

Elizabeth J. Starr



Biography of Elizabeth J. Starr

Born and raised in Queens, New York by immigrant parents from Sicily, Italy, Elizabeth Starr was no stranger to hard work. From mopping floors at Carvel Ice-cream shop, to packing meat in the freezer department at the local supermarket, she learned with hard work, she could go anywhere. In 1995, Ms. Starr graduated from Stony Brook University with a Double Major in Economics and Business Management and joined Donaldson Lufkin and Jenrette, a Manhattan investment firm, as a junior analyst. While she enjoyed her tenure at the investment firm, she felt called to public service early in her career.

In 1999, after receiving her juris doctorate from New York Law School, Elizabeth moved to Miami and became an Assistant State Attorney with the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office. As an added bonus, she also met her husband and fellow prosecutor, Monte Starr. As prosecutors, they were assigned to the same courtroom, and three years later, that judge married them. In 2003, Elizabeth and Monte moved to Orlando and, in 2010, they adopted two children, Miley and Jacob Starr. Jake and Miley are now nine years old and the Starr family live in Winter Garden, Florida.

While at the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office, Elizabeth tried to verdict over 35 jury trials, misdemeanor and life felonies. Following the Miami State Attorney's Office, Elizabeth served as a Senior Assistant General Counsel for the Department of Financial Services, where she litigated investment and securities fraud cases. While there, Elizabeth was cross-designated as an Assistant State Attorney for the Leon County State Attorney's Office to prosecute an investment fraud action.

From 2004 to 2015, Elizabeth served as the Bureau Chief for the Central Florida Region of the Florida Attorney General's Office, in charge of civil forfeitures and civil business fraud actions.

In 2015, Governor Scott appointed Elizabeth and, in 2016, she was reelected without opposition. From 2015 to 2018, Judge Starr was assigned to the Orange County Criminal Division where she presided over misdemeanor crimes, civil ordinances and traffic offenses. Judge Starr's current assignment is the Orange County Civil Division where she presides over small claims and civil matters.

**APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE
FIFTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL COURT**

(Please attach additional pages as needed to respond fully to questions.)

DATE: August 23, 2019 Florida Bar No.: 0187577

GENERAL: Social Security No.: [REDACTED]

1. Name Elizabeth Josephine Starr E-mail: Lizstarr9@gmail.com

Date Admitted to Practice in Florida: November 1999

Date Admitted to Practice in other States: N/A

2. State current employer and title, including professional position and any public or judicial office.

Florida Ninth Judicial Circuit, Orange County Court Judge

3. Business address: 425 North Orange Avenue

City Orlando County Orange State FL ZIP 32802

(407) 836-2245

Telephone Cell (407) 748-1688 FAX (407) 835-5296

4. Residential address: [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED] County Orange State FL ZIP [REDACTED]

Since 2015 Telephone (407) 748-1688

5. Place of birth: Queens, New York

Date of birth: [REDACTED] Age: 46

6a. Length of residence in State of Florida: Over twenty years

6b. Are you a registered voter? Yes No

If so, in what county are you registered? Orange

7. Marital status: Married

If married: Spouse's name Monte Starr

Date of marriage August 17, 2002

Spouse's occupation Attorney

If ever divorced give for each marriage name(s) of spouse(s), current address for each former spouse, date and place of divorce, court and case number for each divorce.

8. Children

<i>Name(s)</i>	<i>Age(s)</i>	<i>Occupation(s)</i>	<i>Residential address(es)</i>
██			same
██			same

9. Military Service (including Reserves)

<i>Service</i>	<i>Branch</i>	<i>Highest Rank</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Rank at time of discharge _____		Type of discharge _____	
Awards or citations _____			

HEALTH:

10. Are you currently addicted to or dependent upon the use of narcotics, drugs, or intoxicating beverages? If yes, state the details, including the date(s).

No.

11a. During the last ten years have you been hospitalized or have you consulted a professional or have you received treatment or a diagnosis from a professional for any of the following: Kleptomania, Pathological or Compulsive Gambling, Pedophilia, Exhibitionism or Voyeurism?

Yes No

If your answer is yes, please direct each such professional, hospital and other facility to furnish the Chairperson of the Commission any information the Commission may request with respect to any such hospitalization, consultation, treatment or diagnosis. ["Professional" includes a Physician, Psychiatrist, Psychologist, Psychotherapist or Mental Health Counselor.]

Please describe such treatment or diagnosis.

11b. In the past ten years have any of the following occurred to you which would interfere with your ability to work in a competent and professional manner?

- Experiencing periods of no sleep for 2 or 3 nights
- Experiencing periods of hyperactivity
- Spending money profusely with extremely poor judgment
- Suffered from extreme loss of appetite

- Issuing checks without sufficient funds
- Defaulting on a loan
- Experiencing frequent mood swings
- Uncontrollable tiredness
- Falling asleep without warning in the middle of an activity

Yes No

If yes, please explain.

12a. Do you currently have a physical or mental impairment which in any way limits your ability or fitness to properly exercise your duties as a member of the Judiciary in a competent and professional manner?

Yes No

12b. If your answer to the question above is Yes, are the limitations or impairments caused by your physical or mental health impairment reduced or ameliorated because you receive ongoing treatment (with or without medication) or participate in a monitoring or counseling program?

Yes No

Describe such problem and any treatment or program of monitoring or counseling.

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

No.

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

No.

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

No.

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

No.

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

No.

EDUCATION:

18a. Secondary schools, colleges and law schools attended.

<i>Schools</i>	<i>Class Standing</i>	<i>Dates of Attendance</i>	<i>Degree</i>
Stony Brook University	G.P.A. 3.2	1991-1995	B.S. Double Major, Economics and Business Management.
New York Law School	G.P.A. 3.1 Rank 27th percentile Ranked 111/411 students	1996-1999	J.D.

18b. List and describe academic scholarships earned, honor societies or other awards.

September 1, 1994. Xi Chapter of New York Omnicron Delta Epsilon, International Honor Society in Economics.

May 1995, Awarded for Exceptional Contribution to the Undergraduate Economic Program, Stony Brook University.

NON-LEGAL EMPLOYMENT:

19. List all previous full-time non-legal jobs or positions held since 21 in chronological order and briefly describe them.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Employer</i>	<i>Address</i>
1995-1997	Banking Assistant/Junior Analyst	Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette	277 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017

PROFESSIONAL ADMISSIONS:

20. List all courts (including state bar admissions) and administrative bodies having special admission requirements to which you have ever been admitted to practice, giving the dates of admission, and if applicable, state whether you have been suspended or resigned.

<i>Court or Administrative Body</i>	<i>Date of Admission</i>
Admitted to the Florida Bar	1999
U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida	2012

LAW PRACTICE: (If you are a sitting judge, answer questions 21 through 26 with reference to the years before you became a judge.)

21. State the names, dates and addresses for all firms with which you have been associated in practice, governmental agencies or private business organizations by which you have been employed, periods you have practiced as a sole practitioner, law clerkships and other prior employment:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name of Firm</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Bureau Chief	Office of the Attorney General, State of Florida	135 West Central Blvd, Ste. 670 Orlando, FL 32801	2004 - 2015
Senior Assistant General Counsel	Department of Financial Services, Office of Financial Regulations	400 W Robinson St Orlando, FL 32801	2003 - 2004
Assistant State Attorney	Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office	1469 NW 13th Ter. Miami, FL 33125-2607	1999 - 2003

Legal Intern	Kings County District Attorney	350 Jay Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201	Spring 1999
Summer Associate	United States Securities and Exchange Commission, Division of Enforcement	3 World Financial Center New York, NY 10281	Summer 1998
Legal Intern	New York Stock Exchange, Division of Market Surveillance	11 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005	Spring 1998
Judicial Intern	The Honorable Judge Gloria Dabiri, Kings Supreme Court	360 Adams Street Brooklyn, NY 11201	Fall 1998
Legal Intern	New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications	75 Park Place, New York, NY 10007	Summer 1997

22. Describe the general nature of your current practice including any certifications which you possess; additionally, if your practice is substantially different from your prior practice or if you are not now practicing law, give details of prior practice. Describe your typical clients or former clients and the problems for which they sought your services.

I currently serve as a trial court judge in the Orange County Civil Division for the Ninth Circuit of Florida. The general nature of my practice includes presiding over civil disputes under \$15,000, small claims cases, and general eviction proceedings. From April 2015 through December 2018, I served as a trial court judge in the Orange County Criminal Division for the Ninth Circuit of Florida.

The general nature of my prior practice was complex commercial litigation. Between 2004 and 2015, I was the Central Florida Bureau Chief of the Consumer Protection Division for the Office of the Attorney General, State of Florida (formerly the Economic Crimes Division). From 2004 through 2006, I was responsible for enforcing the civil RICO forfeiture provisions of the Florida Statutes, investigating, litigating and settling these types of cases. I have tried and settled multiple multimillion-dollar civil RICO forfeiture actions. In my experience litigating civil RICO forfeiture actions, I have defended counterclaims alleging inverse condemnation, claims for business damages, and claims of wrongful injunctions. I have assisted in appeals involving similar issues. Also, I have been cross-designated as an Assistant Statewide Prosecutor, prosecuting multiple bribery cases involving the receipt of unlawful compensation by state employees.

Since 2006, the nature of my practice had been complex civil litigation involving the enforcement of the Florida Deceptive Unfair Trade Practices Act ("FDUTPA"). The objectives in enforcing FDUTPA are to promote a level playing field for legitimate businesses to compete fairly and protect businesses and consumers from deceptive and

unfair business and trade practices.

My practice included investigating, litigating, and negotiating settlements involving alleged FDUTPA violations. A majority of my practice involved discovery and motion practice. As the Bureau Chief, it was my responsibility to review allegations of possible violations of FDUTPA and related consumer protection statutes. The decision to initiate an investigation and litigation depends on strict analysis of Florida Statutes, careful measure of resources and consideration of other significant variables, such as the impact on the community, the target and the economy. In addition, a significant portion of my practice included reviewing and drafting legislation.

The experience drafting multiple bills over the years reinforced my commitment and respect to our separate branches of government. Having been responsible for enforcing laws in the executive branch of government, I've experienced the limits of the law in an enforcement capacity. I respect wholeheartedly the process of drafting and passing new legislation to combat issues facing our community. I am loyal to the process our Constitution demands and reject any shortcuts sought through our court systems.

Outreach and education was another important aspect of my practice. I have spoken before hundreds of industry representatives, lawyers, and judges regarding general enforcement and specific consumer protection issues affecting the community.

The most challenging aspects of my prior practice were the managerial responsibilities. In addition to handling my own cases, I supervised a team of twenty employees comprised of attorneys, investigators and support staff. It was my responsibility to set challenging goals, promote innovation and reinforce the fundamental values of fairness, cooperation, respect, commitment, excellence and honesty. I monitored all Central Florida enforcement actions covering over nine counties, measured results and took corrective action. I appreciate the challenges that come with collegial work and I am practiced in gathering group consensus.

Between 1999 and 2003 I was a prosecutor in Miami-Dade County where I was responsible for prosecutions involving attempted murder, manslaughter, armed robbery, armed carjacking, sex crimes, sale of cocaine, and economic crimes. In 1999, I was a misdemeanor prosecutor, prosecuting approximately one hundred bench trials and approximately 10 to 15 misdemeanor jury trials. In 2000, I was a county court division supervisor, responsible for supervising, training, and trying cases with new prosecutors. In 2000, I was a juvenile division prosecutor, prosecuting significant felonies. In 2001, I was a felony division prosecutor, prosecuting first degree and life felony cases. I prosecuted 10 to 15 felony jury trials and litigated approximately one hundred evidentiary hearings.

