionnaire to A.L.D. at church to fill out, the defendant asked A.L.D. verbal questions including "do you like wet or dry kisses" and "what is your sexual fantasy?" outside the presence of others.
- b) The defendant deceived A.L.D. by representing to her that he worked at a university and that the survey and response thereto were associated with a college class he was teaching. With the exception of a few questions, the survey A.L.D. received was the same as the defendant's exhibit two. The defendant distributed the survey and response thereto to A.L.D. outside the presence of others and told A.L.D. not to tell anyone about the survey he had given her. The defendant's contact with A.L.D. regarding the survey and response thereto was always on an individual basis rather than a distribution to all students in a particular class like the defendant's exhibit four. This conduct suggests that the defendant knew the content of the material he was distributing to A.L.D. and did not want it to be discovered. The defendant further perpetuated his scheme by showing A.L.D. three completed typewritten surveys which he said were filled out by girls in his college class although the ages of the girls who supposedly completed each survey were listed as 13, 14, and 15.
- c) When A.L.D. was reading question #43 on the survey which asks "what do you like most about the male penis," the defendant said to her: "don't ask me what the last girl asked me." When A.L.D. looked at the defendant strangely in response, the defendant said: "the last girl asked me if she could see mine." And he said to her, "only if you look at it." He went on to say that the last girl pulled down his pants and looked at his penis.

- d) The defendant kept A.L.D.'s completed survey after she filled it out. He gave her a letter (Defendant's exhibit one) which he had specifically addressed to her containing more obscene material. The defendant further deceived A.L.D. by telling her that his university class had given him positive feedback regarding A.L.D.'s answers to the survey.
- e) The defendant gave A.L.D. another survey at church (defendant's exhibit two) and requested that she have one of her friends fill it out.
- f) The only questions which A.L.D. did not remember or was not sure were on her survey compared to the questions contained on the defendant's exhibit two are the following questions:
 - i. #49 If you were married, would you fool around? Explain?
 - ii. #33 Where was it that you had your first sexual encounter?
 - iii. #21 Have you ever sunbathed in the nude?
- g) When confronted about the survey by the pastor and elders of his church, the defendant first told them that the survey was from U.C.F. He then told the group that the survey was not an official survey from U.C.F., but was in fact made up by himself and a friend from California. When the pastor asked for the name and phone number of the friend in California, the Defendant said there really wasn't a friend in California, but rather the defendant himself had made it up.
- 6. In considering a motion to dismiss pursuant to Fla. R. Crim. P. 3.190(c)(4), the trial court must construe all evidence and inferences in a light most favorable to the State. Vanhoosen v. State, 469 So. 2d 230 (Fla. 1st DCA 1985); State v. Bonebright, 23 F.L.W. D1799, 1800 (July 29, 1998). Further, the trial court should not decide factual issues, determine the weight to be given conflicting evidence, or assess the credibility of witnesses. State v. Feagle, 600 So. 2d 1236 (Fla. 1st DCA 1992).
- 7. In this case, the material factual issues presented, to wit: whether the questionnaire and the defendant's use of it (a) appeal to the prurient interest, (b) are patently offensive, and (c) lack serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value, are clearly in dispute. As such, these issues are ultimate issues of fact to be decided by the jury. See <u>Graves v. State</u>, 590 So. 2d 1007 (Fla. 3d DCA 1991) and <u>State v. Duran</u>, 550 So. 2d 45 (Fla. 3d DCA 1989). Therefore, the defendant's Motion to Dismiss pursuant to Fla. R. Crim. P. 3.190 (c)(4) should be denied because there are material factual issues in dispute and the State's evidence will constitute a prima facie case against the defendant.

