

Sarah Thomas - Judicial Position Application

Bret Raper <braper@co.monroe.in.us>

Tue 1/16/2024 1:23 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Cc: brt.raper@gmail.com <brt.raper@gmail.com>

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Bret Raper, and I am writing in support of Sarah Thomas, who is applying for a judicial appointment in your jurisdiction. I am presently in my 20th year as a Magistrate Judge in Monroe County, Indiana. Prior to accepting a judicial position, I served as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for eight (8) years.

Sarah and I are second cousins, so I have known Sarah and her family for Sarah's entire life. Sarah was an all-around wonderful child, as well as an excellent student. Sarah's father, who was a Kentucky State Police Trooper, passed away from cancer while Sarah and her younger brother were still quite young. In spite of this adversity, Sarah continued to excel in school, and she participated in numerous extra-curricular activities throughout her formative years. Looking back, it seems that Sarah was preparing for a successful legal career even in her childhood.

After graduating from high school with academic honors, Sarah obtained her undergraduate degree with honors, and she was subsequently admitted into law school, where, again, she excelled. Upon graduation from law school, Sarah successfully passed the Florida State Bar, and for the past few years she has worked as an assistant District Attorney in State of Florida. I have followed Sarah's legal career, and I have been amazed at the number of criminal jury trials she has successfully prosecuted.

Sarah's caseload has generally included high level felonies, which, by their very nature, can be quite complex and issue-laden. I have occasionally been able to personally observe Sarah's work in the courtroom as certain cases have been livestreamed, and I have found her courtroom poise and demeanor to be remarkable. Sarah's knowledge of the law, as well as her litigation experience, far exceed that of many older attorneys. I should also mention that Sarah has maintained her stellar legal career in conjunction with her maintaining a wonderful home life with her husband and their small child.

As a long time judicial officer myself, I am fully convinced that Sarah would make an excellent judge. Sarah's life experiences, coupled with her knowledge of the law and her extensive courtroom experience, would serve to create the ideal judicial temperament, and I fully endorse her candidacy for judicial appointment.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at this email address, or by telephone at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

Bret Raper, Commissioner
Monroe Circuit Court

Re: Sarah Thomas - Judicial Position Application

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Tue 1/16/2024 1:24 PM

To: Bret Raper <braper@co.monroe.in.us>

Cc: brt.raper@gmail.com <brt.raper@gmail.com>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Bret Raper <braper@co.monroe.in.us>

Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 1:23 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Cc: brt.raper@gmail.com <brt.raper@gmail.com>

Subject: Sarah Thomas - Judicial Position Application

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Bret Raper, and I am writing in support of Sarah Thomas, who is applying for a judicial appointment in your jurisdiction. I am presently in my 20th year as a Magistrate Judge in Monroe County, Indiana. Prior to accepting a judicial position, I served as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for eight (8) years.

Sarah and I are second cousins, so I have known Sarah and her family for Sarah's entire life. Sarah was an all-around wonderful child, as well as an excellent student. Sarah's father, who was a Kentucky State Police Trooper, passed away from cancer while Sarah and her younger brother were still quite young. In spite of this adversity, Sarah continued to excel in school, and she participated in numerous extra-curricular activities throughout her formative years. Looking back, it seems that Sarah was preparing for a successful legal career even in her childhood.

After graduating from high school with academic honors, Sarah obtained her undergraduate degree with honors, and she was subsequently admitted into law school, where, again, she excelled. Upon graduation from law school, Sarah successfully passed the Florida State Bar, and for the past few years she has worked as an assistant District Attorney in State of Florida. I have followed Sarah's legal career, and I have been amazed at the number of criminal jury trials she has successfully prosecuted.

Sarah's caseload has generally included high level felonies, which, by their very nature, can be quite complex and issue-laden. I have occasionally been able to personally observe Sarah's work in the courtroom as certain cases

have been livestreamed, and I have found her courtroom poise and demeanor to be remarkable. Sarah's knowledge of the law, as well as her litigation experience, far exceed that of many older attorneys. I should also mention that Sarah has maintained her stellar legal career in conjunction with her maintaining a wonderful home life with her husband and their small child.

As a long time judicial officer myself, I am fully convinced that Sarah would make an excellent judge. Sarah's life experiences, coupled with her knowledge of the law and her extensive courtroom experience, would serve to create the ideal judicial temperament, and I fully endorse her candidacy for judicial appointment.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached at this email address, or by telephone at [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Bret Raper, Commissioner
Monroe Circuit Court

Re: Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Tue 1/16/2024 12:28 PM

To: Brian Henderson <BHenderson@volusiasheriff.gov>

received. Thank you

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Brian Henderson <BHenderson@volusiasheriff.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 12:25 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Sarah Thomas

Chair of the Judicial nominating Committee,

I write this email in support of Sarah Thomas's desire to become a judge. I have known Sarah for many years now both professionally and personally. Her character and integrity are of the highest degree. I have watched Sarah progress within the State Attorney's Office, taking on leadership positions and handling high-profile cases of great community interest. In my 23 years working in the criminal justice system, I have worked alongside many attorneys and judges and understand they must have measured temperament and credibility among their peers. In my opinion Sarah has demonstrated that she has the skillset and respect among the legal community to become an excellent Judge for the State of Florida. I respectfully ask you to consider nominating Sarah Thomas for the vacant 7th Circuit judgeship.

Best Regards,



Brian Henderson
Chief Deputy

Volusia Sheriff's Office

Bhenderson@volusiasheriff.gov

Office: (386) 736-5961

Cell: (386) 337-0572

P.O. Box 569

DeLand, FL 32721-0569

www.Volusiasheriff.gov



NA 263

CONFIDENTIALITY: The information transmitted, including attachments, is intended only for the person(s) or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient(s) is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and destroy any copies of this information.

Sarah Thomas

Brian Henderson <BHenderson@volusiasheriff.gov>

Tue 1/16/2024 12:25 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Chair of the Judicial nominating Committee,

I write this email in support of Sarah Thomas's desire to become a judge. I have known Sarah for many years now both professionally and personally. Her character and integrity are of the highest degree. I have watched Sarah progress within the State Attorney's Office, taking on leadership positions and handling high-profile cases of great community interest. In my 23 years working in the criminal justice system, I have worked alongside many attorneys and judges and understand they must have measured temperament and credibility among their peers. In my opinion Sarah has demonstrated that she has the skillset and respect among the legal community to become an excellent Judge for the State of Florida. I respectfully ask you to consider nominating Sarah Thomas for the vacant 7th Circuit judgeship.

Best Regards,



Brian Henderson
Chief Deputy

Volusia Sheriff's Office

Bhenderson@volusiasheriff.gov

Office: (386) 736-5961

Cell: (386) 337-0572

P.O. Box 569

DeLand, FL 32721-0569

www.Volusiasheriff.gov



NA 263

CONFIDENTIALITY: The information transmitted, including attachments, is intended only for the person(s) or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient(s) is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and destroy any copies of this information.

Re: ASA Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Wed 1/17/2024 8:21 AM

To:Olsen, Brittny <bolsen@cityofnsb.com>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Olsen, Brittny <bolsen@cityofnsb.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 5:05 AM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: ASA Sarah Thomas

Please see attached. Thank you.

Sergeant Brittny Olsen #1477

Delta Shift Patrol

New Smyrna Beach Police Department

246 Industrial Park Avenue

New Smyrna Beach, FL. 32168

386-424-2220

PLEASE NOTE: Florida has a very broad public records law. E-mail communications to or from City of New Smyrna Beach officials and employees are public records and are available upon request. If you have received this message in error, please notify us immediately by replying to this message and delete it from your computer. Transmission of sensitive information such as but not limited to social security numbers, credit card information, medical records and criminal justice information (outlined in the [FBI CJIS Policy](#)) via email is prohibited.

** Please consider the negative environmental impacts associated with printing email **

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CITY OF NEW SMYRNA BEACH FLORIDA

www.cityofnsb.com

To: Chair and Judicial Nominating Committee

Regarding: Assistant State Attorney Sarah Thomas

My name is Sergeant Brittny Olsen, with the New Smyrna Beach Police Department. I am writing in regard to Assistant State Attorney Sarah Thomas, to depict a strong recommendation for nomination. I have had the upmost pleasure of working alongside ASA Thomas in numerous felonious cases, to include multiple trials with guilty verdicts. As a detective, when a case I was investigating was assigned to ASA Thomas, I became excited, being offered a sense of extra confidence and hope that justice would be served on behalf of the victim(s).

ASA Thomas is relentless; she is thorough; she is incredibly intelligent, with a passion for attention to detail and dedication to her work. ASA Thomas is also dependable, witty, quick-thinking, and always planning-ahead in her arguments. She is very tough, as well as understanding and fair.

Working together, it was normal for ASA Thomas to contact me after-hours regarding cases we were currently working; even when her colleagues have long gone home for the evening. Her passion for justice is second-to-none. Her work ethic is unmatched. ASA Thomas is also always prepared and organized. She thinks like not only a prosecutor, but a defense attorney, leaving no stone unturned.

I whole heartedly believe she would be the perfect candidate for this assignment and if given the opportunity, she would be nothing short of successful.

Thank you for your time and consideration in the matter.

Best,

Sergeant Brittny Olsen #1477
Delta Patrol Supervisor
New Smyrna Beach Police Department
246 Industrial Park Avenue
New Smyrna Beach, Florida 32168
386-424-2220
bolsen@cityofnsb.com

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Attorney Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Mon 1/22/2024 10:23 AM

To: Carleen A. Leffler <cleffler@shuffieldlowman.com>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Carleen A. Leffler <cleffler@shuffieldlowman.com>

Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 10:49 AM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Attorney Sarah Thomas

Good morning, Mr. Mydock:

Attached please find a letter of recommendation for Attorney Sarah Thomas.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this recommendation further, please let me know.

Thank you,

Carleen A. Leffler

Senior Associate

851 Dunlawton Ave., Suite 300
Port Orange, FL 32127

Tel: 386-763-5083

Fax: 386-763-5085

cleffler@shuffieldlowman.com



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS 2003 - 2023

www.shuffieldlowman.com

Orlando . Port Orange
DeLand . Tavares* . Lake Nona*



PRIVILEGED INFORMATION DISCLAIMER: This email is intended solely for the use of the individual to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this email is not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible

for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please delete this email, destroy any hard copies thereof, and notify us immediately by telephone. Thank you.

*by appointment only



January 19, 2024

Sent Via E-Mail to TMydock@mydocklaw.com

Seventh Judicial Circuit
Judicial Nominating Commission

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Mrs. Sarah Thomas, Esq.

Dear Chairman and Judicial Nominating Commission,

On behalf of the Volusia/Flagler Association for Women Lawyers (VFAWL), I am writing to provide our highest recommendation for Attorney Sarah Thomas to be appointed to serve as a circuit judge in the Seventh Judicial Circuit.

While I have not personally had the pleasure of witnessing Attorney Thomas in the courtroom, I have heard nothing but exemplary reviews from attorneys that work regularly with Attorney Thomas. In her capacity as a VFAWL Board Member, Attorney Thomas has exhibited exceptional leadership qualities. Her initiative in organizing community outreach and seeking out ways to benefit attorneys in our community reflects not only her professional dedication but also her deep-rooted commitment to societal welfare.

On a personal level, it is pertinent to note that Attorney Thomas exemplifies the highest ideals of integrity, honor, and courtesy, both as a legal professional and as a member of our community. I have witnessed this both in her capacity as a VFAWL Board Member and as a fellow Rotarian. Her ability to adeptly balance her professional obligations and community involvement with her responsibilities as a mother further underscores her exceptional organizational and leadership skills. In view of the foregoing, I am convinced that Attorney Sarah Thomas would be an outstanding addition to our state judiciary. Her legal expertise, coupled with her leadership skills and dedication to community service, render her an ideal candidate for a judicial position.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at cleffler@sllaw.com or (386)763-5083.