23. What percentage of your appearance in courts in the last five years or last five years of practice (include the dates) was in:

Court		Area of Practice	
Federal Appellate	_____ %	Civil	_____ 50 %
Federal Trial	_____ %	Criminal	_____ 50 %
Federal Other	_____ %	Family	_____ %
State Appellate	_____ 2 %	Probate	_____ %

State Trial	<u>98</u> %	Other	<u> </u> %
State Administrative	<u> </u> %		
State Other	<u> </u> %		
	<u> </u> %		
TOTAL	<u>100</u> %	TOTAL	<u>100</u> %

24. In your lifetime, how many (number) of the cases you have tried to verdict or judgment were:

Jury?	<u>20-30</u>	Non-jury?	<u>approximately 100</u>
Arbitration?	<u> </u>	Administrative Bodies?	<u> </u>

25. Within the last ten years, have you ever been formally reprimanded, sanctioned, demoted, disciplined, placed on probation, suspended or terminated by an employer or tribunal before which you have appeared? If so, please state the circumstances under which such action was taken, the date(s) such action was taken, the name(s) of any persons who took such action, and the background and resolution of such action.

No.

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

No.

(Questions 27 through 30 are optional for sitting judges who have served 5 years or more.)

27a. For your last 6 cases, which were tried to verdict before a jury or arbitration panel or tried to judgment before a judge, list the names and telephone numbers of trial counsel on all sides and court case numbers (include appellate cases).

1. State of Florida, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Legal Affairs, Plaintiff, vs. Bradenton Group Inc., et al., Defendants.
 Ninth Judicial Circuit Case Number C195-06890.
 Trial date: February 2005.
 Judge Lawrence Johnston
 Co-counsel, Jorie Tress (407) 748-3158
 Defense attorneys:
 Thomas F. Egan, Esquire (407) 849-1055
 Steven G. Mason, Esquire (321) 972-8982
 Related Appellate Cases:
 Bradenton Group, Inc. v. Department of Legal Affairs, State of Fla., 701 So. 2d 1170 (Fla. 5 DCA 1997), rehearing denied (Dec 10, 1997)
 Department of Legal Affairs v. Bradenton Group, Inc., 705 So. 2d 569 (Fla. 1998)
 Department of Legal Affairs v. Bradenton Group, Inc., 727 So. 2d 199 (Fla. 1998)

Bradenton Group, Inc. v. State, 970 So. 2d 403 (Fla. 5 DCA 2007)
State v. Bradenton Group, Inc., 987 So. 2d 1210 (Fla. 2008)
State v. Bradenton Group, Inc., 26 So. 3d 636 (Fla. 5 DCA 2010)

2. State of Florida v. Glenn McAnelly & Chestnut Jackson.
Seventh Judicial Circuit Case Numbers: 03-34814CFAES, 03-34818CFAES.
Date of trial: July 19, 2004 through July 21, 2004
Both defendants were charged and found guilty of unlawful compensation.
Co-counsel Assistant Statewide Prosecutor Rick Bogle (407) 468-9002.
Christopher Robert Ditslear, Esq. represented Defendant Chestnut Jackson.
Richard Kerry Adkison, Esq. represented Defendant Glenn McAnelly.

3. State of Florida v. David Brown(Defendant C), Isaac Brown (Defendant D),
Eric James (Defendant A) Case No: F00030880ABC&D
The Honorable Jerald Bagley
Defense attorneys:
Robert Pertierra, (305) 444-0011
Stuart Mishkin, deceased.
Hector Villamar, (305) 569-0150

To the best of my knowledge the above three cases are the most recent in chronological order tried to verdict. As a Miami-Dade prosecutor from 1999 to 2003, I tried numerous misdemeanor and felony cases before multiple judges. Due to the number of jury trials and the length of time that has passed, I do not recall the specific information being requested. During my tenure at the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office I tried cases to verdict before the following judges including but not limited to: Judge Peter Lopez, Judge Jerald Bagley, Judge Cecilia Altonaga, Judge Samuel Slom and Judge Kevin Emas. Accordingly, the information I was able to research and collect includes the following criminal litigations. They are in no specific order.

4. State of Florida v. Samuel Richardson, Case Number F008040
2001 Miami-Dade County
Trial date July 16, 2001.
The Honorable Cecilia Altonaga
Charges Sale of Cocaine
Defense attorney Andre Duque, (407) 855-1660
Co-counsel, Monte Starr (407) 748-1689

5. State v. James Shelby, Case Number: F0030512
2001 Miami-Dade County
The Honorable Peter Lopez
Trial date: August 7, 2001.
Co-counsel, Monte Starr, (407) 748-1689.
Defense attorney – do not recall.

6. State v. Francisco Almeida, Case Number: F0115081
2001 Miami-Dade County
The Honorable Cecilia Altonaga
Trial date: October 5, 2001.
Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon
Co-counsel, Anne Wedge McMillen, (407) 878-3131
Public Defender, do not recall.

- 27b. For your last 6 cases, which were settled in mediation or settled without mediation or trial, list the names and telephone numbers of trial counsel on all sides and court case numbers (include appellate cases).

Office of the Attorney General, Department of Legal Affairs, State of Florida v.
International Timeshare Exchange, LLC, International Timeshare Network, LLC, Sara
Liebling, Jarad King, Justin King, Kyle Brown, Leoncito Gonzalez, Ryan Dichiarra
18th Jud.Cir. case No.: 2013-CA-1050-16K
Andrew Cove
Cove & Associates
225 21st Avenue
Hollywood, FL 33020
(954) 921-1121
Howard Forman
Burr Forman
200 South Orange Avenue, Suite 800
Orlando, FL 32801
(407) 540-6600

Federal Trade Commission, and State of Florida, Office of the Attorney General v.
Information Management Forum, Inc. et al
Mark James Bernet
Akerman Senterfitt
Suite 1700
401 E Jackson St
Tampa, FL 33602-5250
(813) 209-5000
Email: mark.bernet@akerman.com

Steven Spencer Elg
Federal Trade Commission
Atlanta Regional Office
Suite 1500
225 Peachtree St NE
Atlanta, GA 30303-1729
(404) 656-1354
Fax: 404/656-1379
Email: selg@ftc.gov

Valerie M. Verduce
Federal Trade Commission
225 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 1500
Atlanta, GA 30303-1729
(404) 656-1390
Email: vverduce@ftc.gov

State of Florida, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Legal Affairs v. IXE Accelerated Financial Centers, LLC, Jaime Hawley, an individual, and Ivan Estrella, a/k/a Ivan Torres, an individual.
Eighteenth Judicial Circuit Case Number 08-CA-6509-16-G.
The Honorable Michael Rudisill.
Hector Lora, Esq. (954) 921-1121

State of Florida, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Legal Affairs v. Stone Cold Concerts, Inc., et al.
Seventh Judicial Circuit Case Number: 03-31634-CICI
The Honorable John W. Watson III
Mark Horwitz, Esq. (407) 843-7733

The following settlements were reached pursuant to the Florida Deceptive Unfair Trade Practice Act, Chapter 501 Part II, Florida Statutes 2010 (the "Act"). The Department of Legal Affairs may terminate investigations upon an acceptance of a person's written assurance of voluntary compliance with the Act. Conditions of this written assurance are considered settlements and include restitution, attorney fees and injunctive relief.

In the Matter of Maher Chevrolet, Inc., Respondent. Department of Legal Affairs Investigation Case Number L14-3-1121.

In the Matter of Gettel Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a Gatorland Toyota, Respondent. Department of Legal Affairs Investigation Case Number L13-3-1086.
Robert Schimberg, (813) 221-3900.

In the Matter of Napleton Enterprises, LLC d/b/a Napleton South Orlando Chrysler Jeep Dodge. Department of Legal Affairs Investigation Case Number L12-3-1112.
General Counsel Les Stacher (854) 805-5656.

- 27c. During the last five years, how frequently have you appeared at administrative hearings?
0 average times per month
- 27d. During the last five years, how frequently have you appeared in Court?
less than 1 average times per month

27e. During the last five years, if your practice was substantially personal injury, what percentage of your work was in representation of plaintiffs? _____%
Defendants? _____%

28. If during any prior period you have appeared in court with greater frequency than during the last five years, indicate the period during which this was so and give for such prior periods a succinct statement of the part you played in the litigation, numbers of cases and whether jury or non-jury.

From 1999 to 2003, as a Miami-Dade Assistant State Attorney, I was in court every day, responsible for felony prosecutions. During that period, I tried over 100 bench trials, conducted numerous evidentiary hearings, and tried approximately 10 to 15 felony jury and 10 to 15 misdemeanor jury trials. The felony jury trials included first degree and life felonies. I tried a majority of my cases alone or as lead counsel.

From 2003 to 2004, as Senior General Counsel for the Office of Financial Regulation, I was responsible for administrative actions involving licensed security and mortgage brokers. During that time, I was cross-sworn as an Assistant State Attorney in Leon County to prosecute a large and complex securities fraud criminal action. From 2004 to 2006, as Bureau Chief for the Economic Crimes Division for the Attorney General's Office, I was cross-sworn as an Assistant Statewide Prosecutor to prosecute bribery cases. These were jury trials. I also tried and litigated RICO civil forfeiture actions. One civil forfeiture action, in 2004, was a two week jury trial in which I was lead counsel.

29. For the cases you have tried to award in arbitration, during each of the past five years, indicate whether you were sole, associate or chief counsel. Give citations of any reported cases.

N/A.

30. List and describe the six most significant cases which you personally litigated giving case style, number and citation to reported decisions, if any. Identify your client and describe the nature of your participation in the case and the reason you believe it to be significant. Give the name of the court and judge, the date tried and names of other attorneys involved.

1) State of Florida, Office of the Attorney General, Department of Legal Affairs, Plaintiff, vs. Bradenton Group Inc., et al., Defendants.

Ninth Judicial Circuit Case Number C195-06890.

Trial date: February 2005.

The Honorable Lawrence Johnston

Co-counsel, Jorie Tress (386) 785-3402

Defense Attorneys:

Thomas F. Egan, Esquire (407) 849-1055

Steven G. Mason, Esquire (321) 972-8982

In 2005, as lead counsel, I successfully tried before a jury a civil racketeering (RICO) forfeiture prosecution representing the State of Florida. The Complaint included over fifty predicate acts and sought forfeiture of two pieces of real property and personal property.

I was with the office only a few months before trying this case and spent a considerable amount of time getting up to speed on the legal and factual issues. The Complaint alleged that between 1992 and 1995 the defendants owned and operated several commercial bingo halls across the State of Florida in violation of both state and federal gambling laws. As lead counsel, I was responsible for arguing all motions, jury selection, fact and expert witness examinations and closing arguments. In addition, there were complex counterclaims that I defended involving inverse condemnation and claims of business damages. In addition to boxes of business records entered into evidence, dozens of witnesses testified including former bingo hall employees and charity representatives. Testimonial evidence was entered by video deposition and transcripts from previous trials. Accountants and financial experts testified as well. The jury instructions were challenging to prepare due to the complicated nature of the case. The case was tried pursuant to a clear and convincing standard of proof. After two weeks of trial, the jury found the defendants liable.