LEGAL GROUNDS FOR MOTION TO DISMISS

FREE SPEECH (FEDERAL/STATE)

7. While the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution guarantee individuals certain freedoms, including the freedom of speech, the U.S. Supreme Court has determined that obscene material is not protected by the First Amendment. Roth v. United

States, 354 U.S. 476, 77 S. Ct. 1304, 1 L.Ed.2d 1498 (1957); Miller v. California, 413 U.S. 15, 93 S. Ct. 2607, 37 L.Ed.2d 419 (1973). In Miller, the Supreme Court held that the First Amendment standards to be used by states in determining whether material was obscene and subject to regulation were: (1) whether the average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find that the material, taken as a whole, appealed to the prurient interest in sex; (2) whether the material portrayed, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct specifically defined by the applicable state law; and (3) whether the material, taken as a whole, did not have serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value. Miller, 413 U.S. at 23-25. The Court specifically rejected any requirement that the materials be shown to be "utterly without redeeming social value." Id. at 24-25. Because the Florida legislature followed the Miller standards in enacting Fla. Stat. s. 847.0133, the distribution of "obscene" material to minors which is prohibited by the statute is not entitled to First Amendment protection.

- 8. The fact that the survey and response in this case do not contain graphic pictures or images likewise does not entitle them to First Amendment protection since they otherwise contain obscene material. In <u>Kaplan v. California</u>, 413 U.S. 115, 118-120 (1973), the U.S. Supreme Court specifically found that expression by words alone could be legally obscene when the Court held that a book without any pictures but which contained obscene material was not entitled to First Amendment protection.
- 9. Like its federal counterpart, the Florida Supreme Court has held that obscenity is not protected by constitutional guaranties of freedom of speech and that Florida can regulate obscenity without unconstitutionally impairing an individual's freedom of speech. <u>Johnson v. State</u>, 351 So.2d 10 (Fla. 1977); <u>Tracey v. State</u>, 130 So.2d 605 (Fla. 1961).
- 10. The free speech rights of the defendant in the case at bar are not violated by his prosecution under the instant statute since he is only prohibited from distributing "obscene" material as it has been defined in accordance with the holdings of the U.S. and Florida Supreme Courts.

VAGUENESS AND OVERBREADTH

- 11. The defendant asserts generally that Fla. Stat. s. 847.0133 is unconstitutionally overbroad and vague, but does not specify how the statute fails to "clearly articulate boundaries between expressions that are protected and those that are not". Similarly, the defendant does not specify how the statute "as facially drawn does punish, chill and restrict protected speech, as well as unprotected speech, by other innocent parties, and does punish protected speech of the defendant as applied in the instant cause." (defendant's paragraph 13). When considering the constitutionality of a statute in the context of free speech and expression issues, the overbreadth doctrine is an unusual remedy which must be used sparingly, especially when the statute at issue is primarily intended to regulate conduct rather than pure speech. Broadrick v. Oklahoma, 413 U.S. 601, 615, 93 S. Ct. 2908, 37 L.Ed.2d 830 (1973); Schmitt v. State, 590 So.2d 404, 412 (1991); Art. I, Sec. 4, Fla. Const.
- 12. The U.S. Supreme Court has recognized that because of the state's interest in protecting the welfare of its children, its power to control the conduct of children extends beyond

the scope of its authority over adults. <u>Carey v. Population Services International</u>, 431 U.S. 678, 97 S. Ct. 2010, 52 L.Ed.2d 675 (1977). States have long denied minors access to certain establishments frequented by adults and have also denied minors access to speech deemed "harmful" to them. The Supreme Court has specifically found that states have an interest in the well-being of minors, and therefore, may regulate the sale or distribution to minors of sexually oriented materials. <u>Ginsberg v. New York</u>, 390 U.S. 629, 88 S. Ct. 1274, 20 L.Ed.2d 195 (1968), reh. den. 391 U.S. 971, 88 S. Ct. 2029, 20 L.Ed.2d 887; Miller v. California, 413 U.S. 15 (1973).

- 13. Although the constitutionality of Fla. Stat. s. 847.0133 has not yet been challenged at the appellate level, two other Florida statutes which restrict certain conduct associated with obscene materials and minors have been upheld as constitutional. Specifically, Fla. Stat. s. 847.011, prohibition of certain acts in connection with obscene, lewd, etc., materials; penalty, has repeatedly been found constitutional by the Florida Supreme Court. See Sardiello v. State, 394 So.2d 1016 (1981); Paris Follies, Inc. v. State ex rel. Gerstein, App., 259 So.2d 532 (1972); Mitchum v. State, App., 251 So.2d 298 (1971); Johnson v. State, 351 So.2d 10 (1977). Likewise, the Florida Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of Fla. Stat. s. 847.013, exposing minors to harmful motion pictures, exhibitions, shows, presentations, or representations. Davison v. State, 288 So.2d 483 (1973), application denied 94 S. Ct. 1463, 415 U.S. 943, 39 L.Ed.2d 560.
- 14. Because Fla. Stat. s. 847.0133 employs the same definition of obscenity as Fla. Stat. s. 847.011 and s. 847.013, and follows the mandate of the U.S. Supreme Court, it comes to this Court clothed in a presumption of constitutionality.