Sincerely,

Carleen A. Leffler, Esq.

Volusia/Flagler Association for Women Lawyers

President

Re: Sarah Thomas -- JNC Application

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Thu 1/18/2024 4:01 PM

To: Daniel Hilbert <dhillbert@cananlaw.com>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Daniel Hilbert <dhillbert@cananlaw.com>

Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 3:54 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Sarah Thomas -- JNC Application

Mr. Mydock,

As you are aware Mrs. Sarah Thomas has put in for application to be appointed circuit court judge due to the recent opening from the retirement of Judge Zambrano. I am writing on her behalf to advise you of my experience with her in a recent jury trial we had with one another in Volusia County. I can attest that for the entirety of the trial Mrs. Thomas was professional, courteous, and respectful. She never sought to step outside the boundaries placed upon her as a prosecutor both ethically and by law. I also found her to be knowledgeable on the law and a highly competent trial lawyer. I believe that she would be able to transfer both her skill and professionalism to the bench should she be selected. Feel free to reach out if you have any other questions about my experience with her.

Sincerely,

Dan Hilbert

Canan Law

Partner

Civil Litigator and Board Certified

Criminal Trial Lawyer

www.cananlaw.com

Sarah Thomas -- JNC Application

Daniel Hilbert <dhilbert@cananlaw.com>

Thu 1/18/2024 3:54 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Mr. Mydock,

As you are aware Mrs. Sarah Thomas has put in for application to be appointed circuit court judge due to the recent opening from the retirement of Judge Zambrano. I am writing on her behalf to advise you of my experience with her in a recent jury trial we had with one another in Volusia County. I can attest that for the entirety of the trial Mrs. Thomas was professional, courteous, and respectful. She never sought to step outside the boundaries placed upon her as a prosecutor both ethically and by law. I also found her to be knowledgeable on the law and a highly competent trial lawyer. I believe that she would be able to transfer both her skill and professionalism to the bench should she be selected. Feel free to reach out if you have any other questions about my experience with her.

Sincerely,

Dan Hilbert

Canan Law

Partner

Civil Litigator and Board Certified

Criminal Trial Lawyer

www.cananlaw.com

Re: Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Wed 1/17/2024 12:15 PM

To: Dinardi, David <DinardiDavid@DBPD.US>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

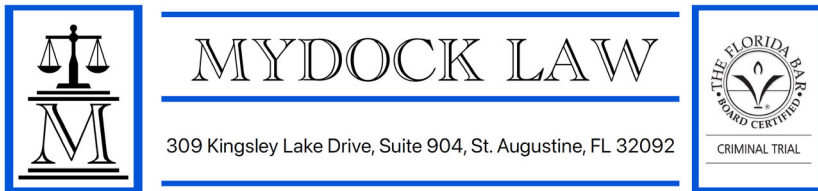
TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



From: Dinardi, David <DinardiDavid@DBPD.US>

Sent: Wednesday, January 17, 2024 12:14 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Sarah Thomas

To the Judicial Nominating Committee,

I have had the privilege of working with Sarah Thomas for approximately 8 years, as I am the supervisor of the Robbery/Homicide Unit for the Daytona Beach Police Department.

During that time I have come to have the utmost respect for Sarah Thomas.

Sarah Thomas is one of the hardest working attorneys I have ever worked with, as she has a work ethic that is second to none. In addition, Sarah always has a great attitude and is always willing to take the time to answer questions and to explain the finer points of the law.

I have worked with Sarah Thomas on cases ranging from Grand Thefts, to Aggravated Batteries, to Homicides, and she always brings the same level of dedication, and preparation, to each and every case.

For these reasons, and countless more, Sarah Thomas is a pleasure to work with, and she is a true warrior to the cause of justice.

While it would be a loss to the State Attorney's Office if Sarah is selected to be a judge, I am proud to wholeheartedly support and recommend that Sarah Thomas be selected as a judge for the 7th Judicial Circuit.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information.

Respectfully submitted,
David Dinardi

Detective Sergeant David Dinardi

Robbery / Homicide Unit

Daytona Beach Police Department

129 Valor Blvd, Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

DinardiDavid@DBPD.US

(386) 671-5310

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public-records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing. If this email is related to the Board, Committee or Commission that you serve on, please DO NOT REPLY TO ALL.

Sarah Thomas

Dinardi, David <DinardiDavid@DBPD.US>

Wed 1/17/2024 12:14 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

To the Judicial Nominating Committee,

I have had the privilege of working with Sarah Thomas for approximately 8 years, as I am the supervisor of the Robbery/Homicide Unit for the Daytona Beach Police Department.

During that time I have come to have the utmost respect for Sarah Thomas.

Sarah Thomas is one of the hardest working attorneys I have ever worked with, as she has a work ethic that is second to none. In addition, Sarah always has a great attitude and is always willing to take the time to answer questions and to explain the finer points of the law.

I have worked with Sarah Thomas on cases ranging from Grand Thefts, to Aggravated Batteries, to Homicides, and she always brings the same level of dedication, and preparation, to each and every case.

For these reasons, and countless more, Sarah Thomas is a pleasure to work with, and she is a true warrior to the cause of justice.

While it would be a loss to the State Attorney's Office if Sarah is selected to be a judge, I am proud to wholeheartedly support and recommend that Sarah Thomas be selected as a judge for the 7th Judicial Circuit.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information.

Respectfully submitted,
David Dinardi

Detective Sergeant David Dinardi

Robbery / Homicide Unit

Daytona Beach Police Department

129 Valor Blvd, Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

DinardiDavid@DBPD.US

(386) 671-5310

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public-records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing. If this email is related to the Board, Committee or Commission that you serve on, please DO NOT REPLY TO ALL.

Re: GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE - DAS 2022:

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Thu 1/18/2024 4:04 PM

To: David Shekhter <dshekhter@politislawfirm.com>

received thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: David Shekhter <dshekhter@politislawfirm.com>

Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 4:01 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Fwd: GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE - DAS 2022:

Dear Mr. Mydock,

Attached is my character letter on behalf of Sarah Thomas. It was a pleasure speaking with you earlier and please don't hesitate to follow up with any questions or concerns. I remain,

Very Truly Yours,

David Shekhter

David Shekhter

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: Ella Shekhter <eshekhter@politislawfirm.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 2:58:34 PM
To: David Shekhter <dshekhter@politislawfirm.com>
Subject: GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE - DAS 2022:

Thank you,

Ella Shekhter, *Legal Assistant*

Politis & Matovina, P.A.

20 Airport Road, Suite C, Palm Coast, FL 32164

386-313-5936 Direct Phone/Fax

386-246-0911 Office Phone

386-271-7863 Text

www.TheJusticeAttorneys.com

NOTICE: This electronic transmission is intended only for the person(s) named. It may contain information that is proprietary to the sender, and/or privileged, confidential and/or otherwise exempt from disclosure under applicable State and Federal law, including, but not limited to, privacy standards imposed pursuant to the Omnibus Rule of 2013. Receipt by anyone other than the named recipient(s) is not a waiver of any applicable privilege. If you received this confidential communication in error, please notify the sender immediately by reply e-mail message and permanently delete the original message from your system.

January 18, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to write this letter on behalf of my colleague and friend Sarah Thomas. Ms. Thomas is someone I've known for several years who, in my capacity as a defense attorney, is an extreme professional with a charming personality and extremely hard work ethic. Ms. Thomas is the type of attorney that makes everything she does look easy despite the job actually being complex, involving many moving parts. And this is how she operates, she handles numerous complex problems effectively and with such confidence and poise that you don't even realize the tasks were so difficult. I've worked with thousands of attorneys from across the state of Florida and on numerous occasions I have advised Ms. Thomas that she would succeed in any endeavor she chose because of her charming personality, intelligence, and her experience actually working and trying cases. Her ability to manage a large caseload, supervise her colleagues work, and try cases successfully is a testament to her qualities. If a judge or attorney puts her in a difficult situation, she does not lose her cool, she figures out a solution to the problem and handles it with poise. She is true to her word and someone I completely trust. I fully endorsed Ms. Thomas to a position as a circuit judge and this community would be proud of someone with her personality, experience, and work ethic as a member of our judicial team in the seventh circuit. Again, she will succeed in any endeavor she chooses and she is the type of person that gets along with anyone, it is a pleasure to be in her presence and she is smart and hard working. With warm regards I submit this letter and I remain,

Very Truly Yours,

David A. Shekhter, Esq.

POLITIS & MATOVINA, P.A.
By: David A. Shekhter, Esquire

DAS/es
Enclosure(s)

Re: Letter of Recommendation Re: Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Mon 1/22/2024 10:22 AM

To: Williams, David <DavidWilliams@kycourts.net>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Williams, David <DavidWilliams@kycourts.net>

Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 10:51 AM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Letter of Recommendation Re: Sarah Thomas

Please accept this letter of recommendation in support of Sarah Thomas for the vacant judgeship in the 7th Judicial Circuit.

Sincerely,

David L. Williams, Judge

40th Judicial Circuit

Commonwealth of Kentucky

Hon. David L. Williams
Commonwealth of Kentucky
40th Judicial Circuit

127 Courthouse Square PO Box 660 Burkesville, KY 42717
davidwilliams@kycourts.net
P: (270) 864-5192 F: (270) 864-1418

January 19, 2024

Florida Courts Seventh Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission

Travis Mydock, B.C.S. (Chair)
Terrence White, Esq. (Vice Chair)
Casey Arnold, Esq.
Kelly Parsons Kwiatek, Esq.
Andrew Morgan, Esq.
John Reid, B.C.S.
Raven Sword, Esq.
Erica White, Esq.

Hon. Committee:

I am writing to express my support for Sarah Thomas regarding her application to be nominated for the judgeship that has become vacant upon the resignation of Hon. Raul Zambrano.

By way of introduction, I am currently the Circuit Judge for Cumberland County, Clinton County and Monroe County, Kentucky, and have served as such for the last 10 years. Prior to my judgeship I served as a state senator for over 25 years, the last 12 of which as Senate President. Sarah Thomas is from my hometown of Burkesville, Kentucky, where she graduated high school. I have known Sarah since she was a small child. While she was attending the University of Louisville, she worked for me as a Legislative Staffer. I was immediately impressed with Sarah's work ethic and her attention to detail. She was always prompt, considerate and dedicated. Sarah went on to excel during her time at Florida Coastal School of Law and has held many positions as a respected jurist since, including most recently serving as an Assistant State Attorney in the Career Criminal Unit in the 7th Judicial Circuit.

Sarah is temperate, intelligent, hardworking and diligent, all traits desired in a judge. I am confident that Sarah's prior experience as a trial lawyer and prosecutor will guide her in understanding the nuances of the legal issues that she will face as Circuit Judge. I unequivocally recommend Sarah Thomas for the vacant judgeship in the 7th Circuit and respectfully request that you include her name to Governor DeSantis in your recommendation for appointment.

Sincerely,

David L. Williams
Judge, 40th Judicial Circuit
Commonwealth of Kentucky

Re: Sarah Thomas Judicial Recommendation

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Tue 1/16/2024 9:20 AM

To: Besse, Diego <BesseD@sao7.org>

received. thank you

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Besse, Diego <BesseD@sao7.org>

Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 5:18 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Sarah Thomas Judicial Recommendation

Mr. Mydock,

Please see the attached recommendation letter. Thank you for your consideration.

Investigator Diego Besse

Office of the State Attorney - 7th Judicial Circuit of Florida

Office: (386) 239-7840

Fax: (386) 239-7711



LEGAL NOTIFICATION: Florida Sunshine Statutes entail very broad public records requirements (F. S. 119). As required by law, all e-mails to and from the State Attorney's Office of Circuit 7 are kept as a public record. Your e-mail communications, including your e-mail address may be disclosed to the public and media at any time. If you have received this communication in error, do not distribute it. Please notify the sender immediately by electronic mail and delete this message.