2) State of Florida v. Glenn McAnelly & Chestnut Jackson.

Seventh Judicial Circuit Case Numbers: 03-34814CFAES, 03-34818CFAES.

Date of trial: July 19, 2004 through July 21, 2004

Both defendants were charged and found guilty of unlawful compensation.

Co-counsel Assistant Statewide Prosecutor Rick Bogle (407) 468-9002.

Christopher Robert Ditslear, Esq. represented Defendant Chestnut Jackson (386-738-4770) .

Richard Kerry Adkison, Esq. represented Defendant Glenn McAnelly (850-638-2643). This case involved the receipt of unlawful compensation by two state employees. Stone Cold Chemicals (Stone Cold), a corporation that was in the business of calling companies and soliciting the purchase of cleaning products, targeted state employees responsible for purchasing cleaning supplies. Stone Cold offered employees valuable gift cards and individualized gifts in exchange for the purchase of cleaning supplies that were ten times the price of comparative products. The individual defendants were charged with unlawful compensation for knowingly accepting valuable gift cards and personal gifts for purchasing Stone Cold's overpriced cleaning products.

In my role as an Assistant Attorney General, I was responsible for the civil RICO forfeiture prosecution against Stone Cold. I was cross-designated by the Office of Statewide Prosecution to second-chair the criminal prosecution of the state employees who received unlawful compensation. Subsequent to the criminal prosecutions of the state employees, Stone Cold settled the civil RICO forfeiture case for over a million dollars. This case was significant because it allowed me to work with multiple divisions within the Attorney General's Office to obtain a successful result.

3) State of Florida v. Eric James (Defendant A), David Brown (Defendant C), and Isaac Brown (Defendant D) , Case No: F00030880AC&D

The Honorable Jerald Bagley, 11th Judicial Criminal Circuit Court.

Attorneys representing Defendants were:

Robert Pertierra, (305) 444-0011

Stuart Mishkin, deceased.

Hector Villamar, (305) 569-0150

There was no co-counsel.

This case involved three identical triplets who were charged with armed robbery with a firearm. The defendants were career criminals and facing minimum mandatory sentences. A fourth defendant, Antonio Neal Washington (Defendant B), plead guilty earlier in the year and the success of the prosecution relied on his testimony at trial. All four defendants allegedly held a gun to the victim, forcing him to his knees. The victim testified that he was held at gunpoint, "execution style." He was forced to relinquish the money and jewelry he had in his possession. Each defendant was represented separately. The logistics of voir dire, opening statements, cross examinations, and closing arguments raised the complexity of the litigation. The prosecution's case relied on the victim's testimony and the testimony of Antonio Neal Washington, the fourth co-defendant. During the trial, Antonio Neal Washington refused to testify for the prosecution and the case rested solely on the testimony of the victim. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

4) State of Florida v. Samuel Richardson, Case Number F008040

Trial date July 16, 2001.

The Honorable Cecilia Altonaga, 11th Judicial Circuit.

Charges Sale of Cocaine

Defense attorney Andre Duque, (407) 855-1660

Co-counsel, Monte Starr (407) 748-1689

This case was one of over three hundred cases set for trial that I inherited when I was

first transferred to the felony division. Although the case was pending for trial for over a year, little work was previously done to prepare the case for trial. Defendant Richardson was charged with Sale of Cocaine and as a career criminal was facing a minimum mandatory sentence. Immediately before trial it was discovered that Mr. Richardson intended to call a witness to assist in his defense. Without an opportunity to depose Mr. Richardson's witness, a review of the witness's criminal history revealed a pending felony case of his own. A review of the defense witness list on this open felony case revealed that he had listed Defendant Richardson as his defense witness. I made the strategic decision to present the two defendants' plans to testify on each other's behalf to Defendant Richardson's defense attorney and explained that his witness would have no credibility when these facts were brought to the jury's attention. Based on my quick acts and strategy, Defendant Richardson's defense attorney withdrew the defense witness list. This case was significant because it taught me to always explore all potential avenues and to look for strategic moves to overcome limited time and resources. Mr. Richardson was convicted and sentenced to over twenty years in prison.

5) State of Florida v. William Rivera (sic)
Trial Date 2001

The Honorable Cecilia Altonaga, 11th Judicial Circuit.
Public Defendant Robert White III, (305) 545-1600

This case involved an attempted murder on three police officers who were responding to the scene of a large altercation unfolding in the street. As the officers approached, the crowd dispersed and the defendant raised a gun, firing multiple shots in the officers' direction. After pursuit, the canine unit found the defendant hiding in a dumpster. His hands tested positive for gunshot residue. In addition to calling all three police officers to testify, a crimes scene technician testified regarding the gunshot residue. It was significant in my career at the time because it was my first experience presenting technical expert evidence in the form of gunshot residue to a jury.

6) Misdemeanor DUI trial with a challenged intoxilizer result

The Honorable Andrew Hague

Defense Attorneys Joshua Fisher, (305) 899-5012

Co-Counsel Assistant State Attorney Ergio Fernandez (305) 372-3535

At the time of this DUI prosecution the defense bar was challenging the admissibility of intoxilyzer breath results due to the Guth solution used in measuring breath readings. For a period of time, the State was required to lay a predicate to ensure the reliability that the "lot" of Guth solution used in the intoxilyzer was reliable and that the instrument itself was properly maintained prior to admittance of the breath result. During this trial, I was responsible for calling witnesses from the police department that maintained the intoxilizer. I was responsible for admitting police department business records of maintenance logs to establish the proper predicate. This case was significant in that these were considered, at the time, highly technical pretrial motion practice.

In addition to the above six cases there were two significant juvenile trials. One case

involved a student who posted a message on a school internet bulletin board stating that there was a bomb in the school. That case was significant because I learned how to prove internet crimes in the early years of the internet, in the year 2000. I learned how to use information from internet servers and trace "IP" addresses back to a physical location using phone records.

Another juvenile felony case I prosecuted involved a charge of arson. A group of teenagers were seen exiting an abandoned house that subsequently caught on fire. I was able to meet with the lead arson investigator who taught me the basics of arson investigations. This education was vital as it prepared me for future arson prosecutions.

31. Attach at least one example of legal writing which you personally wrote. If you have not personally written any legal documents recently, you may attach writing for which you had substantial responsibility. Please describe your degree of involvement in preparing the writing you attached.

I have attached an order I wrote in the case State of Florida v. Leila Williams, case number 2017-MM-07546-AO. It is an order denying a motion on the basis of the most recent Florida Stand Your Ground law.

PRIOR JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE OR PUBLIC OFFICE:

- 32a. Have you ever held judicial office or been a candidate for judicial office? If so, state the court(s) involved and the dates of service or dates of candidacy.

Yes. Orange County Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit, 2015 to present.

- 32b. List any prior quasi-judicial service:

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Name of Agency</i>	<i>Position Held</i>
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Types of issues heard:

- 32c. Have you ever held or been a candidate for any other public office? If so, state the office, location and dates of service or candidacy.

No.

- 32d. If you have had prior judicial or quasi-judicial experience,

- (i) List the names, phone numbers and addresses of six attorneys who appeared before you on matters of substance.

Matthew Ferry
Lindsey & Ferry, P.A.
1150 Louisiana Avenue, Ste 2
Winter Park, FL 32789
(407) 278-7692

Michael Barber

Lindsey & Ferry, P.A.
1150 Louisiana Avenue, Ste 2
Winter Park, FL 32789
(407) 278-7692

Kendal Ali
Ali & Blankner
217 Northeast Ivanhoe Blvd
Orlando, FL 32804
(407) 413-8557

Dean Bartzokis
Ali & Blankner
217 Northeast Ivanhoe Blvd
Orlando, FL 32804
(407) 413-8557

Lisa Gong Guerrero
State Attorney's Office for the Ninth Judicial Circuit
415 North Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32801
(407) 836-2400

Chad Barr
Law Office of Chad A. Barr, PA
986 Douglas Ave #100
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
(407) 599-9036

- (ii) Describe the approximate number and nature of the cases you have handled during your judicial or quasi-judicial tenure.

From April 2015 through December 2018, I have served as a criminal county trial judge presiding over thousands of cases, hundreds of substantive motions and approximately 40 to 50 jury trials. Since January 2019, I have presided over scores of civil and small claims actions. A significant portion of the civil pretrial motions involve statutory and contract analysis.

- (iii) List citations of any opinions which have been published.

State of Florida v. Leila Williams, 2017-MM-07546-AO

State of Florida v. William Wentz, 2016-CT-987-AE

The follow 15 citations are from one opinion.

State of Florida v. Case Banigan, 2012-CT-1834-AO

State of Florida v. Lance Conley, 2012-CT-17-AA

State of Florida v. Ernesto Ganuelas, 2012-CT-3092-AO

State of Florida v. Craig Howard, 2012-CT-8861-AO

State of Florida v. Zachary Caron, 2012-CT-5966-AO

State of Florida v. Kelly Pennington, 2012-CT-1490-AO

State of Florida v. Kenneth Rodriguez, 2012-CT-3-AE

State of Florida v. Arties Rogers, 2011-CT-1544-AE

State of Florida v. Jarett Ryzewski, 2011-CT-2138-AW

State of Florida v. Ernesto Gonzolez, 2012-CT-8684-AO

State of Florida v. Giovanni Barile, 2012-CT-928-AE

State of Florida v. John Hendricks, 2012-CT-2-AO

State of Florida v. Rudy Moore, 2014-CT-405-AO

State of Florida v. Thaddeus Maynard, 2013-CT-2030-AO

State of Florida v. Michael Feeney, 2013-CT-1644-AO

- (iv) List citations or styles and describe the five most significant cases you have tried or heard. Identify the parties, describe the cases and tell why you believe them to be significant. Give dates tried and names of attorneys involved.

From April 2015 through December 2018, I presided over 100 substantive motions, many involving a myriad of Fourth Amendment issues, including consensual encounters, vehicle searches, and the abundant Driving Under the Influence (DUI) umbrella of case law involving detainment.

In the case of State of Florida vs. Shakeen Acevedo, case number 48-2016-MM-01207 AO, the Defendant sought to suppress evidence resulting from a warrantless search of the Defendant's vehicle. The government posited a law enforcement deputy's detection of an odor of marijuana coming from the Defendant's unoccupied and sealed vehicle combined with the Defendant's reluctance to provide vehicle information established probable cause. My ruling found the government did not establish probable cause and did not establish consent was freely and voluntarily given. This case was significant because it echoed Justice Scalia's words in *Arizona v. Hicks*, that "there is nothing new in the realization that the Constitution sometimes insulates the criminality of a few in order to protect the privacy of us all." 480 U.S. 321 (1987). The lawyers in this case were Assistant State Attorney Gabriel Gonzalez and Assistant Public Defender Margalise Reyes.