DUE PROCESS

15. Due process requires a criminal statute's prohibition against certain conduct to be rationally related to its purpose so that it does not criminalize activity that is otherwise inherently innocent. State v. Walker, 444 So.2d 1137, 1140 (Fla. 2d DCA), affirmed & adopted, 461 So.2d 108 (Fla. 1984). In Ginsberg v. New York, the Supreme Court suggested that it only needed to find "that it was not irrational for the legislature to find that exposure to material condemned by the statute is harmful to minors" in order to sustain a state's power to exclude material defined as "obscene". Ginsberg, 390 U.S. at 639. The statute at issue in the instant case which prohibits the distribution of obscene material to minors has a rational relation to the objective of safeguarding minors from harm. Therefore, Fla. Stat. s. 847.0133 does not violate the defendant's right to due process under the Fourteenth Amendment.

PRIVACY

16. A state's power to regulate obscenity "does not extend to mere possession by the individual in the privacy of his own home." <u>Stanley v. Georgia</u>, 394 U.S. 557, 568, 89 S. Ct. 1243, 22 L.Ed.2d 542 (1969). The U.S. Supreme Court has cautioned, however, that the <u>Stanley</u> decision should not be read too broadly and has specifically stated "that the protected right to possess obscene material in the privacy of one's home does not give rise to a correlative right to have someone sell or give it to others." <u>United States v. 12 200-Foot Reels of Super 8mm Film</u>, 413 U.S. 123, 93 S. Ct. 2665, 37 L.Ed.2d 500 (1973).

- 17. Florida's right to privacy is broader than the federal right. However, the Florida Supreme Court has found "no indication that the drafters of article I, section 23 meant to broaden the right of privacy as it relates to obscene materials..." Stall v. State, 570 So.2d 257, 262 (Fla. 1990). Fla. Stat. s. 847.0133 would not prohibit the defendant in this case from possessing the survey and response thereto in his own home for his own private use, but it does prohibit his act of giving the survey and response to A.L.D. at church. The State contends that there is no legitimate reasonable expectation of privacy in being able to distribute obscene materials to minors and that the statute in this case is a reasonable exercise of legislative power.
- 18. Taking the totality of the facts in the light most favorable to the State, the material facts are in dispute. The statute on its face and as applied in this case is constitutional. Furthermore, the average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find that the survey and/or response thereto are obscene because, taken as a whole, they appeal to the prurient interest; they depict or describe, in a patently offensive way, sexual conduct as specifically defined in Fla. Stat. 847.001; and they lack serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value.

WHEREFORE, as there are disputed issues of fact in the instant case, the State of Florida respectfully requests that the defendant's Motion to Dismiss be DENIED.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by mail to: James D. Crock, P.A., 444 Seabreeze Blvd., Suite 650, Daytona Beach, FL, 32118, this _____ day of December, 1998.

MICHELE S. NELSON ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY 251 N. RIDGEWOOD AVENUE DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32114 FLA. BAR. NO. 0937878

COUNTY OF VOLUSIA

STATE OF FLORIDA

Personally appeared before me, Michele S. Nelson, Assistant State Attorney for the Seventh Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida, known to me to be the foregoing prosecuting officer, who being duly sworn, says that the allegations set forth in the foregoing Traverse and

Demurrer are based upon facts that have be constitute the offense therein charged. Sub	en sworn to as true, and which, if true, would scribed in good faith.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this	day of December, 1998.
Filed with the Clerk of Court Seventh Judicial Circuit, in and for Volusia County, Florida, on the day of December, 1998.	
	Notary Public At Large State of Florida (Seal)
	My Commission Expires:

Exhibit C

Question 22 Writing Sample DIANA LYNN CHIARELLO, Petitioner,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case No: 2003-35054 FMCI

MICHELE CHIARELLO, Respondent.