January 12, 2024

Judicial Nominating Committee
The Capital Building
Lower Level, Suite LL-10
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Re: Sarah Thomas Judicial Recommendation

To whom it may concern:

I am honored to have the opportunity to recommend Sarah Thomas for judicial appointment within the 7th Judicial Circuit of Florida.

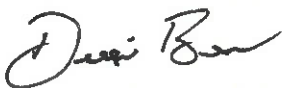
As an Assistant State Attorney, Sarah's dedication to the rule of law and fair application of Florida statute is unwavering. I can attest first hand to her integrity and legal knowledge. During my tenure as a Police Detective and now as a State Attorney Investigator, I have worked with Sarah on complex cases that require the utmost legal expertise and diligence. She has repeatedly shown her ability to manage multiple cases while providing victims of serious crime the attention and empathy they deserve. Likewise, Sarah litigates her cases with a measured approach that ensures equal application of the law and fairness to those accused of crimes. She is the standard bearer for prosecutorial discretion.

In addition to her professional duties, Sarah is also a doting mother, wife, and member of multiple community organizations. Her personal and professional experience will undoubtedly provide her excellent perspective in a judicial role.

I enthusiastically recommend Sarah for judgeship in Florida's 7th Judicial Circuit. She will be an excellent addition to the bench and provide fair and equal justice to the citizens of this great state.

Thank you for your consideration. If you require any additional information, please contact me.

Respectfully,



Diego Besse
State Attorney Investigator - 7th Judicial Circuit of Florida
Detective – Daytona Beach Police Department (Ret.)

Re: Sarah Thomas Recommendation Letter for Judicial Role

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Fri 1/19/2024 10:24 AM

To: Baker, Gina <BakerG@sao7.org>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

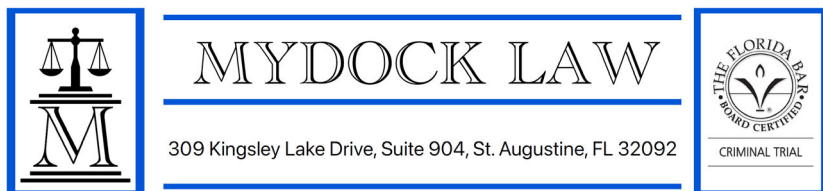
TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



From: Baker, Gina <BakerG@sao7.org>

Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 5:52 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Sarah Thomas Recommendation Letter for Judicial Role

Dear Chair and Judicial Nominating Committee,

I would like to take this opportunity to personally recommend Assistant State Attorney, Sarah Thomas for appointment of Judge.

During my time being in the law enforcement field in Investigations, I have worked very closely with Mrs. Thomas on a variety of cases for many years to include some of the most egregious types. Mrs. Thomas has shown that she is fair and level-minded in her decision making for the cases that she is assigned. I have observed her prosecute the most heinous types of crimes; also including less violent types of crimes and she has shown she is dedicated 100% no matter how difficult the cases might be. Mrs. Thomas has shown time and time again her true dedication in her work performance and her work product and has an unwavering work ethic. She has handled many complex cases and her approach to them has always shown to be fair and non-judgmental which I believe contributes to her making sound and thorough decisions in her case work. Her attention to detail in her case work is remarkable.

Mrs. Thomas's professionalism is impeccable. She is very approachable and is an excellent listener. I have personally observed her ability to be empathetic, compassionate, and reasonable with the cases she is assigned and with the people that are associated to the case. She ensures the victims and witnesses are heard and has a passion to pursue justice like no other that I have seen. I have observed Mrs. Thomas interact professionally with her co-workers, lawyers (both prosecution and defense) and judges and can personally say that she is one of the finest lawyers that I have the privilege knowing.

Mrs. Thomas's years of experience, expertise and professionalism that I have witnessed through the years, in and out of a courtroom setting, depicts she would be an exceptional candidate for a judicial appointment and would

uphold the principles of justice and impartiality in any courtroom setting. I have also had the opportunity to observe her in a personal setting with her family where she is an outstanding mother and wife. In my opinion, Mrs. Thomas is a perfect candidate and I would highly recommend her for a judicial role. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Gina Baker

State Attorney Investigator

Office of the State Attorney, Seventh Circuit

Daytona Office

251 N. Ridgewood Avenue

386-239-7816 (Office)

386-239-7711 (Fax)

E-mail: BakerG@sao7.org



CONFIDENTIALITY: The information transmitted, including attachments, is intended only for the person(s) or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient(s) is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and destroy any copies of this information.

LEGAL NOTIFICATION: Florida Sunshine Statutes entail very broad public records requirements (F. S. 119). As required by law, all e-mails to and from the State Attorney's Office of Circuit 7 are kept as a public record. Your e-mail communications, including your e-mail address may be disclosed to the public and media at any time. If you have received this communication in error, do not distribute it. Please notify the sender immediately by electronic mail and delete this message.

Sarah Thomas Recommendation Letter for Judicial Role

Baker, Gina <BakerG@sao7.org>

Thu 1/18/2024 5:52 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Dear Chair and Judicial Nominating Committee,

I would like to take this opportunity to personally recommend Assistant State Attorney, Sarah Thomas for appointment of Judge.

During my time being in the law enforcement field in Investigations, I have worked very closely with Mrs. Thomas on a variety of cases for many years to include some of the most egregious types. Mrs. Thomas has shown that she is fair and level-minded in her decision making for the cases that she is assigned. I have observed her prosecute the most heinous types of crimes; also including less violent types of crimes and she has shown she is dedicated 100% no matter how difficult the cases might be. Mrs. Thomas has shown time and time again her true dedication in her work performance and her work product and has an unwavering work ethic. She has handled many complex cases and her approach to them has always shown to be fair and non-judgmental which I believe contributes to her making sound and thorough decisions in her case work. Her attention to detail in her case work is remarkable.

Mrs. Thomas's professionalism is impeccable. She is very approachable and is an excellent listener. I have personally observed her ability to be empathetic, compassionate, and reasonable with the cases she is assigned and with the people that are associated to the case. She ensures the victims and witnesses are heard and has a passion to pursue justice like no other that I have seen. I have observed Mrs. Thomas interact professionally with her co-workers, lawyers (both prosecution and defense) and judges and can personally say that she is one of the finest lawyers that I have the privilege knowing.

Mrs. Thomas's years of experience, expertise and professionalism that I have witnessed through the years, in and out of a courtroom setting, depicts she would be an exceptional candidate for a judicial appointment and would uphold the principles of justice and impartiality in any courtroom setting. I have also had the opportunity to observe her in a personal setting with her family where she is an outstanding mother and wife. In my opinion, Mrs. Thomas is a perfect candidate and I would highly recommend her for a judicial role. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Gina Baker

State Attorney Investigator

Office of the State Attorney, Seventh Circuit

Daytona Office

251 N. Ridgewood Avenue

386-239-7816 (Office)

386-239-7711 (Fax)

E-mail: BakerG@sao7.org



CONFIDENTIALITY: The information transmitted, including attachments, is intended only for the person(s) or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient(s) is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and destroy any copies of this information.

LEGAL NOTIFICATION: Florida Sunshine Statutes entail very broad public records requirements (F. S. 119). As required by law, all e-mails to and from the State Attorney's Office of Circuit 7 are kept as a public record. Your e-mail communications, including your e-mail address may be disclosed to the public and media at any time. If you have received this communication in error, do not distribute it. Please notify the sender immediately by electronic mail and delete this message.

Re: JNC Recommendation Letter: Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Mon 1/22/2024 4:52 PM

To: Hunter Morrill <hmorrill@daytonalaw.com>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Hunter Morrill <hmorrill@daytonalaw.com>

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 4:49 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: JNC Recommendation Letter: Sarah Thomas

Mr. Mydock,

Hope you are well and that the criminal defense practice is keeping you busy in St. Augustine. Please find the attached letter regarding judiciary applicant Sarah Thomas.

Sincerely,

P.S.

Go Noles 😊



Hunter Morrill, Esq.

Florida Bar No. 118431

444 Seabreeze Blvd. Suite 900

Daytona Beach, FL 32118

(P) [386-254-6875](tel:386-254-6875) | (F) [386-257-1834](tel:386-257-1834)

www.daytonalaw.com

CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION This communication/transmission is intended only for the use of the addressee(s) named above and may contain information that is privileged and confidential. Access to this e-mail by anyone else is unauthorized. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, use or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you received this transmission in error, please immediately alert the sender by reply e-mail and delete this message and any attachments. Nothing contained in this message (including any attachments) shall constitute a contract or electronic signature under the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, any version of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act or any other statute governing electronic transactions. IRS Circular 230 Notice: To ensure compliance with the requirements imposed by the IRS, we inform you that any U.S. tax advice contained in this communication (including any attachments) is not intended or written to be used, and may not be used, for the purpose of (i) avoiding penalties under the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed herein.

HORACE SMITH, JR., P.A.
JEFFREY E. BIGMAN
JEFFREY P. BROCK
SARAH L. METZ
FRANK S. GANZ
ELIZABETH A. MYERS
RUDDLEDGE H.C. SMITH
KATHLEEN E. ROGERS
JEFFREY S. BERMAN
JENNIFER G. GILLIKIN
HUNTER B. MORRILL
SAMANTHA L. SNYDER
KAREN E. NORA
CHRISTY E. EARLS
KELSEY M. HANSEN-WALTER

Of Counsel:
BROOKE M. GAFFNEY



Commitment to Excellence
SMITH BIGMAN BROCK

444 SEABREEZE BOULEVARD
SUITE 900
DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32118

Send all correspondence to:
POST OFFICE BOX 15200
DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32115

TELEPHONE: (386) 254-6875
FACSIMILE: (386) 257-1834

www.DaytonaLaw.com

January 22, 2024

Judicial Nominating Commission,
7th Judicial Circuit
c/o Chair, Travis Mydock
Via email: tmydock@mydocklaw.com

Dear Mr. Mydock and 7th Circuit JNC,

It is my distinct pleasure to be reaching out on behalf of attorney Sarah Thomas, a current applicant for the 7th Circuit Court vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Raul Zambrano. Though I am certain it will be a difficult decision to fill the role and legacy that the Honorable Zambrano has left, I was excited to see Mrs. Thomas' name on the list of applicants for the first time.

I have known of Mrs. Thomas since law school but did not come to personally meet her until 2015, when I began interning at the State Attorney's Office in Daytona Beach. I say that I knew of her in law school because it seemed she was involved in every extracurricular offered: Student Bar Association (Secretary then President), Mock Trial, Moot Court, Honor Board. Mrs. Thomas was the student speaker at our graduation and I remember thinking to myself after her speech, "*that girl is going to change the world.*" I still feel that way today, knowing her now on both a professional and personal level.

I have had the unique experience of having worked with Mrs. Thomas both as a colleague and against her as an adversary. As a colleague, Mrs. Thomas was insightful and supportive, always willing to lend a helping hand. She is the first to volunteer to cover court or help prepare a trial/hearing for others. She is organized and prepared and I learned a lot from watching her court demeanor. As an adversary, Mrs. Thomas is honest and reasonable. She is willing to listen and consider any mitigating circumstances of each defendant. As a member of the local Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, I think you would be hard pressed to find a defense attorney who wouldn't agree that Mrs. Thomas is a fair Assistant State Attorney.

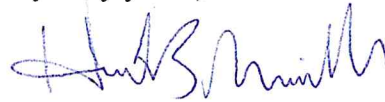
Mrs. Thomas has never shied from hard work, and I imagine her resume reflects that. She has quickly scaled the professional ladder in terms of her career due to her work ethic. She is involved in a multitude of organizations outside of her job in order to pour herself back into our community.