During DUI motions to suppress, as the evidence turns on a particular fact, specific issues are triggered and particular bodies of case law become relevant. Sometimes the facts in the record can be very different from what the parties believe or argue is in the record. It's important to analyze the record precisely, frame by frame, as the evidence unfolds to determine if the Fourth Amendment has been violated. Since the DUI case law is abundant, it becomes critical to take an almost mathematical approach to legal analyses, chronologically mapping out controlling case law and identifying the facts in the record. This approach ensures the current decision sits accurately in the closest trajectory to controlling precedent and does not go beyond necessity. An example is in the case, *State of Florida v. William T. Wentz*, Case Number 2016-CT-000987-AE. In that case, an officer observed the Defendant sitting on his motorcycle in his driveway. There was no evidence of a traffic infraction observed by the officer. The Defendant was observed leaning over his motorcycle, vomiting. The officer, who testified he was concerned for the Defendant's welfare, attempted to perform a welfare check or consensual encounter with the Defendant at which point the Defendant attempted to leave by walking away from the officer and towards a private residence. At that moment, the Defendant was detained when the officer used his Taser to order the Defendant to turn around and walk back. My ruling found insufficient evidence to establish reasonable suspicion to detain the Defendant. The evidence in the record did not sufficiently establish the prerequisite reasonable suspicion necessary to detain the Defendant for a DUI investigation or any criminal investigation. As such, all evidence subsequent to this detention was suppressed. The attorneys in this case were defense attorney Matthew Olszewski and Assistant State Attorney Gabriel Gonzalez.

Another significant case demonstrating the importance of the record arose in *State v. Tirso Garcia*, case number 2016-CT-7937AO. In that case the Defendant filed a Motion for Speedy Trial on December 30, 2016, it was heard on January 5, 2017, and on January 19, 2017, the defense filed a Motion for Discharge. The government argued that at the January 5th hearing the parties agreed to an extension of time for the speedy trial window. Each parties' recollections of events from that hearing were in conflict. It was imperative for me to review the record before making this technical ruling and not simply rely on my own recollection of the events. Applying the relevant case law to the precise evidence in the record resulted in a dismissal. The defense attorney in this case was Jonathan Mills. He is listed as one of the six attorneys appearing before me in substantive matters.

In addition, I have heard a wide variety of motions to dismiss, including several involving Stand Your Ground. This statute has been amended during my time as a judge, making these hearings significant. After recent amendments to the statute were made, I had the opportunity to hear a motion where the new version of the law was agreed by the parties to be applicable. In *State v. Leila Williams*, the Defendant filed a motion to dismiss based on statutory immunity pursuant to Florida's Stand Your Ground law. Case Number 2017-MM-07546-AO. In that case, after holding a pretrial immunity hearing, my ruling found that a prima facie case had not been established by the defense, thus the burden had not shifted to

the State and the motion was denied. This case echoes Justice Robert Bork's words, "when a judge assumes the power to decide which distinctions made in a statute are legitimate and which are not, he assumes the power to disprove of any and all legislation, because all legislation makes distinctions." The new version of the Stand Your Ground law requires the defense to establish a prima facie case before the burden shifts to the State. I could have allowed the hearing to continue, thus allowing the State to be heard and ruled once both sides had an opportunity to be heard. However, doing so would have been in contradiction with a strict application of the new law and as Justice Neil Gorsuch said "[i]t is the role of the judges to apply, not alter, the work of the people's representatives." This case reflects my judicial philosophy. I addressed only the ripe matter before the court. Since the defense failed to establish a prima facie case, the burden did not shift (the State's case was not ripe for hearing) and I was responsible to rule at that distinct point in the hearing, and not a moment later. Attached, is my written order on this matter. The lawyers involved were Assistant Public Defender Chloe Zubkin and Assistant State Attorney Tashanna Hammond.

Finally, at the beginning of my judicial assignment in 2015, I was assigned a large group of similar cases that were in a pretrial posture following an en banc hearing that occurred years prior. These cases involved the admissibility of evidence related to the use of intoxilyzers in DUI cases. The technology associated with intoxilyzers has increased rapidly over the years and the conflicts surrounding its use and admissibility at trial have been of increased debate. I became the assigned judge in the middle of continued hearings relating to the discovery of software materials concerning the Intoxilyzer 8000 that spanned back over two years. These cases were significant because it was a challenge to get up to speed on multiple related cases, preserve the record in each case, and make rulings on the dispositive discovery issue. One of the many challenges with these cases was ensuring the rules of criminal procedure were adhered to. Multiple lawyers representing at least 15 separate defendants rallied together at the podium attempting to argue in concert substantive matters at simple status hearings. I was compelled to eliminate any perception of brewing chaos and found stability in the rules of criminal procedure, requiring properly filed and noticed motions for each defendant. The rules and record are extremely important because they guarantee constitutional due process to each defendant charged with a crime. The rules are what I relied on to navigate the storms these cases brought before the court. There is no issue great enough to overpower the responsibility of the court to adhere to the rules and procedure required by our Constitution.

Since January 2019, I have presided over civil matters including a significant volume of Personal Injury Protection (PIP) litigation and other insurance coverage related litigation that has been tremendously interesting because it involves statutory interpretation and contract language analysis. These cases have been significant because I am able to apply my textualism judicial philosophy to my approach in determining the plain meaning of a statute's or contract's language.

(v) Has a complaint about you ever been made to the Judicial Qualifications

Commission? If so, give date, describe complaint, whether or not there was a finding of probable cause, whether or not you have appeared before the Commission, and its resolution.

No.

(vi) Have you ever held an attorney in contempt? If so, for each instance state name of attorney, approximate date and circumstances.

No.

(vii) If you are a quasi-judicial officer (ALJ, Magistrate, General Master), have you ever been disciplined or reprimanded by a sitting judge? If so, describe.

N/A

BUSINESS INVOLVEMENT:

33a. If you are now an officer, director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise, state the name of such enterprise, the nature of the business, the nature of your duties, and whether you intend to resign such position immediately upon your appointment or election to judicial office.

N/A

33b. Since being admitted to the Bar, have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business or profession other than the practice of law? If so, give details, including dates.

No.

33c. State whether during the past five years you have received any fees or compensation of any kind, other than for legal services rendered, from any business enterprise, institution, organization, or association of any kind. If so, identify the source of such compensation, the nature of the business enterprise, institution, organization or association involved and the dates such compensation was paid and the amounts.

No.

POSSIBLE BIAS OR PREJUDICE:

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

None.

MISCELLANEOUS:

35a. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or a first degree misdemeanor?

Yes _____ No If "Yes" what charges? _____

Where convicted? _____ Date of Conviction: _____

35b. Have you pled nolo contendere or pled guilty to a crime which is a felony or a first

degree misdemeanor?

Yes _____ No If "Yes" what charges? _____

Where convicted? _____ Date of Conviction: _____

35c. Have you ever had the adjudication of guilt withheld for a crime which is a felony or a first degree misdemeanor?

Yes _____ No If "Yes" what charges? _____

Where convicted? _____ Date of Conviction: _____

36a. Have you ever been sued by a client? If so, give particulars including name of client, date suit filed, court, case number and disposition.

No.

36b. Has any lawsuit to your knowledge been filed alleging malpractice as a result of action or inaction on your part?

No.

36c. Have you or your professional liability insurance carrier ever settled a claim against you for professional malpractice? If so, give particulars, including the amounts involved.

No.

37a. Have you ever filed a personal petition in bankruptcy or has a petition in bankruptcy been filed against you?

No.

37b. Have you ever owned more than 25% of the issued and outstanding shares or acted as an officer or director of any corporation by which or against which a petition in bankruptcy has been filed? If so, give name of corporation, your relationship to it and date and caption of petition.

No.

38. Have you ever been a party to a lawsuit either as a plaintiff or as a defendant? If so, please supply the jurisdiction/county in which the lawsuit was filed, style, case number, nature of the lawsuit, whether you were Plaintiff or Defendant and its disposition.

No.

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

No.

40. To your knowledge within the last ten years, have any of your current or former co-workers, subordinates, supervisors, customers or clients ever filed a formal complaint or formal accusation of misconduct against you with any regulatory or investigatory agency, or with your employer? If so, please state the date(s) of such formal complaint or formal accusation(s), the specific formal complaint or formal accusation(s) made, and the background and resolution of such action(s). (Any complaint filed with JQC, refer to 32d(v).

Yes. In 2010 one subordinate filed a formal complaint with the State of Florida's, Office of Attorney General, Inspector General (IG) alleging misconduct based on receiving poor performance review evaluations. The complaint was investigated by the IG which concluded that the allegations were not substantiated. That employee was subsequently terminated by my immediate supervisor. This experience was significant to me and demonstrates my will and character. I had worked with this employee as her supervisor for several years and was familiar with her poor performance issues. I could have allowed it to go on. I could have worked around her deficiencies at the expense of other team members carrying her weight. As the supervisor, it was my responsibility to hold everyone accountable, including myself. This was a time consuming endeavor but one that was required. I followed all internal performance improvement plan protocols over the course of approximately a year, documenting meetings, assignments, and taking corrective actions. I was in constant contact with our human resource leaders to ensure my role in holding this employee accountable was in line with employment guidelines and procedures. Ultimately, I faced these allegations and appreciated them as a cost of being in charge of a large team. I am thankful for this experience because it validated for me that my choice to stay accountable to the rules, even though difficult, proved to be the best outcome.

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

No.

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

No.

43a. Have you filed all past tax returns as required by federal, state, local and other government authorities?

Yes No If no, please explain. _____

43b. Have you ever paid a tax penalty?

Yes No If yes, please explain what and why. _____

- 43c. Has a tax lien ever been filed against you? If so, by whom, when, where and why?
No.

HONORS AND PUBLICATIONS:

44. If you have published any books or articles, list them, giving citations and dates.
45. List any honors, prizes or awards you have received. Give dates.
2017, 2018 Appointed Mentor Judge by the Florida Supreme Court.
2016 FAWL Leadership in the Law Award.
2016 Women's Achievement Award, Women's Executive Council.
2014 Rotarian of the Month, Rotary of Orlando.
2009, 2010, 2011 Recipient of a David Productivity Award for exceeding performance expectations in ways that improved core State functions and saved money for Florida taxpayers and businesses.
2009 Recipient of Five Years Honorable Service Recognition - Certificate of appreciation for dedicated and valued contributions to the Office of the Attorney General and the State of Florida.
2008 Recipient of the Office of the Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award - recognizing exemplary performance in the areas of Employee Innovation, Public Service, Significant Accomplishment, Customer Service, and External Awards Programs.
June 2011 Orlando Home & Leisure, Top Women Lawyers.
46. List and describe any speeches or lectures you have given.
2017-2018 The Florida Bar Foundation Florida High School Mock Trial Competition.
2018, UCF Induction Ceremony of Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity.
2017, 2018, Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, Street Law Job Fair.
2017, CFAWL Women's Leadership in the Law.
2016, Orange County Bar Association, Professionalism.
2016 Christian Legal Society, Leadership and Community Service.
2014, Automotive Dealer Compliance Seminar.
2013, Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division Conference "Joint Actions with the Federal Trade Commission."
2011 Federal Trade Commission's Law Enforcement Conference: "Frauds that Take Advantage of the Economic Downturn."
2010 Community Forum on The Housing Crisis: "Who To Trust & Where to Turn."
2010 The Association of Independent Consumer Credit Counseling Agencies (AICCCA) Annual Conference. Guest Speaker on "Debt Settlement - Efforts to Enhance Consumer

Protection from Debt Relief Scams."

2009 Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies, June 1 -5, 2009. Served as faculty for the "Consumer Protection Law" course at the Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies.

2005, 2008 & 2009 Office of Financial Regulation, Bureau of Financial Investigations, annual training program. Served as guest speaker on Economic Crimes Issues, Enforcement of Florida's Deceptive Unfair Trade Practice Act & Mortgage Fraud.

2009 Office of the Attorney General Economic Crimes Division annual training program. Served as panelist on "Bumps in the Road, Preparing for Trial."