VS.

MEMORANDUM OF LAW REGARDING NATURE OF CONTEMPT PROCEEDING IN FAMILY COURT AND POTENTIAL SENTENCE WHICH RESPONDENT FACES IF FOUND GUILTY OF INDIRECT CRIMINAL CONTEMPT

COMES NOW, the undersigned Assistant State Attorney, after certain issues were raised at Respondent's arraignment on February 27, 2004, and herein provides this Memorandum of Law and states as follows:

- 1. Respondent was arraigned on a charge of contempt of court by the Honorable Frank Marriott on February 27, 2004, for allegedly violating a domestic violence injunction as described in Petitioner's affidavit filed February 6, 2004. Attorney Barry Hughes appeared on behalf of Respondent and Assistant State Attorney Michele Nelson appeared on behalf of the State of Florida and Petitioner. The Court advised Respondent that Petitioner's claim was civil in nature and that Respondent faced a maximum sentence of 59 days in jail if he were found guilty of contempt of court. The matter has been set for a contested order to show cause hearing on March 16, 2004, at 1:30 p.m. The State of Florida argues that Respondent faces prosecution for indirect criminal contempt as defined in Florida Rule of Criminal Procedure 3.840 and that the maximum penalty he faces if found guilty of willfully violating the injunction is six months' imprisonment and/or a fine.
- 2. The purpose of civil contempt proceedings is to compel action or inaction, whereas criminal contempt proceedings were created to punish conduct which violates a court order.

<u>Deter v. Deter</u>, 353 So.2d 614, 617 (Fla. 4th DCA 1977); <u>In re S.L.T.</u>, 180 So.2d 374, 378 (Fla. 2d DCA 1965); <u>Satterfield v. Satterfield</u>, 39 So.2d 72, 74 (Fla. 1949).

- In the present case, Petitioner has alleged that Respondent violated the injunction by having indirect contact with her through a third party on February 6, 2004, in violation of the no contact provision, paragraph 2, in the injunction. The Legislature's intent is that domestic violence be treated as a criminal act rather than a private matter. § 741.2901(2), Fla. Stat. (2003). For this reason, the Legislature has advised that enforcing compliance with injunctions for protection is to be done by way of criminal prosecution or indirect criminal contempt. Id. While criminal prosecution is the favored method of enforcing compliance with injunctions for protection against domestic violence, the State can also choose to proceed by way of indirect criminal contempt pursuant to Rule 3.840, which it has elected to do in this case. Several courts have utilized indirect criminal contempt as a method of handling domestic and repeat violence injunction violations. See State v. Johnson, 676 So.2d 408 (Fla. 1996); Brown v. State, 595 So.2d 259 (5th DCA 1992); Tide v. State, 804 So.2d 412 (4th DCA 2001); Walker v. Bentley, 660 So.2d 313 (2d DCA 1995). The State suggests that civil contempt proceedings should be reserved for violations of the injunction such as failure to enroll in a batterer's intervention program or failure to comply with a visitation schedule which are not specifically enumerated in \$741.31(4)(a)(1) - (8) of the Florida Statutes.
- 4. Having chosen to proceed in this case by way of indirect criminal contempt, the State suggests that the next issue before the Court is the possible sentence Respondent faces if the Court finds him in willful violation of the injunction. Florida Rule of Criminal Procedure 3.840(g) does not specify the sentence that an individual convicted of contempt can receive. However, the Florida Supreme Court has found that a judge may impose a sentence of up to six

months' imprisonment for indirect criminal contempt if the judge is the trier of law and facts and more than six months' imprisonment if he empanels a jury to try the facts or if the individual waives his right to trial by jury. <u>Aaron v. State</u>, 284 So.2d 673, 676-677 (Fla.1973).