Above all, Mrs. Thomas is respectful. She prides herself on being an ethical attorney and maintaining professionalism in all forums. I have no doubt that should Mrs. Thomas be given the

immense honor of becoming a member of the judiciary, she would maintain the same level of objectivity.

I appreciate your time and allowing me to voice my favor for Mrs. Thomas as a potential candidate for the judiciary vacancy. I do not envy the tough decisions you all will have to make but I couldn't think of a better group to do so.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hunter Morrill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Hunter" and last name "Morrill" clearly distinguishable.

Hunter Morrill, Esq.

Re: Sarah Thomas Recommendation Letter

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Tue 1/16/2024 9:16 AM

To:Ndichu, Angel <NdichuAngel@DBPD.US>

received. thank you

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Ndichu, Angel <NdichuAngel@DBPD.US>

Sent: Monday, January 15, 2024 12:17 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Sarah Thomas Recommendation Letter

Good afternoon,

Please find the attached recommendation letter for Sarah Thomas. Let me know if you need anything else.

Thank you,

Angel Ndichu

Executive Assistant to

Chief Jakari Young

Daytona Beach Police Department

386-671-5102



Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to

a public-records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing. If this email is related to the Board, Committee or Commission that you serve on, please DO NOT REPLY TO ALL.



Daytona Beach Police Department
Jakari E. Young, Chief of Police

129 Valor Boulevard • Daytona Beach, FL 32114
Telephone: 386-671-5000
www.dbpd.us

January 15, 2024

Dear Committee Members,

It is my honor and privilege to support Sarah Thomas to be the next Circuit Court Judge for the 7th Circuit. I have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Thomas for the past 5 years. During this time, my agency and I, have relied on Ms. Thomas and her extraordinary trial skills to secure the convictions of many dangerous individuals. Sarah makes herself available to our agency at all hours and helps with anything we need. We often rely on Ms. Thomas to provide trainings and refresher courses on the law. Ms. Thomas has been a voluntary instructor for our new cadet classes for the last two years.

Ms. Thomas recently prosecuted one of our largest human trafficking cases in this circuit. She worked closely with multiple units at Daytona Beach Police Department and secured 13 convictions and took another dangerous criminal off the streets. This case was an effort of passion for my agency. The Defendant in this case was putting a trafficking amount of fentanyl into the streets of Daytona Beach while also running a sex trafficking ring a mile away from the courthouse. Ms. Thomas spent many hours at the police department prepping officers and advocates for their trial testimony to make them feel more comfortable. She reviewed countless warrants and helped sort and organize the evidence in a meticulous manner. This effort paid off when Derek Jones was convicted of 13 different crimes and sentenced to spend the rest of his life in prison.

Ms. Thomas is personable, professional, and easy to work with. She has the appropriate demeanor to control a courtroom and simultaneously treat people with deference and respect. I speak for my administration and our agency when I say we would all be pleased to have someone like her on the bench.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Young", written over a horizontal line.

Jakari E. Young
Chief of Police

JEY/an
100.2024.11105

Letter of Recommendation for Sarah Sullivan Thomas

Jeff Carlin <jeff@coastalfamilyfinancial.com>

Mon 1/15/2024 10:17 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Cc: sarah thomas <sarelizthomas@gmail.com>

Dear Members of the Judicial Nomination Committee,

I am writing this letter to wholeheartedly recommend my friend and neighbor, Sarah Sullivan Thomas, for the position of Circuit Court Judge. I have had the privilege of knowing Sarah for over two years, during which time I have witnessed her unwavering dedication to both her professional responsibilities and her family.

In her role as an Assistant State Attorney, Sarah has consistently displayed a remarkable ability to navigate complex legal matters with precision and determination. Her commitment to upholding the principles of justice is evident in every aspect of her work. What truly sets her apart is the way she seamlessly balances her professional responsibilities with her role as a devoted wife and mother.

I have been continually amazed by Sarah's ability to get things done efficiently and effectively. Whether it's in her professional life or within our neighborhood, she demonstrates a remarkable capability to handle tasks with grace and competence. As a neighbor, I have experienced firsthand the positive impact Sarah has on our community. She goes above and beyond, even taking the time to share special treats and gifts with our children, she has always been a neighbor we can count on.

What stands out most is Sarah's ability to blend professionalism with genuine connections within our community. Her interactions with a fellow neighbor, who serves as the Chief of Police of a nearby department, are humorous, knowing how serious their jobs can be but seeing them have fun and joke with each other has a warm, genuine and comforting affect on the neighborhood.

Thank you for considering my recommendation. If you have any further questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Set sail to financial freedom

Jeff Carlin

Financial Advisor

Coastal Family Financial

☎ 386.320.7001

🌐 www.coastalfamilyfinancial.com

✉ jeff@coastalfamilyfinancial.com



PROUD MEMBER OF



KAUFFMAN
**FAST
TRAC.**

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Sarah Sullivan Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Tue 1/16/2024 9:14 AM

To: Jeff Carlin <jeff@coastalfamilyfinancial.com>

Cc: sarah thomas <sarelizthomas@gmail.com>

received. thank you

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Jeff Carlin <jeff@coastalfamilyfinancial.com>

Sent: Monday, January 15, 2024 10:17 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Cc: sarah thomas <sarelizthomas@gmail.com>

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Sarah Sullivan Thomas

Dear Members of the Judicial Nomination Committee,

I am writing this letter to wholeheartedly recommend my friend and neighbor, Sarah Sullivan Thomas, for the position of Circuit Court Judge. I have had the privilege of knowing Sarah for over two years, during which time I have witnessed her unwavering dedication to both her professional responsibilities and her family.

In her role as an Assistant State Attorney, Sarah has consistently displayed a remarkable ability to navigate complex legal matters with precision and determination. Her commitment to upholding the principles of justice is evident in every aspect of her work. What truly sets her apart is the way she seamlessly balances her professional responsibilities with her role as a devoted wife and mother.

I have been continually amazed by Sarah's ability to get things done efficiently and effectively. Whether it's in her professional life or within our neighborhood, she demonstrates a remarkable capability to handle tasks with grace and competence. As a neighbor, I have experienced firsthand the positive impact Sarah has on our community. She goes above and beyond, even taking the time to share special treats and gifts with our children, she has always been a neighbor we can count on.

What stands out most is Sarah's ability to blend professionalism with genuine connections within our

community. Her interactions with a fellow neighbor, who serves as the Chief of Police of a nearby department, are humorous, knowing how serious their jobs can be but seeing them have fun and joke with each other has a warm, genuine and comforting affect on the neighborhood.

Thank you for considering my recommendation. If you have any further questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Set sail to financial freedom

Jeff Carlin
Financial Advisor
Coastal Family Financial

📞 **386.320.7001**
🌐 www.coastalfamilyfinancial.com
✉ jeff@coastalfamilyfinancial.com

PROUD MEMBER OF
Daytona Regional
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SCORE
CERTIFIED
MENTOR

KAUFFMAN
FAST
TRAC.

(A circular portrait of Jeff Carlin, a man with glasses and a beard, is positioned to the right of the contact information.)

Re: Sarah Thomas Nomination Letter for Volusia County Judge

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Tue 1/16/2024 1:45 PM

To: Jeff Miller <jmiller@hollyhillfl.org>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Jeff Miller <jmiller@hollyhillfl.org>

Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 1:30 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Sarah Thomas Nomination Letter for Volusia County Judge

Please see attached letter in support of Sarah Thomas' nomination to Volusia County Judge.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey J. Miller, Chief of Police, MSCJ

Holly Hill Police Department

City of Holly Hill

1065 Ridgewood Avenue

Holly Hill, Florida 32117

386-248-9494 Office

386-248-9480 Fax

jmiller@hollyhillfl.org

www.hollyhillfl.org



Please Note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from city officials regarding city business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public-records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.

Any incoming e-mail reply to this communication will be electronically filtered for "spam" and/or "viruses." That filtering process may result in such reply being quarantined (i.e. potentially not received at our site at all) and/or delayed in reaching us. For that reason, we may not receive your reply and/or we may not receive it in a timely manner. Accordingly, you should consider sending communications to us which are particularly important or time-sensitive by means other than e-mail.

Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Virtually all written communications to or from State and Local Officials and employees are public records available to the public and media upon request. The City of Holly Hill's policy does not differentiate between personal and business emails. This means email messages, including your e-mail address and any attachments and information we receive online might be disclosed to any person or media making a public records request. E-mail sent on the City system will be considered public and will only be withheld from disclosure if deemed confidential or exempt pursuant to State Law. If you are an individual whose identifying information is exempt under 119.071, Florida Statutes, please so indicate in your email or other communication. If you have any questions about the Florida public records law refer to Chapter 119 Florida Statutes.



HOLLY HILL POLICE DEPARTMENT

JEFFREY J. MILLER, CHIEF OF POLICE

January 16, 2024

Dear Judicial Nominating Committee,

I am honored to write in support of Sarah Thomas' nomination for the position of Volusia County Circuit Judge.

In July 2021, Mrs. Thomas and I worked together on an investigation involving the inadvertent and illegal release of a Defendant who was accused of committing horrendous acts against several children who were in his care as a foster parent.

In all, the Defendant was arrested and charged with 4 counts of sexual battery on a child – a capital offense. For unknown reasons, the Defendant was allowed to post bond after attending first appearance.

I immediately contacted the State Attorney's Office, and a pre-trial detention motion was filed due to Mrs. Thomas' quick response. During the hearing, Mrs. Thomas remained professional and stuck to the point of the wrongful release of the Defendant. Because of Mrs. Thomas' spot on presentation of case law, the Defendant's bond was revoked and he was immediately taken back into custody.

In my experience, law enforcement is often praised for "*putting the criminal behind bars*" while the significant contributions of dedicated prosecutors are overlooked. However, had it not been for Mrs. Thomas' guidance, collegiality, and exceptional talent in presenting the facts at the pre-trial detention hearing, the Defendant could well have fled the area avoiding prosecution, or might have had the opportunity to victimized many more children in our community.

In my view, Sarah conducted herself as a consummate professional, and her integrity earned the respect and admiration of everyone involved. It is these outstanding personal and professional attributes that make Sarah Thomas the right choice for Volusia County judge.

I am proud to support her in this important process.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 386-248-9494.

Sincerely,

Chief Jeffrey J. Miller

Judicial Candidate Sarah Thomas

Jeff Higgins <jeff@daytonadefense.com>

Wed 1/24/2024 10:22 AM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Hello, Travis-

I don't believe we've met before but I wanted to reach out to you about judicial candidate Sarah Thomas. I meant to reach out before with a letter, but I was supposed to have a trial this week and time got away from me. Please excuse the informality of an email.

I'm a criminal defense attorney here in Daytona and have known Sarah Thomas probably since the day she started with the State Attorney's Office.

In the 8 or 9 years I have known Sarah, we have had dozens of misdemeanor and felony cases together. I feel fortunate to have gotten to know her on both a personal and a professional level.

She is a zealous - but fair - advocate for the prosecution. She is an effective negotiator & skilled trial attorney. But more importantly, she listens. She has the wisdom to recognize when she doesn't have all the information & is not too proud to consider new facts as they arise in any case.

It is this characteristic that makes Sarah an ideal candidate for the bench. The humility to admit she doesn't have all the answers and the willingness to listen is all that any attorney can ask of a judge & Sarah puts those traits into practice every day.

I cannot think of anyone more qualified to become a judge than Sarah Thomas. After meeting her, I am confident that you will feel the same.

Please feel free to call me at 702-528-3797 if you would like to discuss her application further.

Thank you for your consideration-

Jeff

Sent from my iPhone

Re: Letter of recommendation Mrs. Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Fri 1/19/2024 10:16 AM

To: John Hager <jhager@defendyourcase.com>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: John Hager <jhager@defendyourcase.com>

Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 10:05 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Letter of recommendation Mrs. Sarah Thomas

Please see the attached letter in support of judicial candidate Mrs. Sarah Thomas.