2007 Baker Hostetler Presentation. Served as guest speaker on the enforcement authority of the Attorney General's Office.

47. Do you have a Martindale-Hubbell rating? Yes If so, what is it? ___ No
A.V. rated, 2009.

PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- 48a. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any office which you may have held in such groups and committees to which you belonged.

Florida Bar, 1999.

Florida Association for Women Lawyers, Member.

Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers, Member.

Orange County Bar Association, Member.

The Federalist Society, Member.

- 48b. List, in a fully identifiable fashion, all organizations, other than those identified in response to question No. 48(a), of which you have been a member since graduating from law school, including the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in each such organization.

Florida Bar Ninth Judicial Grievance Committee"C," Member, 2014.

Florida Bar Consumer Protection Law Committee, Appointed 2011 - 2014.

Judicial Outreach Committee Co-Chair, 2013.

CLE Committee Member, 2013.

Rotary, Youth Leadership Committee Chair 2014.

Rotary, Boone and Jones High Schools Interact Chair, 2013, 2014.

Healthy Start Coalition of Orange County, Board Member, 2013 - 2015.

Central Florida Partnership, Political Leadership Institute, Class of 2013.

Holy Family Catholic Church.

Resurrection Catholic Church.

Kensington Church.

- 48c. List your hobbies or other vocational interests.

Reading, cooking, yoga, art and music.

- 48d. Do you now or have you ever belonged to any club or organization that in practice or policy restricts (or restricted during the time of your membership) its membership on the basis of race, religion, national origin or sex? If so, detail the name and nature of the club(s) or organization(s), relevant policies and practices and whether you intend to continue as a member if you are selected to serve on the bench.

No.

- 48e. Describe any pro bono legal work you have done. Give dates.

Volunteer Guardian ad Litem (GAL) for the Orange County Bar Association's Legal Aid Society, 2010 through 2012.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

- 49a. Have you attended any continuing legal education programs during the past five years? If so, in what substantive areas?

College of Advanced Judicial Studies, Implicit Bias, Fairness and Diversity, 2017.

Judicial Conference of County Court Judges, 2017.

Florida Judicial College, Phase I and Phase II, 2016.

Judicial Mentorship Training, 2016.

DUI Adjudication Lab, 2015.

National Attorneys General Training & Research Institute (NAGTRI), Management Training, 2013.

- 49b. Have you taught any courses on law or lectured at bar association conferences, law school forums, or continuing legal education programs? If so, in what substantive areas?

2017, CFAWL Women's Leadership in the Law, Work Life Balance and Professionalism.

2016, Orange County Bar Association, Professionalism.

2016 Christian Legal Society, Leadership and Community Service.

2009 Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies, June 1 -5, 2009. Served as faculty for the "Consumer Protection Law" course at the Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies.

50. Describe any additional education or other experience you have which could assist you in holding judicial office.

I have a bachelor's of science, double major, in Economics and Business Management, with a concentration in Political Science. As an investment banking assistant, I acquired analytical skills necessary to handle complex litigation matters.

As a civil litigator, I have experience in commercial litigation in areas of finance,

technology, telecommunications, food, health, safety, tourism, and publications, each having its own set of regulations. I have exceptional litigation skills, negotiation skills and high standards of professionalism.

As a managing government attorney for a staff of over 20 employees comprised of attorneys, investigators, and support staff, my professionalism has been tested in and out of the courtroom. I have hired and fired, corrected performance issues, sought and gathered consensus, and come under the scrutiny of the press and internal audits.

My experience as a supervising prosecutor in Miami-Dade County provides me with skills to manage a demanding caseload. As a seasoned supervising prosecutor, I instilled professionalism, objectivity, compassion and fairness as priority over successful trial verdicts. I managed over three hundred active felony cases. In approximately six months time, I lowered the circuit court docket to one hundred and twenty felony cases set for trial without sacrificing party interests. I analyzed the applicable law, reviewed and gathered evidence, identified defenses, and engaged opposing counsel in negotiations.

I drafted numerous civil complaints, civil injunctions, settlement agreements, and consent judgments. I have a working knowledge of countless regulatory statutes and I am practiced in drafting and reviewing legislation. I am familiar with foreclosure and bankruptcy procedures. In addition, as a guardian ad litem, I am familiar with dependency proceedings.

As a manager, I have proven results through effectively organizing my subordinates' activities, as well as teaching, coaching, motivating and intervening actively in the group's work. I fostered effective relationships, set performance standards, and held subordinates accountable to those standards. As Bureau Chief, I worked closely with other government leaders, gathering consensus and making enforcement decisions in a collegial manner.

My significant and unique exposure as a supervising prosecutor and a supervising civil litigator, combined with my managerial experience and strong work ethic, has prepared me to work in a collegial manner on the appellate court. My extensive discovery, motion and trial experience, both in criminal and civil circuit practice, provides me with the knowledge and skill to effectively preside over appellate matters. I have been in public service and practiced in the public eye for the length of my professional legal career.

51. Explain the particular potential contribution you believe your selection would bring to this position.

As a first generation American, my work ethic is resolute. My first job was at the age of twelve. I was raised with the understanding that hard work was necessary, not for success, but for survival. I continue to demonstrate dedication, commitment and loyalty throughout my professional career in public service.

As an Assistant Attorney General, I interpreted the rule of law strictly, enforced the law consistently, gathered consensus and exercised legislative initiatives where they served the public interest. Due to the volume of cases, size of companies, number of consumers affected, and significant economic impact of my enforcement actions, it was of utmost importance that I analyze statutes carefully, interpret the letter of the law, and obtain the assurance of the Attorney General before initiating enforcement actions. Representing the Attorney General's Office, my practice was to pursue cases that fit squarely within the letter of the law, promote a strong economy, promote business

competition and protect Florida consumers.

As Bureau Chief for the Florida Attorney General's Office for ten years, under three administrations, I recognize the importance of limited government and the separation of powers. My experience with the Attorney General's Office provided me with the capacity to observe issues having public interest, recognize limitations within existing laws, and participate in group legislative efforts to remedy issues of public concern. The very nature of this process demands a respect for the separation of government and strict interpretation of the law.

Examples include the mortgage crisis that impacted Floridians, the evolution of the predatory foreclosure fraud activity within our state, the enforcement initiatives taken by the Attorney General's Office, and the legislative efforts that have taken place over the past few years. These are typical examples that have replayed themselves, historically, in different forms. Debt collection, timeshare resale, and cramming are other examples where I have experienced the powers of the executive, judicial and legislative branches of our government addressing issues of public interest. My unique experience has given me a great respect for and understanding of the role and function of our three branches of government.

I possess the composure and professionalism to represent the Fifth District Court of Appeal under the scrutiny of the public media. I have handled volumes of media sensitive cases, been interviewed by reporters, and drafted press releases for three Attorney Generals. I have strong decision making skills and I am comfortable having my work scrutinized by colleagues, the media and the public.

For 15 years as a litigator, I have practiced in the most demanding courtrooms in Florida, conducting myself with courage, integrity and an unwavering commitment to the letter of the law. I have the collegial demeanor and experience to serve as an appellate judge. I value hard work, consistency and accountability.

52. If you have previously submitted a questionnaire or application to this or any other judicial nominating commission, please give the name of the commission and the approximate date of submission.

Ninth Circuit Judicial Nominating Committee:

October, 2010, December, 2010, May, 2011, July, 2011, November, 2011, October, 2013, February, 2014, December, 2014.

Fifth District Court of Appeal Nominating Committee: December 2018.

53. Give any other information you feel would be helpful to the Commission in evaluating your application.

My parents immigrated in search of the American dream. As a first generation Italian-American, their dreams were woven into the threads of my life, leading me to public service. I have a great respect for our separate branches of government. "In a constitutional democracy the moral content of the law must be given by the morality of the framer or legislator, never by the morality of the judge." Justice Robert Bork.

REFERENCES:

54. List the names, addresses and telephone numbers of ten persons who are in a position to comment on your qualifications for judicial position and of whom inquiry may be made by the Commission.

Daniel J. Gerber
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300 South Orange Avenue
Orlando, Florida 32801
dgerber@rumberger.com
(407) 839-4512

The Honorable Carlos Muniz
Florida Supreme Court
500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee FL 32399-1925
cgmuniz@yahoo.com
(850) 488-0125

Senator George Lemieux
Gunster
450 East Las Olas Boulevard
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Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301
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(954) 468-1339

Robert A. Shimberg
Hill Ward Henderson
101 East Kennedy Boulevard, Suite 3700
Tampa, Florida 33602
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(813) 227-8469

Rick Figlio
Ausley McMullen
123 South Calhoun Street
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Richard E. Doran
123 South Calhoun Street
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rdoran@ausley.com

The Honorable Kevin Emas
Florida Third District Court of Appeal
2001 S.W. 117th Avenue

Miami, FL 33175
(305) 229-3200

The Honorable J. Andrew Atkinson
Florida Second District Court of Appeal
811 E. Main Street
Lakeland, FL 33801
(863) 499-2290

The Honorable Jamie R. Grosshans
Florida Fifth District Court of Appeal
300 South Beach Street
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
(386) 947-1530

The Honorable Eric Eisnaugle
Florida Fifth District Court of Appeal
300 South Beach Street
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
(386) 947-1530

The Honorable Meredith Sasso
Florida Fifth District Court of Appeal
300 South Beach Street
Daytona Beach, FL 32114
(386) 947-1530

CERTIFICATE

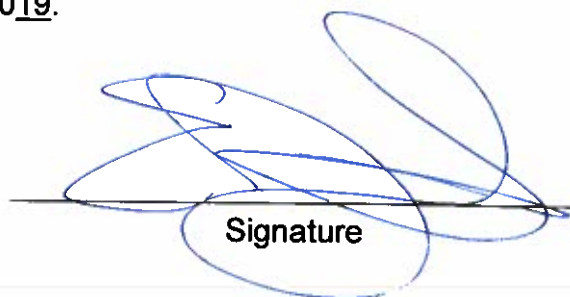
I have read the foregoing questions carefully and have answered them truthfully, fully and completely. I hereby waive notice by and authorize The Florida Bar or any of its committees, educational and other institutions, the Judicial Qualifications Commission, the Florida Board of Bar Examiners or any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

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

Dated this 23rd day of August, 2019.

Elizabeth J. Starr

Printed Name



Signature

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

FINANCIAL HISTORY

1. State the amount of gross income you have earned, or losses you have incurred (before deducting expenses and taxes) from the practice of law for the preceding three-year period. This income figure should be stated on a year to year basis and include year to date information, and salary, if the nature of your employment is in a legal field.

Current year to date	0		
List Last 3 years	0	0	0

2. State the amount of net income you have earned, or losses you have incurred (after deducting expenses but not taxes) from the practice of law for the preceding three-year period. This income figure should be stated on a year to year basis and include year to date information, and salary, if the nature of your employment is in a legal field.

Current year to date	0		
List Last 3 years	0	0	0

3. State the gross amount of income or losses incurred (before deducting expenses or taxes) you have earned in the preceding three years on a year by year basis from all sources other than the practice of law, and generally describe the source of such income or losses.

Current year to date	\$151,822.00,		
List Last 3 years	\$138,020.00	\$138,020.00	\$138,020.00

4. State the amount of net income you have earned or losses incurred (after deducting expenses) from all sources other than the practice of law for the preceding three-year period on a year by year basis, and generally describe the sources of such income or losses.