5. Accordingly, if this Court should find that Respondent has willfully violated the domestic violence injunction by engaging in indirect contact through a third party with Petitioner, this Court should hold him in indirect contempt of court and may sentence him to a fine and/or imprisonment of up to six months.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that	a copy of the foregoing was delivered to Barry Hughes,
Attorney for Respondent, 2001 S. l	Ridgewood Ave., South Daytona, FL 32119, on this
day of	, 2004.
	JOHN TANNER, State Attorney

By: MICHELE S. NELSON Assistant State Attorney Fla. Bar No. 0937878 250 N. Beach St. Daytona Beach, FL 32114 (386) 239-7710

Exhibit D

Question 22 Writing Sample

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR VOLUSIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO: 2019 304568 CFDB	
STATE OF FLORIDA	
VS.	
JOSHUA DALE LUCAS, DEFENDANT/	

STATE'S THIRD MOTION TO REVOKE BOND

COMES NOW, the State of Florida, by and through the undersigned Assistant State Attorney, and pursuant to Fla. Statute 903.0471, hereby moves this Honorable Court to revoke the present bond of the defendant because there is probable cause to believe the defendant committed a new offense while on pretrial release in this case. Specifically, the State would show:

- 1. The defendant was arrested on August 6, 2019, on charges of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon and battery. He posted a surety bond of \$11,000 and was released from custody on August 7, 2019. He was ordered not to possess any weapons or firearms as a condition of his release. The State filed an information charging the defendant with aggravated battery with a deadly weapon and felony battery, one prior, on August 26, 2019.
- 2. On November 18, 2019, the defendant was arrested on charges of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon in case no. 2019 306578 CFDB. The State filed a Motion to Revoke Bond in this case on November 19, 2019, based on the defendant's arrest on new criminal charges. Judge Upchurch signed an Order revoking the defendant's bond on November 20, 2019, at 3:45 pm. The defendant had already bonded out of custody on November 20, 2019, at 3:34 pm.
- 3. The State filed a no information in the new case, 2019 306578 CFDB, on March 3, 2020. The defendant's attorney filed a Motion to Set Aside the Warrant from November 20, 2019, based on the no information having been filed in the case. The State did not object to the defendant's motion, and the Court granted the Motion to Set Aside the Warrant on May 4, 2020.
- 4. On May 8, 2020, the defendant was arrested on new charges of sale/possession with intent to sell a controlled substance 2 counts, grand theft/firearm, possession of a weapon/ammunition by a convicted felon, habitual driving while license suspended, resisting an officer without violence, fleeing and eluding/lights and sirens active and reckless driving. See case numbers 2020 302339 CFDB and 2020 302340 CFDB. The State filed a Motion to Revoke

the Defendant's Bond on May 8, 2020, which was granted, and the defendant was held in custody with no bond.

- 5. On June 8, 2020, the Court held a bond hearing in this case on the defendant's motion for bond reduction and set the defendant's bond at \$22,000. The defendant posted the surety bond of \$22,000 on June 9, 2020, and was released from custody on that date.
- 6. The defendant has now been arrested again on felony charges on July 29, 2020, while out on pretrial release in this case. The defendant was arrested by the Port Orange Police Department on charges of fleeing/attempting to elude, possession of a schedule II substance with intent to sell, possession of cannabis with intent to sell, DWLSR habitual offender and possession of drug paraphernalia. See case no. 2020 303703 CFDB. He posted a \$15,000 bond prior to his first appearance which is scheduled for today, July 30, 2020, at 1:30 pm.

WHEREFORE, the State of Florida respectfully requests this Court enter an Order revoking the defendant's bond after he is alleged to have committed a new criminal offense while on pretrial release in this case.

R.J. LARIZZA STATE ATTORNEY

By: <u>s/MICHELE S SIMONSEN</u>
ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY
Florida Bar No.: 0937878
ESERVICEVOLUSIA@SAO7.ORG

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy hereof has been furnished by mail/delivery to G. KIPLING MILLER, 400 NORTH HALIFAX AVENUE, DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32118, on July 30, 2020.

s/MICHELE S SIMONSEN
ASSISTANT STATE ATTORNEY
Florida Bar No.: 0937878
251 N RIDGEWOOD AVENUE
DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32114
(386) 239-7710

Exhibit E

Question 37b
Link to Media Article and Brochure for "Circuit 7 Domestic Violence Summit" on March 23, 2012

https://flaglerlive.com/36015/domestic-violence-summit/

Friday, March 23, 2012 Calvary Christian Center Ormond Beach, Florida



2012 Circuit 7 Domestic Violence Summit

Featured Workshops:

"Walking In Her Shoes"

This workshop is an interactive educational experience that demonstrates the complex ways in which resources impact domestic violence survivors and their children. Participants move, do, think and experience the lives of domestic violence survivors.