Respectfully yours,

John S. Hager, Esq.

FOUNDING PARTNER

BROWARD LOCATION

110 Tower
110 SE 6th Street
Suite 1715
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
(954) 533-3696

VOLUSIA LOCATION

210 South Beach Street
Suite 202
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
(386) 449-8118



John S. Hager, Esq.
Brett M. Schwartz, Esq.

Volusia: (386) 449-8118
Facsimile: (888) 633-7595

January 18, 2024

Sent via e-mail to
tmydock@mydocklaw.com

Seventh Judicial Circuit
Judicial Nominating Commission

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Mrs. Sarah Thomas, Esq.

Dear Chairman and Judicial Nominating Commission,

I am writing to highly recommend Ms. Sarah Thomas, Esq. for the position of Circuit Judge within the Seventh Judicial Circuit. As an attorney practicing for almost 25 years, a former State Prosecutor, serving on the Florida Bar's Grievance Committee and Rules of Criminal Procedure Committee, and now serving as the President of the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyer's, I have worked with many criminal defense attorneys, prosecutors and judges and know that Mrs. Thomas is the perfect candidate to be considered for this position.

I have known Mrs. Thomas for several years and we have opposed each other on many cases. Throughout our working relationship, she has consistently demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to ensuring that whatever the outcome, that she is fair, just and open-minded in listening to any mitigation for sentence that I had to offer. She has a unique passion for justice and serving the community and does not take that responsibility lightly. Although being on opposite sides of our criminal justice system, she has always treated me with respect and courtesy. In addition, she possesses a great knowledge of the law, is always prepared for court and

makes well-informed decisions, which are crucial for being an effective lawyer and judge.

In conclusion, it is without any hesitation that I fully endorse Mrs. Thomas for the position of Circuit Judge. I am confident that her legal expertise, sincerity and commitment to justice will further ensure the integrity of the judiciary if she is appointed as Circuit Judge. If you have any further questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at jhager@defendyourcase.com or (386) 313-8350.

Very truly yours,

John S. Hager, Esq.

JOHN S. HAGER, ESQ.

JSH/tle

Re: Letter of Recommendation

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Mon 1/22/2024 10:14 AM

To: Deal, Justin <DealJustin@DBPD.US>

received. thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Deal, Justin <DealJustin@DBPD.US>

Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 6:55 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Letter of Recommendation

Good Evening,

Please see the attached Letter of Recommendation for Sarah Thomas. Thank you for your time. Have a great weekend.

Detective Justin Deal

Daytona Beach Police Dept

Special Investigations Unit

(386) 671-5239 - Office

(386) 671-5447 - Main

<mailto:dealj@dbpd.us>

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public-records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing. If this email is related to the Board, Committee or Commission that you serve on, please DO NOT REPLY TO ALL.

January 19th 2024

Detective Justin Deal

Daytona Beach Police Department

Special Investigations Unit

129 Valor Boulevard, Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to recommend Assistant State Attorney Sarah Thomas for the position of Circuit Judge for the Seventh Judicial Circuit. I've had the honor of working closely on a daily basis with Sarah Thomas for the last six years. Sarah Thomas is one of the hardest working State Attorney's I've worked with in my nine-year law enforcement career with the Daytona Beach Police Department. Whenever I need something, Sarah Thomas is always there and has so much knowledge as an attorney.

Most recently, Sarah Thomas was the assigned State Attorney on a Human Trafficking case that I was a case agent on. In this specific case, Sarah Thomas spent numerous hours during work hours and off duty to assist law enforcement in this investigation. Due to Sarah Thomas's diligence, efficiency and knowledge, law enforcement was able to successfully obtain a guilty verdict on 12 felony charges and a life sentence was pronounced on Derick Jones Sr. The amount of assistance and guidance from Sarah Thomas on this complex investigation was completely unbelievable and the case wouldn't have been successful without her.

I strongly recommend Sarah Thomas for the position of Circuit Judge. Sarah Thomas is organized, detail oriented, effective and always striving to be the best she can be. Sarah Thomas would make a huge impact to this community as a Circuit Judge.

Thank you for your time and please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Detective Justin Deal

Daytona Beach Police Department, Special Investigations Unit

Re: Seventh Judicial Circuit Judge Recommendation

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Thu 1/11/2024 11:55 AM

To: Nugent, Kelsie <knugent@port-orange.org>

Received thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Nugent, Kelsie <knugent@port-orange.org>

Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 1:45 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Seventh Judicial Circuit Judge Recommendation

Please see attached letter of recommendation for the Seventh Judicial Circuit Judge position. Thank you.

Detective Kelsie Nugent

Special Investigations Unit | ICAC

Port Orange Police Department

4545 Clyde Morris Blvd.

Port Orange, Florida 32129

Desk: 386-506-5894

Fax: 386-756-5338

Email: knugent@port-orange.org



PORT ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

4545 CLYDE MORRIS BOULEVARD
PORT ORANGE, FLORIDA 32129
TELEPHONE (386) 506-5870
FAX (386) 756-5311
www.port-orange.org

Judicial Nominations Committee
Executive Office of Governor Ron DeSantis
400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
tmydock@mydocklaw.com

To the Judicial Nominating Commission,

It is with tremendous confidence and honor that I recommend Sarah Thomas for the open Seventh Judicial Circuit Judge position. I have worked alongside Sarah Thomas for five years in my capacity as a Law Enforcement Officer with the Port Orange Police Department. I can attest to Sarah's professionalism, integrity, and dedication to justice, especially pertaining to crimes against children and child exploitation.

Sarah Thomas is an exceptional attorney who has handled many complex and challenging cases with skill and expertise. She has a keen sense of the law and a strong ethical compass. She is always respectful of the rights and dignity of all parties involved, whether they are victims, witnesses, or defendants. She is fair, impartial, and compassionate in her decisions and actions. Sarah is supportive, approachable, and reliable, and has earned the trust and respect of her peers, supervisors, and clients.

I believe Sarah Thomas would make an excellent Judge for the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida. Sarah has the qualifications, the experience, and the temperament to serve in this honorable and important role. She would uphold the highest standards of the judiciary and the law, and would contribute to the improvement of our legal system.

I strongly endorse Sarah Thomas' candidacy and urge you to consider her favorably. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Detective Kelsie Nugent
Special Investigations Unit | Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force
Port Orange Police Department
4545 Clyde Morris Blvd.
Port Orange, Florida 32129
Phone: 386-506-5894
Email: knugent@port-orange.org

Re: Sarah Thomas Recommendation Letter

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Fri 1/12/2024 12:17 PM

To: Connelly, Kevin <ConnellyK@sao7.org>

Received thank you.

Sincerely,

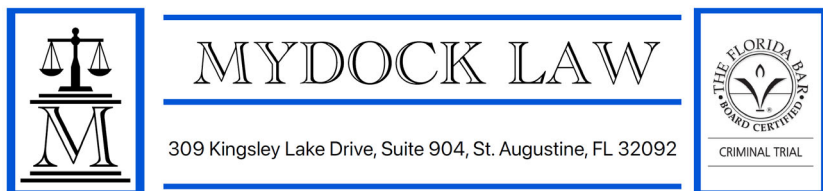
TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



From: Connelly, Kevin <ConnellyK@sao7.org>

Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 8:31 AM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Sarah Thomas Recommendation Letter

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to personally recommend Sarah Thomas for an appointment as a judge.

During my time as a Detective Sergeant at Daytona Beach Police Department I worked closely with Sarah on a variety of cases . I have been consistently impressed by her unwavering dedication and exceptional work ethic. Her attention to detail and analytical prowess are unmatched. Sarah possesses a rare ability to approach complex cases with a level-headed and fair perspective, allowing her to make well-informed decisions.

Sarah's integrity and professionalism are beyond reproach. She consistently demonstrates empathy, compassion, and a deep understanding of law, making her one of the finest attorneys I know and an ideal candidate for a judicial role.

I have had the privilege of observing Sarah's interactions with colleagues, lawyers, judges and victims alike. Her strong communication skills and approachable demeanor make her an effective collaborator and an excellent listener. Sarah always strives to find common ground and ensure that victims are heard.

I firmly believe that Sarah's experience and expertise make her an exceptional candidate for a judicial appointment. I have no doubt that she will execute her duties with utmost diligence, upholding the principles of justice and fairness.

Thank you for considering my recommendation. If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Kevin Connelly

State Attorney Investigator
Office of the State Attorney, R.J. Larizza
251 North Ridgewood Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
386-239-7811 (Office)
386-239-7716 (Fax)
E-mail: Connellyk@sao7.org



LEGAL NOTIFICATION: Florida Sunshine Statutes entail very broad public records requirements (F. S. 119). As required by law, all e-mails to and from the State Attorney's Office of Circuit 7 are kept as a public record. Your e-mail communications, including your e-mail address may be disclosed to the public and media at any time. If you have received this communication in error, do not distribute it. Please notify the sender immediately by electronic mail and delete this message.

Sarah Thomas Recommendation Letter

Connelly, Kevin <ConnellyK@sao7.org>

Fri 1/12/2024 8:31 AM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to personally recommend Sarah Thomas for an appointment as a judge.

During my time as a Detective Sergeant at Daytona Beach Police Department I worked closely with Sarah on a variety of cases. I have been consistently impressed by her unwavering dedication and exceptional work ethic. Her attention to detail and analytical prowess are unmatched. Sarah possesses a rare ability to approach complex cases with a level-headed and fair perspective, allowing her to make well-informed decisions.

Sarah's integrity and professionalism are beyond reproach. She consistently demonstrates empathy, compassion, and a deep understanding of law, making her one of the finest attorneys I know and an ideal candidate for a judicial role.

I have had the privilege of observing Sarah's interactions with colleagues, lawyers, judges and victims alike. Her strong communication skills and approachable demeanor make her an effective collaborator and an excellent listener. Sarah always strives to find common ground and ensure that victims are heard.

I firmly believe that Sarah's experience and expertise make her an exceptional candidate for a judicial appointment. I have no doubt that she will execute her duties with utmost diligence, upholding the principles of justice and fairness.

Thank you for considering my recommendation. If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Kevin Connelly

State Attorney Investigator

Office of the State Attorney, R.J. Larizza

251 North Ridgewood Avenue

Daytona Beach, FL 32114

386-239-7811 (Office)

386-239-7716 (Fax)

E-mail: Connellyk@sao7.org



LEGAL NOTIFICATION: Florida Sunshine Statutes entail very broad public records requirements (F. S. 119). As required by law, all e-mails to and from the State Attorney's Office of Circuit 7 are kept as a public record. Your e-mail communications, including your e-mail address may be disclosed to the public and media at any time. If you have received this communication in error, do not distribute it. Please notify the sender immediately by electronic mail and delete this message.

Re: Judicial Candidate Sarah Thomas - Letter of Recommendation

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Tue 1/23/2024 3:46 PM

To: Lauren Harbuck <Lauren.Harbuck@bbrown.com>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Lauren Harbuck <Lauren.Harbuck@bbrown.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 2:14 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Judicial Candidate Sarah Thomas - Letter of Recommendation

Please find the attached letter in support of judicial candidate, Sarah Thomas.

Thank you,

Lauren Storms Harbuck, GBDS

Employee Benefits Specialist

Lauren.Harbuck@bbrown.com

O (386) 239-8822 | C (386) 589-3628

300 North Beach Street
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

BBrown.com | NYSE: BRO

 Brown & Brown





[Privacy Notice](#) | [Legal Notice](#)

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The information contained in this communication, including attachments, may contain privileged and confidential information that is intended only for the exclusive use of the addressee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us by telephone immediately.

PLEASE NOTE: Insurance cannot be bound, altered or cancelled via the email or voicemail system. Coverage confirmation must be communicated through a licensed Brown & Brown Representative.