Current year to date	\$151,822.00		
List Last 3 years	\$138,020.00	\$138,020.00	\$138,020.00

**FORM 6
FULL AND PUBLIC
DISCLOSURE OF
FINANCIAL INTEREST**

PART A – NET WORTH

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

My net worth as of June 1, 2019 was \$398,861.33.

PART B - ASSETS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS:

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

The aggregate value of my household goods and personal effects (described above) is \$ 47,500

ASSETS INDIVIDUALLY VALUED AT OVER \$1,000:

DESCRIPTION OF ASSET (specific description is required – see instructions p. 3)

VALUE OF ASSET

DESCRIPTION OF ASSET (specific description is required – see instructions p. 3)	VALUE OF ASSET
FRS Account	\$35,012.95
York Valic 401K Account	\$203,101.45
Wells Fargo Checking Account	\$21,295.39
Wells Fargo Savings Account	\$22,568.60
	\$701,000.00

PART C - LIABILITIES

LIABILITIES IN EXCESS OF \$1,000 (See instructions on page 4):

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CREDITOR

AMOUNT OF LIABILITY

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CREDITOR	AMOUNT OF LIABILITY
AES - Subsidized Consolidation Loan, P.O. Box 2461, Harrisburg, PA 17105	\$37,445.57
AES - Unsubsidized Consolidation Loan, P.O. Box 2461, Harrisburg, PA 17105	\$29,579.02
York Valic Loan	\$30,336.81
V, PO Box 78066, Phoenix AZ 85062	\$22,374.39

JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITIES NOT REPORTED ABOVE:

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CREDITOR

AMOUNT OF LIABILITY

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CREDITOR	AMOUNT OF LIABILITY
AIG Home Loan, P.O. Box 77404, Ewing, NJ 08628	\$538,000.00

PART D - INCOME

You may **EITHER** (1) file a complete copy of your latest federal income tax return, *including all W2's, schedules, and attachments*, **OR** (2) file a sworn statement identifying each separate source and amount of income which exceeds \$1,000 including secondary sources of income, by completing the remainder of Part D, below.

I elect to file a copy of my latest federal income tax return and all W2's, schedules, and attachments.
 (if you check this box and attach a copy of your latest tax return, you need not complete the remainder of Part D.)

PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOME (See instructions on page 5):

NAME OF SOURCE OF INCOME EXCEEDING \$1,000	ADDRESS OF SOURCE OF INCOME	AMOUNT
County Court Judge	State of Florida	\$151,821.96

SECONDARY SOURCES OF INCOME [Major customers, clients, etc., of businesses owned by reporting person—see instructions on page 6]

NAME OF BUSINESS ENTITY	NAME OF MAJOR SOURCES OF BUSIENS'S INCOME	ADDRESS OF SOURCE	PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY OF SOURCE
N/A			

PART E – INTERESTS IN SPECIFIC BUSINESS [Instructions on page 7]

	BUSINESS ENTITY #1	BUSINESS ENTITY #2	BUSINESS ENTITY #3
NAME OF BUSINESS ENTITTY	N/A		
ADDRESS OF BUSINESS ENTITY			
PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY			
POSITION HELD WITH ENTITY			
DO I OWN MORE THAN A 5% INTEREST IN THE BUSINESS			
NATURE OF MY OWNERSHIP INTEREST			

IF ANY OF PARTS A THROUGH E ARE CONTINUED ON A SEPARATE SHEET, PLEASE CHECK HERE

OATH

I, the person whose name appears at the beginning of this form, do depose on oath or affirmation and say that the information disclosed on this form and any attachments hereto is true, accurate, and complete.



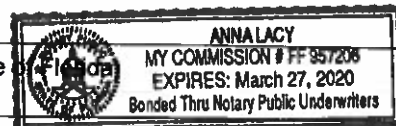
SIGNATURE

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF Orange

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this 23 day of August 2019 by _____

Anna Lacy
 (Signature of Notary Public—State of _____)



(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

Personally Known OR Produced Identification _____

Type of Identification Produced _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FORM 6:

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

PART A – NET WORTH

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

To total the value of your assets, add:

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

To total the amount of your liabilities, add:

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

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

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS:

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

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

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

How to Identify or Describe the Asset:

— Real property: Identify by providing the street address of the property. If the property has no street address, identify by describing the property's location in a manner sufficient to enable a member of the public to ascertain its location without resorting to any other source of information.

— Intangible property: Identify the type of property and the business entity or person to which or to whom it relates. Do not list simply "stocks and bonds" or "bank accounts." For example, list "Stock (Williams Construction Co.)," "Bonds (Southern Water and Gas)," "Bank accounts (First

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

How to Value Assets:

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

PART C—LIABILITIES

LIABILITIES IN EXCESS OF \$1,000:

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

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

How to Determine the Amount of a Liability:

- Generally, the amount of the liability is the face amount of the debt.
- If you are the only person obligated to satisfy a liability, 100% of the liability should be listed.

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

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

Examples:

— You owe \$10,000 to a bank for student loans, \$5,000 for credit card debts, and \$60,000 with your spouse to a saving and loan for the mortgage on the home you own with your spouse. You must report the name and address of the bank (\$10,000 being the amount of that liability) and the name and address of the savings and loan (\$60,000 being the amount of this liability). The credit cards debts need not be reported.

— You and your 50% business partner have a \$100,000 business loan from a bank and you both are jointly and severally liable. Report the name and address of the bank and \$50,000 as the amount of the liability. If your liability for the loan is only as a partner, without personal liability, then the loan would be a contingent liability.

JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITIES NOT REPORTED ABOVE:

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

PART D – INCOME

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

PRIMARY SOURCES OF INCOME:

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

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

Examples:

— If you owned stock in and were employed by a corporation and received more than \$1,000 of income (salary, commissions, dividends, etc.) from the company, you should list the name of the company, its address, and the total amount of income received from it.

— If you were a partner in a law firm and your distributive share of partnership gross income exceeded \$1,000, you should list the name of the firm, its address, and the amount of your distributive share.

— If you received dividend or interest income from investments in stocks and bonds, list only each individual company from which you received more than \$1,000. Do not aggregate income from all of these investments.

— If more than \$1,000 of income was gained from the sale of property, then you should list as a source of income the name of the purchaser, the purchaser's address, and the amount of gain from the sale. If the purchaser's identity is unknown, such as where securities listed on an exchange are sold through a brokerage firm, the source of income should be listed simply as "sale of (name of company) stock," for example.

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

SECONDARY SOURCE OF INCOME:

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

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

(2) You received more than \$1,000 in gross income from that business entity during the period.

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

Examples:

— You are the sole proprietor of a dry cleaning business, from which you received more than \$1,000 in gross income last year. If only one customer, a uniform rental company, provided more than 10% of your dry cleaning business, you must list the name of your business, the name of the uniform rental company, its address, and its principal business activity (uniform rentals).

— You are a 20% partner in a partnership that owns a shopping mall and your gross partnership income exceeded \$1,000. You should list the name of the partnership, the name of each tenant of the mall that provided more than 10% of the partnership's gross income, the tenant's address and principal business activity.

PART E – INTERESTS IN SPECIFIED BUSINESS

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

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

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

JUDICIAL APPLICATION DATA RECORD

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

(Please Type or Print)

Date: August 23, 2019

JNC Submitting To: Fifth District Court of Appeal

Name (please print): Elizabeth J. Starr

Current Occupation: Ninth Judicial Circuit County Court Judge

Telephone Number: (407) 748-1688 Attorney No.: 0187577

Gender (check one): Male Female

Ethnic Origin (check one): White, non Hispanic

Hispanic

Black

American Indian/Alaskan Native

Asian/Pacific Islander

County of Residence: Orange County

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

**DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO THE
FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT (FCRA)**

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

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

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

Printed Name of
Applicant:

Elizabeth J. Starr

Signature of Applicant:

Date: August 23, 2019

Writing Sample

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN
AND FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CRIMINAL DIVISION: 63
CASE NO.: 2017-MM-07546-AO

STATE OF FLORIDA

v.

LEILA WILLIAMS,
Defendant.

_____ /

**ORDER DENYING DEFENDANT, WILLIAMS', MOTION TO DISMISS
ON THE BASIS OF FLORIDA'S "STAND YOUR GROUND LAW"**

THIS CAUSE came before the Court on Defendant Leila Williams' "Amended Motion to Dismiss on the Basis of Florida's "Stand Your Ground' Law" ("Motion"), filed on August 18, 2018. An evidentiary hearing on Defendant's Motion was held on August 22, 2018. The Court has considered Defendant's Motion, the evidence and argument by the Defendant presented at the hearing, the case file, all applicable law, and is otherwise fully advised in the premises.

INTRODUCTION

The State charged the Defendant by Information with Battery on August 8, 2017. On August 18, 2018, Defendant moved for statutory immunity from criminal prosecution pursuant to § 776.032 and 776.012(1), Florida Statutes.

STAND YOUR GROUND LAW

Chapter 776, Florida Statutes, commonly referred to as the "Stand Your Ground" law, establishes a right to immunity from prosecution when a defendant uses force in accordance with

specified prerequisites. The provision most relevant to this case is section 776.032, which states in pertinent part:

A person who uses force as permitted in s. 776.012, s. 776.013, or s. 776.031 is justified in using such force and is immune from criminal prosecution . . . for the use of such force As used in this subsection, the term “criminal prosecution” includes arresting, detaining in custody, and charging or prosecuting the defendant.

§ 776.032(1), Fla. Stat. (2015).

The Florida Legislature last year amended the “Stand Your Ground” law to add the following provision to section 776.032:

(4) In a criminal prosecution, once a prima facie claim of self-defense immunity from criminal prosecution has been raised by the defendant at a pretrial immunity hearing, the burden of proof by clear and convincing evidence is on the party seeking to overcome the immunity from criminal prosecution provided in subsection (1).

§ 776.032(4), Fla. Stat. (2017) (emphasis added) (hereinafter “Amendment”). The bill states that the Amendment “shall take effect upon becoming a law,” and was signed on June 9, 2017. Ch. 2017-12, Laws of Fla. This recent Amendment replaced the previous burden, which required a Defendant to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that he was entitled to immunity, and was first proposed in *Bretherick v. State*, 170 So. 3d 766, 775 (Fla. 2015).

FINDINGS OF FACT

On or about April 8, 2017, Defendant Williams was involved in a “fight” with Ms. Rodriguez, resulting in the Defendant being charged with Battery. On August 18, 2018, Defendant filed the instant Motion arguing she was justified in using force against Ms. Rodriguez under the “Stand Your Ground” law and is therefore immune from prosecution. A hearing on the Defendant’s Motion was held on August 22, 2018. The Court’s findings of fact are the following.

The Defendant's case

At the evidentiary hearing, Defendant called Ms. Ariel Mayes, the Defendant's close lifelong friend. Ms. Mayes testifies that she came upon the Defendant and Ms. Rodriguez in a verbal discussion on the sidewalk in front of an apartment complex adjacent to a parking lot. Ms. Mayes testifies that she observed Ms. Rodriguez and the Defendant standing face to face "conversing," arms distance from one another. Ms. Mayes testifies that she joined them, standing next to the Defendant facing Ms. Rodriguez. Ms. Mayes testifies that as she and the Defendant turned to walk away, Ms. Rodriguez touches the Defendant with her finger. Ms. Mayes describes this touching as a "mush," wherein Ms. Rodriguez "put her finger in Ms. Williams face." This touching was further clarified as a "tap" on the top of Defendant's head with the top of Ms. Rodriguez palm. Ms. Mayes testifies that at the moment the Defendant is touched by Ms. Rodriguez Ms. Mayes believes "she [Ms. Rodriguez] was about to get beat up."