Presented by:

Cheryl Fuller, Chief Executive Officer for the Domestic Abuse Council, Inc. **Darlene Wolfson,** Director of Programs for the Domestic Abuse Council, Inc.

Child Welfare and Domestic Violence Issues

The workshop is designed for child welfare professionals and domestic violence advocates to understand their respective views and approaches to the complex dynamics involved with families struggling with domestic violence. We will explore how teamwork and ongoing readiness to communicate and collaborate with the families and other professionals is a cornerstone of comprehension and advocacy.

Presented by:

Pamela E. Aeppel, MA, Program Coordinator with imPACT, a training and consultation program with USF under the USF Training Consortium.

Effective Investigations/Evidence for Court

This workshop is designed to better prepare law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and other community agency representatives who work in the field of domestic violence with investigating and prosecuting domestic violence cases. We will explore evidence-gathering and legal issues in the context of how to build cases that can be successfully prosecuted in court.

Presented By:

R.J. Larizza, State Attorney for the Seventh Judicial Circuit **Michele Simonsen**, Assistant State Attorney for the 7th Judicial Circuit





Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior perpetrated by an intimate partner against another. It is an epidemic affecting individuals in every community, regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, nationality or educational background. Violence against women is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior, and thus is part of a systematic pattern of dominance and control. Domestic violence results in physical injury, psychological trauma, and sometimes death. The consequences of domestic violence can cross generations and truly last a lifetime.

Summít Agenda

8:30 - 9:15 a.m.

Registration and Coffee

9:15 - 9:45 a.m.

Opening Remarks/Introductions

10:00 - 11:45 a.m.

Workshop A1 - "Walking in Her Shoes"

10:00 - 11:45 a.m.

Workshop B1 - Child Welfare and Domestic Violence Issues

10:00 - 11:45 a.m.

Workshop C1 - Effective Investigations/ Evidence for Court

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 - 2:45 p.m.

Workshop A2 - "Walking in Her Shoes"

1:00 - 2:45 p.m.

Workshop B2 - Effective Investigations/
Evidence for Court

1:00 - 2:45 p.m.

Workshop C2 - Child Welfare and Domestic Violence Issues

3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Summit Information

How to Register

Register Online by visiting:

www.communitypartnershipforchildren.org

If you have questions or need assistance with registering, please call (386)254-3796.

Participation is **free** for all law enforcement, child welfare professionals, social work and domestic abuse professionals. Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

Calvary Christian Center is located at :

1687 W. Granada Blvd. Ormond Beach, FL 32174

One block west of I-95 (exit 268) on Granada Blvd. (Hwy. 40)

From I-4, merge into I-95 North **From I-95**, take exit 268, go west to first light, turn right onto property.

Summit Presented By:

Circuit 7 State Attorney's Office
Florida Department of Children and
Families
Community Partnership for Children,
Inc.

Domestic Abuse Council, Inc. Family Life Center University of South Florida University of Central Florida Calvary Christian Center

Sponsored by:

Volusia County Sheriff's Office St. Johns County Sheriff's Office Flagler County Sheriff's Office

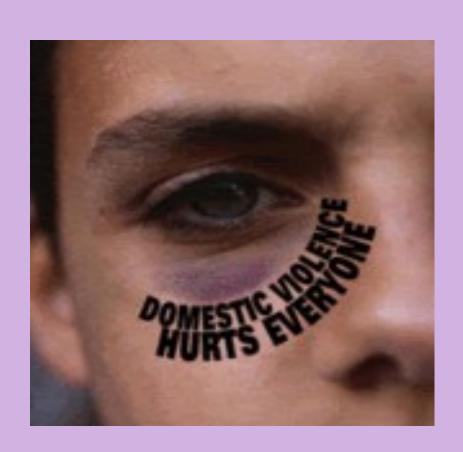
Exhibit F

Question 37b
Links to Media Articles and Brochure for "Circuit 7 Domestic Violence Summit" on April 5, 2013

https://www.headlinesurfer.com/content/411775-state-attorney-rj-larizza-lead-domestic-violence-summit-friday-ormond-beach

https://flaglerlive.com/52768/domestic-abuse-flagler/

2013 Circuit 7 Domestic Violence Summit



Friday, April 5, 2013 Calvary Christian Center Ormond Beach, Florida

Featured Topics:

"Walking In Her Shoes"

This presentation is an interactive educational experience which demonstrates the complex ways in which resources impact domestic violence survivors and their children. Participants move, do, think and experience the lives of domestic violence survivors.