When Brown & Brown has processed an add, termination or change of status on your behalf, please remember to check your carrier invoices to ensure that all requested adds, terminations & changes were processed correctly.

Lauren Harbuck
300 N. Beach Street
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

January 22, 2024

Judicial Nomination Committee
c/o Chairman
101 N. Alabama Avenue
DeLand, FL 32724

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Sarah Thomas, Esq.

Dear Chairman and Judicial Nomination Committee,

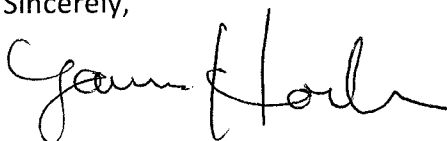
I am writing to you in support of Sarah Thomas for the position of Circuit Judge.

I have known Sarah for over a year and during that time period, I have come to have the utmost respect for her both personally and professionally. After meeting and getting to know Sarah, it is obvious to see her level of intelligence, charisma and commitment to following the law and finding justice in every situation. A judge is someone who should be diligent, thoughtful and attentive. Sarah is all of these things and more. I have no doubt she will demand professionalism, civility and courteousness in the courtroom.

Sarah has an impressive commitment to exceeding the standards of the law as an Assistant State Attorney as well as an unmatched level of commitment to her family and community. It has been a pleasure to get to know her and know her vested interest in our community will be paramount to her future successes.

As a local professional, I would be proud to see her appointed to the position of Circuit Judge. Sarah's combination of character and intellect suit her for this position perfectly. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (386) 589-3628.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren Harbuck", written in a cursive style.

Lauren Harbuck

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Sarah Thomas for Circuit Court Judge Position

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Mon 1/22/2024 10:18 AM

To: Matt Kent <mkent@q-pac.com>

received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Matt Kent <mkent@q-pac.com>

Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 2:14 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Sarah Thomas for Circuit Court Judge Position

Hello,

I would like to recommend Sarah Thomas for the Circuit Court Judge position in the 7th District. Please find my recommendation letter attached.

Thank you,

Matt Kent

CEO

904-669-2680 | www.q-pac.com | mkent@q-pac.com

4010 Deerpark Blvd Elkton, FL 32033



 **Drink with the fish and the Q-PAC team at our AHR Happy Hour in the Shedd Aquarium on January 22nd!** RSVP Here!

Matt Kent
CEO
Q-PAC Systems, Inc.
4010 Deerpark Blvd.
Elkton, FL, 32033

January 19th, 2024
Letter of Recommendation for Sarah Thomas for Circuit Court Judge Position

Dear Members of the Judicial Nominating Committee,

As a native of St. Augustine, FL, I am writing to express my sincere support for Sarah Thomas as a highly qualified candidate for the position of Circuit Court Judge. She has a strong work ethic and an unwavering commitment to upholding the principles of justice.

I am confident that Sarah possesses the qualities necessary to serve as an impartial, fair, and compassionate circuit court judge. Her dedication to maintaining the highest standards of ethical conduct makes her an ideal candidate for this position. I believe that she will contribute significantly to the enhancement of our local judicial system and community.

At Q-PAC, we hold annual fundraisers to support local community initiatives, and Sarah has contributed to our effort. She passionately nominated Women Assisting Recovering Mothers (WARM), a long-term residential treatment facility for women facing drug and/or alcohol dependence, including those who are pregnant or post-partum. Her involvement and commitment to local initiatives is making a positive impact beyond her legal duties.

I am available to provide any additional information or answer any questions the committee may have regarding her qualifications. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Kent
mkent@q-pac.com
904.669.2680

Re: Recommendation Letter

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Wed 1/10/2024 8:54 AM

To: Smith, Matthew <SmithMatthew@DBPD.US>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Smith, Matthew <SmithMatthew@DBPD.US>

Sent: Tuesday, January 9, 2024 3:11 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Recommendation Letter

Please humbly accept this letter of recommendation.

Thank you,

Detective Matthew Smith

Advanced Technology and Cyber Crimes

Internet Crimes Against Children

UAS Aviation Unit

CFCE, BCFE, CCO, CCPA

Daytona Beach Police Department

129 Valor Blvd

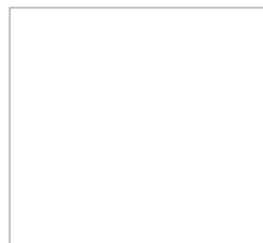
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

386-671-5231

smithm@dbpd.us



cid:image001.png@01D58B16.1F302D10



“Our greatest glory is not ever falling, but in rising every time we fall”
-Batman

Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records. If you do not want your e-mail address released in response to a public-records request, do not send electronic mail to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing. If this email is related to the Board, Committee or Commission that you serve on, please DO NOT REPLY TO ALL.

Letter of Recommendation

Judicial Nominating Committee

Subject: Recommendation for Assistant State Attorney Sarah Thomas for Circuit Judge

Dear Judicial Nominating Committee,

I am writing this letter to wholeheartedly recommend Assistant State Attorney Sarah Thomas for the position of Circuit Judge. I have had the privilege of working closely with ASA Thomas for 6 years in her capacity as Assistant State Attorney, and during this time, she has consistently demonstrated exceptional qualities that make her an ideal candidate for a judgeship.

ASA Thomas is not only an excellent legal professional but also an individual who is remarkably easy to work with. Her approachable nature, coupled with her outstanding interpersonal skills, fosters a collaborative and positive working environment. She has the ability to engage with colleagues, legal professionals, and the public with a high degree of professionalism and empathy.

One of ASA Thomas's most admirable qualities is her unwavering commitment to truthfulness and reliability. Her dedication to upholding the highest standards of integrity is evident in all aspects of her work. Colleagues and superiors alike trust her implicitly, knowing that she consistently operates with honesty and transparency.

ASA Thomas's depth of knowledge in the field of law is truly impressive. Her legal acumen, combined with a thorough understanding of relevant statutes and case law, has consistently resulted in well-reasoned and legally sound decisions. She has a remarkable ability to grasp complex legal issues and distill them into clear and concise arguments, making her an invaluable asset to any legal team.

ASA Thomas is widely recognized as a go-to person for advice on legal matters. Colleagues frequently seek her counsel, and she is always willing to share her expertise and insights. Her willingness to mentor and guide others reflects not only her deep understanding of the law but also her commitment to the professional development of her peers.

Organized and meticulous in her approach, ASA Thomas consistently demonstrates an exceptional ability to manage her caseload effectively. She navigates through complex legal matters with ease, ensuring that all relevant details are thoroughly addressed. Her organizational skills contribute to the efficient functioning of the legal system, and her colleagues often look to her as a model of effective case management.

In addition to her legal prowess, ASA Thomas is known for her commitment to fairness in her casework. She approaches each case with impartiality and a dedication to ensuring that justice is served. Her reputation for fairness has earned her the respect and trust of both legal professionals and members of the community.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly recommend Assistant State Attorney Sarah Thomas for the position of Circuit Judge. Her easy-going nature, truthfulness, reliability, depth of knowledge, willingness to offer guidance, organizational skills, and commitment to fairness make her an outstanding candidate. I am confident that Sarah will bring exceptional qualities to the bench and contribute significantly to the administration of justice in our community. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information or clarification regarding my recommendation.

Best regards,

Matthew Smith

Det. Matthew Smith

**Advanced Technology and Cybercrime Unit/Internet Crimes Against Children
Daytona Beach Police Department**



129 Valor Blvd, DB, FL.



386-671-5231



smithmatthew@dbpd.us

Re: Letter from Sheriff Chitwood

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Tue 1/16/2024 5:10 PM

To: Karen Glaesel <KGlaesel@volusiasheriff.gov>

Received thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Karen Glaesel <KGlaesel@volusiasheriff.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 4:50 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Letter from Sheriff Chitwood

Hello!

I am attaching a letter of support from Sheriff Michael J. Chitwood, for Sarah Thomas for Circuit Judge in the 7th Circuit. Thank you so much and have a wonderful day!!

Karen Glaesel

Administrative Assistant to Sheriff Michael J. Chitwood

Volusia Sheriff's Office

P.O. Box 569

DeLand, FL 32721

Phone 386-736-5988

kglaesel@volusiasheriff.gov

CONFIDENTIALITY: The information transmitted, including attachments, is intended only for the person(s) or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient(s) is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and destroy any copies of this information.

Sheriff

MICHAEL J. CHITWOOD

OFFICE
(386) 736-5961



VOLUSIA SHERIFF'S OFFICE

123 WEST INDIANA AVE • P.O. BOX 569 • DELAND, FLORIDA 32721-0569
(386) 822-5074 (FAX) • WWW.VOLUSIASHERIFF.GOV

January 16, 2024

To the Chair Mydock and The Judicial Nominating Committee,

I am writing in support of Sarah Thomas being the next Circuit Judge in the 7th Circuit. I have had the pleasure of working with Sarah for roughly 8 years. While Sarah has prosecuted hundreds of cases in Volusia County, I personally got the chance to work closely with Sarah when Mr. Larizza assigned her a case where I was the victim. I quickly understood why my agency relies on and enjoys working alongside her. She is truly a go-to person for my deputies. Sarah called me early in the case and remained in contact with me for every step of the process. She followed up with me often until we reached a favorable outcome for all involved. Sarah made certain that I felt comfortable with the resolution in the case while also remaining fair and impartial. I was able to see first hand her work ethic, professionalism, and demeanor that my deputies and administration have all praised. All of which I think makes her an exceptional candidate for the bench.

Sarah and I worked closely together on a nationally publicized media case, *State v. Nicole Jackson*. A 14-year-old female shot at deputies after breaking into a house in Deltona. This case was a very litigious case. One which required Ms. Thomas to file countless motions, hearings, and have many meetings with my deputies. Through the course of this case the VSO developed an even closer relationship with Sarah due to the criticism and backlash that both endured from those trying to find the SAO or the VSO at fault. Sarah remained professional, yet firm when it came to negotiations and the ultimate resolution of the case. This case was also highly televised. Sarah demonstrated maturity beyond her years in the manner in which she conducted herself in the courtroom. It is clear she is comfortable in the courtroom and working with the citizens of Volusia County.

It was apparent, from the onset that Ms. Thomas has a deep respect for law enforcement and our judiciary. Sarah has given her time to my agency assisting in training and agreeing to speak to new officers on various topics whenever asked. Sarah possesses exceptional legal skills as well as the unique ability to foster true relationships with her victims, witnesses, and law enforcement on her cases. It is critical prosecutors can make the right decisions for the right reasons. I am aware of Sarah's unique background in law enforcement and I think it makes her all the more qualified to serve the citizens of Volusia County. It would be amazing to have Sarah on the bench.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Chitwood
Sheriff

MJC:kg/040L0013.24

Re: Recommendation Letter - JNC Judicial Candidate Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Thu 1/18/2024 3:57 PM

To: Martino, Nicholas E. <Nicholas.Martino@fscj.edu>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Martino, Nicholas E. <Nicholas.Martino@fscj.edu>

Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2024 3:37 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Recommendation Letter - JNC Judicial Candidate Sarah Thomas

Good afternoon:

Please accept this letter of recommendation for JNC Judicial Candidate Sarah Thomas. Please let me know if you have any issue with the file.

Thank you,

Nicholas Martino, J.D., LL.M.

Professor of Legal Studies

Florida State College at Jacksonville

3939 Roosevelt Blvd.

Jacksonville, FL 32205

Phone: 904-381-3602

Nicholas.Martino@fscj.edu

January 18, 2024

Judicial Nominating Commission:

This letter is to offer my highest recommendation for Sarah Thomas as an attorney and a person. I have known Mrs. Thomas for more than a decade as a student, advocate, attorney, and legal colleague. My time working with Mrs. Thomas as a student in law school was where I first recognized her immense talent. She was not only one of the most successful advocacy students I ever saw but was a leader amongst her peers, helping them to improve and experience success as well. Following her time as one of the best and most awarded student advocates in law school, she then turned her attention to a life of public service as a prosecutor.