The Defendant then testifies that she went to the apartment complex to pick up her ten-year-old daughter. The Defendant is familiar with Ms. Rodriguez from seeing her every day when the Defendant picks her daughter up from this apartment complex. After her daughter entered the vehicle, the Defendant and her daughter had a conversation about an interaction Ms. Rodriguez had with the Defendant's daughter. From her vehicle, the Defendant observed Ms. Rodriguez standing on the sidewalk with her back to the Defendant's vehicle. The Defendant testifies that after she spoke with her daughter she got out of her vehicle and approached Ms. Rodriguez from behind. The Defendant admits she was annoyed and intended to confront Ms. Rodriguez. The Defendant did engage Ms. Rodriguez in a discussion regarding the treatment of the Defendant's daughter. The Defendant admits that while Ms. Rodriguez was being "sassy," she was NOT in a ready to fight stance. During this time, Ms. Mayes is standing next to the Defendant across from

Ms. Rodriguez. The Defendant clearly testifies she was not in fear during this interaction with Ms. Rodriguez. The Defendant's daughter was in her vehicle and not in any threat of harm. Ms. Rodriguez is described as an eighteen-year-old, tall, slender female. The Defendant and Ms. Mayes are adult woman, bigger and "heavier" than Ms. Rodriguez. Only upon being pressed directly and with que-like questioning does the Defendant conveniently respond she was in fear when Ms. Rodriguez raised her hand. The Court does not find this portion of the Defendant's testimony credible or reliable and disregards it. There is conflicting testimony from Ms. Mayes who testifies that Ms. Rodriguez "mushed" the Defendant's head after the Defendant turned around and was walking away. Also, Ms. Mayes believes that at this moment it was Ms. Rodriguez, not the Defendant, who was "about to be beat." The "mush" was described as an open handed touch, nudge, or push against the back of the Defendant's head. There were no threats exchanged at this point. The Defendant testifies that after this "mush" "the fight started." There is no evidence that the Defendant used force against Ms. Rodriguez and whether that force was justifiable. Rather, there is only evidence that a fight eventually occurred. Any other testimony regarding fear, threats, and other individuals that joined the fight occur after the focus of this motion, after the fight started, and are out of context and irrelevant to these proceedings.

LEGAL ANALYSIS AND RULING

This Court finds there is insufficient evidence to establish a prima facie case has been raised for a presumption of self-defense pursuant to 776.012, Fla. Stat. (2017).

The Stand Your Ground Law states that "once a prima facie claim of self-defense immunity from criminal prosecution has been raised by the defendant at a pretrial immunity hearing," the burden is on the State to prove that a defendant is not entitled to immunity. § 776.032(4), Fla. Stat. (2017). Prima facie is defined as "sufficient to establish a fact or raise a

presumption unless disproved or rebutted,” or “on first appearance but subject to further evidence or information.” *Prima Facie*, Black’s Law Dictionary (8th ed. 2014). While there is no precedent regarding what constitutes a prima facie case for “Stand Your Ground” purposes, this Court holds that a prima facie claim of self-defense under “Stand Your Ground” is not established by the mere filing of a motion to dismiss. First, the defense must present some evidence to establish a presumption of self-defense before the burden shifts to the State. In the instant case, the Court finds that Defendant has not raised a prima facie case of self-defense pursuant to section 776.012.

To be immune from prosecution under section 776.012(2), this Court must find from the evidence that at the time the Defendant used force, she (1) reasonably believed that using such force was necessary to prevent harm to herself, (2) was not engaged in criminal activity, and (3) was in a place she had a right to be. *State v. Chavers*, 230 So. 3d 35, 39 (Fla. 4th DCA 2017).

This Court must apply an objective standard in determining whether the Defendant’s belief of harm was reasonable. *Mobley v. State*, 132 So. 3d 1160, 1164-65 (Fla. 3d DCA 2014); *Chaffin v. State*, 121 So. 3d 608, 612 (Fla. 4th DCA 2013). This analysis entails asking

whether, based on the circumstances as they appeared to the defendant when he or she acted, a reasonable and prudent person situated in the same circumstances and knowing what the defendant knew would have used the same force as did the defendant.

Mobley, 132 So. 3d at 1164-65

Having set forth the applicable law, the Court now makes its findings. During the course of the hearing, the Court had the opportunity to observe witnesses as they were testifying on the stand. The Court takes into consideration certain intangible observations regarding the witness’s voices, emotions and body language displayed or exhibited during the hearing. Specifically, the Court observed the following: the witness’s demeanor while testifying; the frankness or lack of

frankness of the witness; whether the witness was honest and straightforward in answering the attorney's questions; any interest the witness might have in the outcome of the case; the means and opportunity the witness had to know the facts about which they testified; the ability of the witness to remember the matters about which they testified; any prior inconsistent statements; whether the testimony agreed with other testimony and evidence presented; and the reasonableness of the testimony in light of all the evidence presented.

This case was charged by information and there is no arrest affidavit in the record. The court relies on the Information, the Defendant's Motion and evidence from this hearing in the form of testimony from the Defendant and Ms. Mayes. Absent from the record is any reliable evidence to establish what the Defendant did to Ms. Rodriguez and any explanation of why she may have done it. The Court finds the Defendant's sworn statement testimony unreliable and not credible. This court does not find that at the time Ms. Rodriguez allegedly mused or "tapped" the Defendant's head, that this act, if it happened at all, changed the Defendant's situation in a manner to justify using force. Ms. Mayes testimony demonstrates that neither Ms. Mayes nor the Defendant were ever in fear of harm. Ms. Mayes was not in fear for Defendant at this time. Ms. Mayes testimony regarding any fear involves events that occur after a fight ensues between the Defendant and Ms. Rodriguez, and when other individuals get involved. For the purposes of this Motion, attention is directed to Ms. Mayes' testimony who believes that at the time Ms. Rodriguez "taps" the Defendant, it is Ms. Rodriguez that Ms. Mayes believes is "going to get beat" and not the Defendant. This is not fear and this does not justify force. More importantly, it does not demonstrate a prima facie case. The Defendant testifies that up until the point she was touched by Ms. Rodriguez she was not in fear. The Defendant was asked several times whether she was in fear and never directly asserts with any credibility that she was in fear, nor does the Defendant

explain what actions she took to protect herself. Thus, this Court does not find she was in fear during the time and events relevant to this motion.

This Court cannot rely on the Defendant's testimony as credible. Considering the totality of the circumstances, the Court finds that Defendant's use of force was not objectively reasonable and not justified under the law. There is no favored light nor benefit given where the evidence in this case satisfies supporting a prima facie claim of self-defense. Based on the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing on Defendant's Motion, the Court finds the Defendant has not met the burden of establishing a prima facie case. Thus, pursuant to section 776.032, a prima facie claim of self-defense has not been raised by the Defendant at the pretrial immunity hearing. The burden then does not shift to the party seeking to overcome the immunity. Defendant is not immune from prosecution and her use of force was not justified under sections 776.012 and 776.032. Although the Court finds that Defendant was not engaged in criminal activity at the time of the incident and she was in a place where she had a right to be, Defendant is not entitled to Stand Your Ground immunity. *See Chavers*, 230 So. 3d at 39. Defendant remains free to use the defense at trial.

Accordingly, it is hereby, **ORDERED** that Defendant's "Amended Motion to Dismiss on the Basis of Florida's 'Stand Your Ground' Law" is **DENIED**.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers in Orlando, Orange County, Florida, this 28th day of August, 2018.

ELIZABETH J. STARR
County Court Judge

Copies provided to:

Chloe Zubkin, Esq.
Office of the Public Defender
435 N. Orange Avenue
Suite 400
Orlando, FL 32801
Czubkin@circuit9.org

Tashanna Hammond, Esq.
Office of the State Attorney
415 N. Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL 32801
Thammond@sao9.org

Letters of Recommendation



Mattamy Homes Corporation

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August 11, 2019

VIA EMAIL

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RE: Florida's Fifth District Court of Appeal

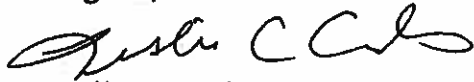
Dear Members of the Judicial Nominating Committee,

It is my pleasure to recommend you nominate Judge Elizabeth Starr for the current vacancy on the Fifth District Court of Appeal. I am the Chief Legal Counsel- US for Mattamy Homes and have been a personal friend of Judge Starr since I met her in 2007. My husband Mike Candes and Judge Starr's husband, Monte Starr work together at Holland & Knight when I joined the firm in 2006. It was not long after that I met Judge Starr. In 2008, my husband and I had our daughter and in 2009, Judge Starr and Monte welcomed their son and daughter, which was followed by our son's arrival in 2011. My children and Judge Starr's family are extremely close, in fact we chose to move our family into the same neighborhood as the Starr family. For the last several years, my children and the Starr children have played on the same soccer teams, attended the same daycares and camps, and regularly celebrate holidays together. I consider Judge Starr and her family as part of our extended family. Judge Starr has become one of my closest friends, who can always be counted on to serve her family and community.

As I have gotten to know Judge Starr over the years, I have also learned that she has always had an impressive work ethic and strives to ensure justice is served pursuant to the rules of law. But it is also important to point out that Judge Starr is also intelligent, compassionate, and well-regarded in the Central Florida legal community. I believe all of these qualities serve Judge Starr well in her current role as a County Court Judge and are also the foundation for a judge serving on the district court of appeal.

It is my honor to recommend Judge Starr to you. Please let me know if you have any additional comments or questions that I can assist you with. Thank you for your time and your service on the Judicial Nominating Committee.

Regards,



Leslie C. Candes

Chief Legal Counsel- US

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August 14, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC (MSASSO@SASSO-LAW.COM)
& REGULAR U.S. MAIL**

Judicial Nominating Commission
c/o Michael C. Sasso, Chair
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission
1031 W. Morse Boulevard, Suite 120
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Re: Letter of Recommendation for The Honorable Elizabeth J. Starr

Dear Mr. Sasso:

This letter is written in support of The Honorable Elizabeth J. Starr's application for judicial appointment to the Fifth District Court of Appeal. Judge Starr and I know each other through the Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers ("CFAWL") of which we have both been members for several years. The fact that Judge Starr is an active, highly-regarded member of this esteemed group speaks highly of her, including the high-esteem with which she is regarded by her peers and the dedication that she has for serving and bettering the Bar and our profession.

CFAWL is one of the largest women lawyers chapters in the State with approximately 400 - 500 members, and is considered one of the hardest working chapters of the Florida Association for Women Lawyers ("FAWL"). It is through the hard work of active members, like Judge Starr, that CFAWL educates Central Florida's lawyers by hosting continuing legal education, member and public service projects, and increased pro bono work and community service opportunities. During Judge Starr's CFAWL membership, she has participated in event committees, mentorship programs, and panel discussions on leadership and professionalism and attended countless additional lunches, events and other programs. You see, Judge Starr is not a member of convenience; she is deeply invested in the organization and its members, including in recent years, serving as a role model for Central Florida women lawyers who one day aspire to serve on the bench like her.