Presented by:

Darlene Wolfson, Director of Programs for the Domestic Abuse Council, Inc.

Children, Family and Domestic Violence Issues

This presentation will explore injunctions, family court issues, a unified court system, and other issues involved in the complex dynamics of families struggling with domestic violence issues.

Presented by:

Shawn Nelson, Department of Children & Families Child Protective Investigator **Tania Schmidt-Alpers**, Esquire

Investigating and Prosecuting DV and Dating Violence Cases

This session is designed to better prepare law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and other community agency representatives who work in the field of domestic violence with investigating and prosecuting domestic violence cases. We will explore evidence-gathering and legal issues in the context of how to build cases that can be successfully prosecuted in court.

Presented By:

Captain Jerome Miller, Apopka Police Department
R.J. Larizza, State Attorney for the Seventh Judicial Circuit
Michele Simonsen, Assistant State Attorney for the Seventh Judicial Circuit

Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior perpetrated by an intimate partner against another. It is an epidemic affecting individuals in every community, regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, nationality or educational background. Violence against women is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior, and thus is part of a systematic pattern of dominance and control. Domestic violence results in physical injury, psychological trauma, and sometimes death. The consequences of domestic violence can cross generations and tru-Iv last a lifetime.

Summít Agenda

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

Registration and Coffee

9:00 - 9:15 a.m.

Opening Remarks/Introductions

9:15 - 11:00 a.m. "Walking in Her Shoes"

11:00— 11:15 a.m. Break

11:15 a.m.—12:15 p.m.

"Children, Family & DV Issues"

12:15- 1:15 p.m.

Lunch (provided or on your own)

1:15 - 3:00 p.m.

"Investigating and Prosecuting Domestic Violence and Dating Violence Cases"



<u>Darlene Wolfson</u> was born and raised in Maine, but attended college and graduate school in Greensboro, North Carolina, and Gainesville, Florida. She began employment with the Domestic Abuse Council, Inc. in 2003 and is currently the Director of Outreach Programs after playing many roles within the agency.

<u>Shawn Nelson</u> graduated with a B.A. in Criminal Justice from Florida Atlantic University. She has spent 11 years with D.C.F. as a Child Protective Investigator. She is an avid photographer and mother of two and an advocate for children.

<u>Tanía Schmídt-Alpers</u> is a sole practitioner in St. Augustine. Her principal areas of practice are child and family law with a strong focus on domestic violence issues. She is a recent recipient of the Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award for her years of representation of domestic violence victims.

<u>Captain Jerome Miller</u> is a native of Altamonte Springs, Florida. He joined the Apopka Police Department in 1996 after graduating from college and graduate school in Texas and from the Seminole State College Basic Law Enforcement Academy. He has served in many capacities at the Apopka Police Department and was recently charged with the role of Captain of Administrative Services.

<u>State Attorney R.J. Larízza</u> was born in Jacksonville and moved to St. Augustine in 1983. After graduating from Troy University, he worked as a probation officer for 13 years. He has worked as both a prosecutor and in private practice and has served as State Attorney of the Seventh Judicial Circuit since 2009.

<u>Míchele Símonsen</u> has worked as an Assistant State Attorney with the Seventh Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office since 1998. She previously worked as a state prosecutor and an Assistant Federal Public Defender in South Carolina. She has handled exclusively domestic violence cases since 1999.

Presentations By:

Domestic Abuse Council, Inc.

Department of Children & Families

Tania Schmidt-Alpers, Attorney

Apopka Police Department

7th Circuit State Attorney's Office

Special Thanks to:

Flagler County Sheriff's Office St. John's County Sheriff's Office Volusia County Sheriff's Office Karin Flositz, C.P.C. Michelle Smith, S.A.O. Luis Bustamante, S.A.O. Calvary Christian Center