There is no doubt that she could have had her choice of numerous associate positions, but she was always dedicated to serving her community. During her career she has taken the same traits that she exhibited in law school and used them to become an exceptional prosecutor. She has taken every opportunity to learn, refine her skills, and has the courtroom record to prove it. As Mrs. Thomas looks to take another step in her career of public service it is important to understand the character of your applicant. I am nearly twenty years into my legal career and have enough varied experience to know that the person that wears the robe is as important as their rulings. Every attorney knows the feeling of having a judge assigned to a case that we dread. Having a judge that is respected, professional, and also attorneys want to appear in front of regardless of how a case turns out is crucial to our profession. She is that candidate and would be a judge that would honor the robe intellectually, professionally, and with support from all of those that appear before her.

A letter never allows for a complete understanding of its subject, so I would be happy to discuss Mrs. Thomas in more detail by phone at (904) 616-2920.

Sincerely,



Professor Nick Martino, J.D., LL.M.

Seventh Circuit Judicial Applicant Sarah Thomas

Olivia Bergert <olivia@monroelaw.com>

Mon 1/22/2024 12:20 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Good morning Judicial Nominating Committee and Chair,

I am emailing on behalf of Seventh Circuit Judicial Applicant Sarah Thomas.

I started working at the Seventh Circuit State Attorney's Office in Volusia County straight out of law school. I had the honor and privilege of working with Sarah while in that Office. Sarah took me under her wing when I was in misdemeanor. My first interaction with her was when I was in the middle of a Domestic Battery trial – I couldn't get anyone on the phone to help me, my supervisor was tied up and he told me to call Sarah. At the time, Sarah was in the Career Criminal Unit and the head/supervisor of her courtroom – I look back now and can only imagine how busy she was at the time she took my call – but Sarah talked me through my trial, answered all my questions, and gave me the confidence to walk back in the courtroom and continue fighting for my victim. I called her several more times during that trial and she never made me feel like I was a bother and never made me feel like my trial was less important just because it was a silly misdemeanor.

Not too long after that I was promoted to felony, where Sarah ended up being my supervisor. Although I didn't end up staying in the Volusia office too long, in the short time that I spent with her I can tell you a few valuable things I learned – she is one heck of an attorney. I was in awe of her ability to craft arguments and persuade juries. But other than her courtroom abilities, I learned that even in the office she was kind, hardworking, and always took the time to check on me and go over my cases. I can vividly remember Sarah in the middle of very serious depositions or in the middle of trial prep, but that never stopped her from setting her work aside to hear me out on a case or help me put together an offer for arraignment. Sarah probably doesn't even realize the effect she had on me as a young female lawyer, but to this day I still think back to when we first met. I used to watch her in trial and think "I want to be just like her." She's someone that I looked up to and only hoped that one day I would be half the lawyer she is. She embodies everything that one would hope to see, not only in an incredible trial lawyer, but also in a Judge.

While I no longer work for the Seventh Circuit State Attorney's Office, Sarah and I still stay in touch, and I can without a doubt say, that I cannot imagine a better Judicial Candidate than her.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email and if you have any questions, please let me know!

Olivia Bergert, Esq.

Attorney



Monroe Law, P.A. – Attorneys At Law

1000 Riverside Avenue, Suite 301

Jacksonville, Florida 32204

Office: (904) 569-0088

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Re: Seventh Circuit Judicial Applicant Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Mon 1/22/2024 12:24 PM

To: Olivia Bergert <olivia@monroelaw.com>

Received. Thank you

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Olivia Bergert <olivia@monroelaw.com>

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 12:20 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Seventh Circuit Judicial Applicant Sarah Thomas

Good morning Judicial Nominating Committee and Chair,

I am emailing on behalf of Seventh Circuit Judicial Applicant Sarah Thomas.

I started working at the Seventh Circuit State Attorney's Office in Volusia County straight out of law school. I had the honor and privilege of working with Sarah while in that Office. Sarah took me under her wing when I was in misdemeanor. My first interaction with her was when I was in the middle of a Domestic Battery trial – I couldn't get anyone on the phone to help me, my supervisor was tied up and he told me to call Sarah. At the time, Sarah was in the Career Criminal Unit and the head/supervisor of her courtroom – I look back now and can only imagine how busy she was at the time she took my call – but Sarah talked me through my trial, answered all my questions, and gave me the confidence to walk back in the courtroom and continue fighting for my victim. I called her several more times during that trial and she never made me feel like I was a bother and never made me feel like my trial was less important just because it was a silly misdemeanor.

Not too long after that I was promoted to felony, where Sarah ended up being my supervisor. Although I didn't end up staying in the Volusia office too long, in the short time that I spent with her I can tell you a few valuable things I learned – she is one heck of an attorney. I was in awe of her ability to craft arguments and persuade juries. But other than her courtroom abilities, I learned that even in the office she was kind, hardworking, and always took the time to check on me and go over my cases. I can vividly remember Sarah in the middle of very serious depositions or in the middle of trial prep, but that never stopped her from setting her work aside to hear me out on a case or help me put together an offer for arraignment. Sarah probably doesn't even realize the effect she had on me as a young female lawyer, but to this day I still think back to when we first met. I used to watch her in trial and think "I want to be just like her." She's someone that I looked up to and only hoped that one day I would be half the lawyer she is. She embodies everything that one would hope to see, not only in an incredible trial lawyer, but also in a Judge.

While I no longer work for the Seventh Circuit State Attorney's Office, Sarah and I still stay in touch, and I can without a doubt say, that I cannot imagine a better Judicial Candidate than her.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email and if you have any questions, please let me know!

Olivia Bergert, Esq.
Attorney



Monroe Law, P.A. – Attorneys At Law

1000 Riverside Avenue, Suite 301

Jacksonville, Florida 32204

Office: (904) 569-0088

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Mon 1/22/2024 10:12 AM

To: Roger W. Strcula <rwstrcula@uphaminc.com>

received thank you

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Roger W. Strcula <rwstrcula@uphaminc.com>

Sent: Sunday, January 21, 2024 2:08 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Sarah Thomas

Please find my personal letter of recommendation on behalf of Ms. Sarah Thomas for the appointment of Circuit Court Judge.



Roger W. Strcula, PE, CPESC | President

265 Kenilworth Ave. | Ormond Beach, FL 32174

O: 386.672.9515 X 203 | C: 386.299.2462

W: uphaminc.com | E: rwstrcula@uphaminc.com

Enhancing the Community for Over 50 Years!





January 19, 2024

Letter of Recommendation
Sarah Thomas for Circuit Court Judge

Chairperson of the Judicial Nominating Committee:

Please accept this letter in support of Ms. Thomas regarding the appointment of Circuit Court Judge. My support for Ms. Thomas is from personal knowledge of her outside of the legal community and court but through social interaction.

I have known Ms. Thomas for over a year and during that time from numerous conversations have found her to be a sincere and trustworthy person regarding the well-being of individuals. She has proven to me many times in our conversations of her balanced commitment to both family and career. Many friends of mine are either current or retired Judges with high regard. In my opinion, the appointment of Ms. Thomas will place her within the same circle of peers.

I strongly recommend the appointment of Ms. Thomas for Circuit Court Judge. She has the integrity to serve in this highly respected position as Judge in our judicial system.

Respectively submitted:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roger W Strcula". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Roger W. Strcula, PE, CPESC
President

Re: Rec letter

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Tue 1/16/2024 9:15 AM

To:sarah thomas <sarelizthomas@gmail.com>

received thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: sarah thomas <sarelizthomas@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, January 15, 2024 8:02 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Rec letter

Sent from my iPhone



2500 SOUTH NOVA ROAD, DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32119

PHONE: 386-761-2251

Monday, January 15, 2024

RE: Sarah E. Thomas, Assistant State Attorney

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I am Rose Ann Tornatore. I own Wholesale Lighting, Inc in Daytona Beach, FL. I am writing this letter giving my support and reference for you to consider Sarah E. Thomas to be the next Circuit Court Judge for the 7th Circuit.

I had the privilege of meeting Sarah roughly 8 months ago. She was the prosecutor on a Human Trafficking case that I read about in the News Journal and contacted the State Attorney's office. I was very impressed with the way Sarah handled herself in Court and find her to be wise beyond her years. Other than her amazing work on this case, I got t know Sarah a little better over the next few months while I was assisting with helping the victim on the case receive medical treatment and transportation to and from Jacksonville. Even after the close of the case Sarah kept in touch with me checking on the victim and her status. I can tell Sarah truly cares about the people she sees from day to day.

I also see Sarah at functions throughout the community. Most recently I attended the North East Florida Crime Stoppers Banquet where I was pleased to find Sarah is a member of the Executive Board. It is nice to see her outside of work and to get to know her on a personal level. It is always nice to see public servants giving their time to other aspects of our community other than their field of practice.

As a business owner here in our community is it important that we have officials who care about our citizens and the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rose Ann Tornatore". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rose Ann Tornatore, President

Wholesale Lighting, Inc.

Re: Seventh Judicial Circuit Appointment - Letter in Support of Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Fri 1/12/2024 12:18 PM

To: Sarah Morris <Sarah.Morris@rc1.myflorida.com>

Received thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Sarah Morris <Sarah.Morris@rc1.myflorida.com>

Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 8:15 AM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Seventh Judicial Circuit Appointment - Letter in Support of Sarah Thomas

Good morning, Travis,

Please accept this letter in support of candidate Sarah Thomas. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this recommendation further.

Sincerely,

Sarah Morris

Director of Operations - Jacksonville Office

Assistant Regional Counsel

Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel, First Region

One West Adams Street, Suite 200

Jacksonville, FL 32202

Phone: (904) 301-1112

Fax: (904) 301-1120

sarah.morris@rc1.myflorida.com



GOVERNOR

Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division
Board of Governors

Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel - First District, Florida

Confidentiality Notice: This message and any attachments are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure, or distribution is prohibited and you should immediately contact the sender if you have received this in error. Any non-privileged correspondence to or from me via email may be subject to public disclosure under Florida's public records laws.



STATE OF FLORIDA
OFFICE OF CRIMINAL CONFLICT & CIVIL REGIONAL COUNSEL
FIRST REGION



CANDICE K. BROWER
REGIONAL COUNSEL

January 12, 2024

Via Electronic Mail

Travis Mydock, Chairman
Seventh Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission
Email: Tmydock@mydocklaw.com

Re: Seventh Judicial Circuit Appointment – In Support of Sarah Thomas

Dear Mr. Mydock,

It is with great pleasure to send you this letter in support of Sarah Thomas for a judicial seat on the Seventh Circuit Bench. I have known Sarah since 2013 when we began our studies at Florida Coastal School of Law. I have spent many hours in Sarah's company and have come to know many of Sarah's fine qualities. Over the last ten years, Sarah has been, and continues to be dependable, responsible, honest, courteous and a loyal friend. Sarah is an enthusiastic and helpful individual who displays a strong moral character. During law school, Sarah dedicated herself to her studies through countless hours of hard work and preparation. I can personally attest to Sarah's extraordinary work ethic and her determination to achieve her goals.

Sarah knew from early on that her heart's calling was to become a prosecutor and serve the people of The State of Florida. Since law school graduation in 2015, she has passionately and tirelessly served the people of Volusia County in that capacity. I am certain that if Sarah were given the opportunity to become a member of the judiciary, she would show the same, if not a greater level, of dedication and perseverance to our legal profession. Sarah is a hard working individual who is committed to making her goals a reality. Sarah is an intelligent, capable, dedicated, and personable individual.

Sarah is committed to using her vast experience serving the people of the State of Florida as a prosecutor in serving the community as a Judge in the Seventh Judicial Circuit. Sarah is committed to using the experience and knowledge that she has gained during her legal career to serve as a leader, role model, and mentor in the community. Further, Sarah has the skillset, experience, and demeanor to make an exceptional and well-balanced Judge.

It is with great honor that I recommend Sarah for appointment as a Judge in the Seventh Judicial Circuit. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this recommendation further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'SM', is positioned above the typed name.

Sarah Morris, Esq.
Director of Operations – Jacksonville Office
Assistant Regional Counsel
Office of Criminal Conflict & Civil Regional Counsel
1 W. Adams Street, Suite 200
Jacksonville, Florida, 32202
Cell: [REDACTED]
Office: (904) 301-1112

Re: Juridical Nomination - Sarah Thomas

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Mon 1/22/2024 10:14 AM

To: Scott Lee <scott_lee2011@me.com>

Received. Thank you

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Scott Lee <scott_lee2011@me.com>

Sent: Saturday, January 20, 2024 6:41 AM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Juridical Nomination - Sarah Thomas

To the Members of the Juridical Nominating Committee,

I am writing to wholeheartedly recommend Attorney Sarah Thomas for the position of Circuit Court Judge. Having worked closely with Sarah for many years, I have had the privilege of witnessing her exceptional legal acumen, her unwavering commitment to justice, and her profound impact on our community, particularly through our collaboration in the Problem-Oriented Policing Unit. As a Police Captain with the Daytona Beach Police Department, I formed a Special Unit designed to address more complex problems with our community with overall goal of improving the quality of life of our residents. This units success was largely due to our relationship with the State Attorney's Office and Sarah Thomas in particular.

Honor: Sarah's career as an attorney is a testament to the honor of the legal profession. She has consistently demonstrated an unflinching commitment to the law, its learning, and its ethical application. Sarah's understanding of the law is not just academic; it is deeply practical and rooted in a firm belief in accountability. Whether it's holding criminals accountable or ensuring law enforcement operates within the bounds of legality, Sarah's work reflects the highest ideals of justice and fairness. Her involvement in the Problem-Oriented Policing Unit was pivotal. She ensured that our efforts were not only effective but also legally sound and just.

Teamwork: In the midst of our work, teamwork was essential, and Sarah was a linchpin in this collaborative effort. Her ability to work harmoniously with diverse teams, offering her expertise and support, greatly contributed to the success of the Problem-Oriented Policing Unit. Her involvement was

not peripheral; she was deeply engaged, understanding the nuances of our operations and providing invaluable insights that shaped our strategies. This ability to work as part of a team, to listen, and to contribute constructively is a quality that will undoubtedly make her an excellent judge.

Courage: The final, and perhaps most compelling, aspect of Sarah's character is her courage. In my experience, Sarah has never shied away from challenging cases or complex legal issues. Her bravery is most evident when she is willing to tell us, as law enforcement officers, hard truths – whether it's about the insufficiency of evidence in a case or the need for additional investigation to build a stronger argument. Her courage extends beyond the courtroom; she fearlessly embraces innovative approaches and out-of-the-box thinking to ensure justice is served. This courage, combined with her legal expertise, makes her uniquely qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

In conclusion, Sarah Thomas embodies the qualities essential in a fair, just, and effective judge: honor, teamwork, and courage. Her appointment to the Circuit Court would not only be a fitting progression of her distinguished career but also a significant benefit to the justice system and our community. I am confident that she will excel in this role and continue to serve the public with the same dedication and integrity that has defined her career thus far.

Thank you for considering my recommendation.

Sincerely,

Scott William Lee
Police Captain, Retired
Daytona Beach Police Department
[REDACTED]

Juridical Nomination - Sarah Thomas

Scott Lee <scott_lee2011@me.com>

Sat 1/20/2024 6:41 AM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

To the Members of the Juridical Nominating Committee,

I am writing to wholeheartedly recommend Attorney Sarah Thomas for the position of Circuit Court Judge. Having worked closely with Sarah for many years, I have had the privilege of witnessing her exceptional legal acumen, her unwavering commitment to justice, and her profound impact on our community, particularly through our collaboration in the Problem-Oriented Policing Unit. As a Police Captain with the Daytona Beach Police Department, I formed a Special Unit designed to address more complex problems with our community with overall goal of improving the quality of life of our residents. This unit's success was largely due to our relationship with the State Attorney's Office and Sarah Thomas in particular.

Honor: Sarah's career as an attorney is a testament to the honor of the legal profession. She has consistently demonstrated an unflinching commitment to the law, its learning, and its ethical application. Sarah's understanding of the law is not just academic; it is deeply practical and rooted in a firm belief in accountability. Whether it's holding criminals accountable or ensuring law enforcement operates within the bounds of legality, Sarah's work reflects the highest ideals of justice and fairness. Her involvement in the Problem-Oriented Policing Unit was pivotal. She ensured that our efforts were not only effective but also legally sound and just.

Teamwork: In the midst of our work, teamwork was essential, and Sarah was a linchpin in this collaborative effort. Her ability to work harmoniously with diverse teams, offering her expertise and support, greatly contributed to the success of the Problem-Oriented Policing Unit. Her involvement was not peripheral; she was deeply engaged, understanding the nuances of our operations and providing invaluable insights that shaped our strategies. This ability to work as part of a team, to listen, and to contribute constructively is a quality that will undoubtedly make her an excellent judge.

Courage: The final, and perhaps most compelling, aspect of Sarah's character is her courage. In my experience, Sarah has never shied away from challenging cases or complex legal issues. Her bravery is most evident when she is willing to tell us, as law enforcement officers, hard truths – whether it's about the insufficiency of evidence in a case or the need for additional investigation to build a stronger argument. Her courage extends beyond the courtroom; she fearlessly embraces innovative approaches and out-of-the-box thinking to ensure justice is served. This courage, combined with her legal expertise, makes her uniquely qualified to serve as a Circuit Court Judge.

In conclusion, Sarah Thomas embodies the qualities essential in a fair, just, and effective judge: honor, teamwork, and courage. Her appointment to the Circuit Court would not only be a fitting progression of her distinguished career but also a significant benefit to the justice system and our community. I am confident that she will excel in this role and continue to serve the public with the same dedication and integrity that has defined her career thus far.

Thank you for considering my recommendation.

Sincerely,

Scott William Lee

Police Captain, Retired
Daytona Beach Police Department



Re: Letter of Support Sarah Thomas - 7th Judicial Circuit Cir. Ct. Judge -

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Wed 1/17/2024 8:20 AM

To: Spencer, Sterling S., LCDR, NAVWARCOL <Sterling.Spencer@usnwc.edu>

Cc: sterling.s.spencer.mil@us.navy.mil <sterling.s.spencer.mil@us.navy.mil>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Spencer, Sterling S., LCDR, NAVWARCOL <Sterling.Spencer@usnwc.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 10:05 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Cc: sterling.s.spencer.mil@us.navy.mil <sterling.s.spencer.mil@us.navy.mil>

Subject: Letter of Support Sarah Thomas - 7th Judicial Circuit Cir. Ct. Judge -

To whom it may concern,

Attached please find my letter of support for Ms. Sarah Thomas to serve as a Circuit Court Judge in the 7th Judicial Circuit. Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

Sterling S. Spencer

LCDR, JAGC, USN

U.S. Naval War College

CNCS Student

sterling.spencer@usnwc.edu

Attn: Judicial Nominating Commission
The Florida Bar
651 E. Jefferson St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-2300

16 January 2024

Dear Chairperson and Judicial Nominating Committee,

It is an honor to write this letter of support on behalf of Ms. Sarah Thomas for Circuit Court Judge in the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida. I have known Sarah and her family for over a decade. We became friends in our first year of law school and I owe much of my law school success to her influence. Although we practice in different fields of law today, she is still one of the first people I would call for advice on a tough matter. Sarah is a natural leader of high integrity with sharp legal acumen, patience and courage. She is the absolute perfect candidate for Circuit Court Judge and has my highest recommendation.

I currently serve as a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Navy, Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAGC), and I write this letter in my personal capacity. I have lived all over the world practicing with and against excellent attorneys. Some highlights include serving as a federal prosecutor with cases spanning Europe, Africa and central Asia; Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Hawaii; and most recently serving as the lead attorney (Staff Judge Advocate) to the Commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. Currently I am focusing in National Security Law and working on a masters at the U.S. Naval War College, with a specialization in ethics and emerging military technologies. I highlight these positions because I have encountered a plethora of incredible attorneys, military judges, and military officers. With confidence I can say that Sarah is at the top of the list of those people.

Sarah inspired me to apply to the U.S. Navy JAGC and I firmly believe it was her influence during law school that made me a competitive candidate. I was highly motivated by Sarah's drive, can-do spirit, and community focus. As a result, I believed I could do it all, just as she did. While in law school she served as the president of Student Bar Association, was a top advocate in Moot Court and Mock Trial, all while interning, earning pro bono honors and most of all, prioritizing her family. Sarah is no different today. She is an active member of the local community, an experienced and successful prosecutor, and respected attorney. Of equal import is Sarah's character. I believe this also sets her apart from other candidates. The community of the Seventh Judicial Circuit would greatly benefit from Sarah's resolve, integrity, steady bearing and compassion.

It is a pleasure to write this letter in support of Sarah and she has my highest recommendation for Circuit Court Judge. Should you have any questions or would like to discuss this letter further, please do not hesitate to contact me at (904)-655-7605 or sterling.spencer@usnwc.edu. Thank you for your consideration.


Sterling S. Spencer

Re: Sarah Thomas recommendation

Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Wed 1/10/2024 8:52 AM

To:Nagy, Steven <snagy@port-orange.org>

Received. Thank you.

Sincerely,

TRAVIS DREW EDEN MYDOCK, B.C.S

Board-Certified Specialist in Criminal Trial Law

Florida Bar No. 077548

tmydock@mydocklaw.com

(904) 864-3002



MYDOCK LAW

309 Kingsley Lake Drive, Suite 904, St. Augustine, FL 32092



From: Nagy, Steven <snagy@port-orange.org>

Sent: Tuesday, January 9, 2024 3:55 PM

To: Travis Mydock <Tmydock@mydocklaw.com>

Subject: Sarah Thomas recommendation

Please see attached.

Detective Sergeant Steve Nagy

Criminal Investigations Division

Port Orange Police Department

4545 Clyde Morris Blvd

Port Orange, FL 32129

386-506-5892

StevenN@port-orange.org



PORT ORANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

4545 CLYDE MORRIS BOULEVARD
PORT ORANGE, FLORIDA 32129
TELEPHONE (386) 506-5870
FAX (386) 756-5311
www.port-orange.org

To the Chair and Honorable Members of the Florida Judicial Nominating Commission,

I am writing to strongly recommend Sarah Thomas for the position of Judge in the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida. I have had the pleasure of knowing Sarah Thomas for 5 years and have had the opportunity to work closely with her in the capacity as a Criminal Prosecutor.

During this time, I have witnessed Sarah Thomas consistently demonstrate the qualities that are essential for a successful judge. She possesses a thorough understanding of the law, a strong work ethic, and excellent communication skills. She also has a deep sense of integrity and a commitment to fairness and justice.

Sarah Thomas has shown exceptional legal expertise, evident in her handling of complex cases. She can analyze and interpret legal issues with precision, and her decisions are always well-reasoned and supported by sound legal principles. Her attention to detail and ability to consider all perspectives make her an excellent candidate for the role of judge.

Based on my experience working with Sarah Thomas, I have no doubt that she will excel in the role of judge. Sarah's dedication, expertise, and integrity make her an ideal candidate for this position. I am confident that she will serve the state of Florida with the utmost professionalism and will make a positive impact on the lives of those who come before her.

I wholeheartedly endorse Sarah Thomas for the Florida judgeship and strongly urge the commission to consider her application. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Detective Sergeant Steve Nagy
Criminal Investigations Division
Port Orange Police Department
4545 Clyde Morris Blvd
Port Orange, Fl 32129



ACCREDITED 1997