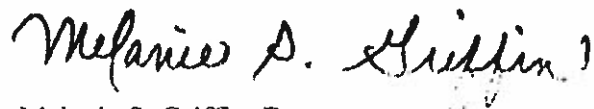
Indeed, many of CFAWL's accomplishments paving the future for Florida's legal profession have been possible because of Judge Starr. It is often Judge Starr's candor, determination, and passion that enhance the value of a CFAWL project or make a positive impact on a CFAWL member. If you know Judge Starr, it is easy to imagine the genuineness and authenticity with which she mentors fellow CFAWL members and connects with them regarding

their mental health and wellness, for example. As a result of such efforts, including the strides she has made advancing the causes of women lawyers, Judge Starr received the FAWL Leader in the Law Award in 2016.

Personally, it is easy for me to understand why Judge Starr was selected for such a prestigious honor. She frequently tells the story of how I greeted her at her first CFAWL meeting, made her feel welcome, and helped her establish her footing in the organization. After all these years, while her gratefulness and humbleness are appreciated, truthfully, I do not remember our initial meeting. What has significantly impacted my life is Judge Starr's genuine compassion for others. She is the type of colleague who asks about your health, reminds you to get more rest when she notices a late-night timestamp on your email, shares challenges she has conquered to help you face your own adversities, calls and texts simply to brighten your day, and sends a monogrammed present welcoming your adopted son to the world. These are just a few of the qualities that demonstrate her collegiality as a professional and the dignity and respect with which she treats everyone who appears before her.

As demonstrated by this letter, Judge Starr is well-respected statewide by her peers, has a good temperament, and is keenly able to analyze complicated legal issues and apply the law appropriately. She has significant legal experience in a wide array of subjects, as evidenced by her present service on the bench and previous service as a hard-working litigation attorney. Judge Starr's qualities identified herein, and many others, make her a good choice for appointment to the Fifth District Court of Appeal. It is sincerely hoped that you consider Judge Starr for such position. Should you have any questions about Judge Starr, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Melanie S. Griffin, Esq.

2011-12 President, Central Florida Association for
Women Lawyers

2013-14 President, The Florida Bar Young Lawyers
Division

2019-20 Vice President of Programs, Hillsborough
Association for Women Lawyers

MG:al

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December 27, 2018

VIA EMAIL

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To the Distinguished Members of the Judicial Nominating Commission for Florida's Fifth District Court of Appeal,

It is truly a pleasure to write to recommend you nominate Judge Elizabeth Starr for the current vacancy on the Fifth District Court of Appeal. I serve on the 9th Circuit JNC and first met Judge Starr when she applied for appointment to the County Court. She was ultimately appointed and was thereafter re-elected without opposition.

While I was impressed with Judge Starr even then, since that time, I have had the great fortune to get to know Judge Starr and her family personally. Through these interactions, I have come to know Judge Starr to be a woman of unquestionable character, integrity and conviction regarding the principles of judicial restraint. These qualities are the necessary base for judges to ensure the preservation of the rule of law and equal access to justice. But certainly there are more attributes which we look for to identify an excellent judge. Judge Starr possesses each of these; humility, great wisdom, dedication to the community, decisiveness and good humor.

Florida's District Court's of Appeal are frequently the last word on our state's laws and their decisions often have a statewide impact. Therefore, it is paramount that these Court's be populated by Judges with the utmost respect for the proper role of those Courts. Judges who will not inflict their own personal policy preferences upon the state, but rather strive to uphold the rule of law over any desire for a particular outcome. I believe Judge Starr is just such a judge, and would

carry those same qualities and commitments to the Fifth District Court of Appeal.

To be clear, we have many excellent judges in the 9th Judicial Circuit, but I do not believe I have encountered a judge who has internalized a humble respect for the proper role of the judiciary more than Judge Starr. In the many hours I have spent discussing judicial philosophy with her, I have found her to be clear minded, decisive and *correct* in every instance.

Outside of the Courthouse, I have come to know Judge Starr as a woman who loves her husband and children, and those around her deeply. She gives her time in service and mentoring. I've never met anyone who has encountered her that has not walked away a fan. You can count me among their ranks.

It is indeed an honor to recommend Judge Starr to you. You would do our legal community and our state a great service by nominating her for the Fifth District Court of Appeal. Thank you for the opportunity to make this recommendation and should any further information be helpful to your effort, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

Joshua D. Grosshans

Joshua D. Grosshans



The Ticket Clinic A LAW FIRM

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Judicial Nominating Commission

C/O Michael Sasso

Fifth District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission

1031 W. Morse Boulevard, Suite 120

Winter Park, FL 32789

August 12, 2019

Distinguished Members of the Judicial Nominating Commission for Florida's Fifth District Court of Appeal:

It is my honor to write a letter in support of the nomination of Judge Elizabeth Starr for the current vacancy on the Fifth District Court of Appeal. I first met Judge Starr in 2009 after completing my first year of law school and joining her team at the Office of the Attorney General for a summer internship.

During my time as an intern, Judge Starr was Chief of the Division. She undertook complex cases and issues while overseeing the entire division and the supervision of all attorneys and staff. The nature of her position did not lend itself to interacting directly with summer interns, however if you knew Judge Starr you would know she makes everyone a priority. Judge Starr, without thought, engaged with all of the interns and made herself available to everyone. She took it upon herself to ensure the interns were not simply completing busy work, but actually engaging in the meaningful practice of law. Judge Starr was the perfect example of a dedicated leader and hardworking attorney and she became a mentor to me. Her attention to detail, mindfulness of others, and desire to achieve justice make her an exceptional attorney and judge and those qualities are just a few of the ways she will add value to the Fifth District Court of Appeal.

I stayed in touch with Judge Starr throughout my law school career and as I began to practice law in Central Florida. Shortly after I began private practice in 2015, our relationship changed from mentor and mentee to sitting judge and practicing attorney. I have handled over a hundred criminal cases before Judge Starr and practicing in front of her is always a pleasure. Judge Starr is prompt and well prepared and her professionalism sets her apart from others. Not everyone walks out of her courtroom happy, but I have never heard anyone complain Judge Starr treated them unfairly, was unjust, or did not allow them the opportunity to be heard.

The Fifth District Court of Appeal is many times where cases end and binding law occurs. It is therefore critical that those fortunate enough to be appointed have the utmost respect for the role in which they serve. An ideal candidate should act as a true jurist in the settlement of issues, to have the proper deference for case law and plain meaning of statutes, to know when it is time for an issue of purported settled law to be readdressed, and to refrain from inflicting personal policy or beliefs. Judge Starr not

only understands and appreciates the role of an appellate court judge, but also would fully embody the duties and responsibilities to the highest degree.

Since my relationship with Judge Starr began as a professional one, changed into a personal one, and now serves as both, I can state with confidence what a truly exceptional person she is in every sense. Judge Starr only knows honesty, humility, and dedication. Each day she has served on the bench for the Ninth Circuit County Court has been a great day for the people of the community.

I humbly request you nominate Judge Starr for the Fifth District Court of Appeal. Thank you for the opportunity to make this recommendation and should any additional information be helpful to your efforts, please do not hesitate to contact me. I appreciate your time and dedicated service to our community.

Sincerely,

/s/ Brian S. Sandor

Brian S. Sandor, Esq.

Lauryn Alexis Day
State Attorney's Office
2 Courthouse Square
Suite 3500
Kissimmee, Florida 34741

August 12, 2019

Judicial Nominating Commission
c/o Michael Sasso
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission
1031 W. Morse Boulevard, Suite 120
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Re: Letter of Recommendation for The Honorable Elizabeth J. Starr

Dear Mr. Sasso,

I am writing this letter of recommendation to the Judicial Nomination Commission for the Honorable Elizabeth J. Starr. I have known Judge Starr for two years and first met and practiced in front of her during my time in the County Criminal Division in Orange County as an Assistant State Attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit.

Judge Starr exhibits the qualities any attorney would hope for in a judge. She always exhibited candor and professionalism on the bench, as well as a high level of understanding and appreciation for the law. Judge Starr consistently provided me with learning opportunities to better myself as a young prosecutor, both inside and outside of the courtroom. She is well-versed in the current state of the law and persistent in ensuring all attorneys meet her professional expectations.

Practicing in front of Judge Starr instilled in me a work ethic that is unmatched by my peers who did not have the pleasure of appearing before her daily. She required and expected me to be prepared, educated on legal authority, and fair and just in my legal argument and prosecution. Judge Starr regularly provided constructive criticism after motions, hearings, and trials, drawing on her experiences in practice as well as her understanding of the law. Everything I learned in her courtroom while beginning my career I have carried with me as I have progressed in my career as a prosecutor. Many of the things she taught me I continue to pass on to new prosecutors and encourage them to rise to a higher level of preparation and attention to detail, even if it is not the standard in their courtrooms.

Judge Starr has also supported my development personally and professionally. She has given me guidance and direction on pursuing endeavors such as my admission to the Middle District of Florida, networking with the Central Florida Women Lawyers, as well as networking with other judges and attorneys in Orange and Osceola counties.

In closing, Judge Starr would be an excellent addition to the Fifth District Court of Appeal. She is a wonderful example of someone who challenges legal argument, respects attorneys, follows legal authority and exhibits just rulings on a daily basis. She is also active in her endeavors to support other members of our legal community and would represent the pillars of an appellate judge to the highest level. Thank you for considering her for appointment to the bench, and please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Sincerely,

Lauryn Alexis Day

Lauryn Alexis Day
Assistant State Attorney, Ninth Judicial Circuit
FL Bar No. 1002717

Kristen K. Johnson
Drew Eckl & Farnham, LLP
120 Galahad Lane
Maitland, FL 32751

August 6, 2019

Judicial Nominating Commission
c/o Michael Sasso
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission
1031 W. Morse Boulevard, Suite 120
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Re: Letter of Recommendation for The Honorable Elizabeth J. Starr

Dear Mr. Sasso,

I am writing this letter of recommendation to the Judicial Nominating Commission for the Honorable Elizabeth J. Starr. I have known Judge Starr for over eight years, first as the Bureau Chief with the Florida Attorney General's office and now as a Judge.

I first met Judge Starr when I joined the Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers. She was an indispensable member of the organization, serving on several committees and volunteering her time for the many causes supported by the organization. A year later, I was hired as an Assistant Attorney General and Judge Starr was my supervisor. She treated all of her employees with respect and consideration. At the same time, she held the office to very high standards. Because she was such a respected supervisor, everyone was eager to put forth their best efforts to contribute to the goals and objectives set by Judge Starr.

Judge Starr would be an extraordinary addition to the Fifth District Court of Appeal. Not only does she have an exceptional understanding of intricacies of the law, she possesses an unsurpassed work ethic and diligence. Her ideal judicial temperament would be a tremendous asset to any court. Accordingly, I strongly encourage to nominate Judge Starr for the Fifth District Court of Appeal.

Sincerely,

Kristen K. Johnson

To the Distinguished Members of the Judicial Nominating Commission for Florida's Fifth District Court of Appeal:

My name is Judeen Molyneaux and I have been an attorney since September of 2017. I serve as an Assistant State Attorney for the 9th Judicial Circuit. I had the pleasure of being assigned to the Honorable Judge Elizabeth Starr's courtroom while I was practicing in County Court during the infancy of my career.

As a new attorney, assigned to hundreds of cases, Judge Starr was a great resource and helped me develop into a more confident, responsible attorney, tasked with representing the State of Florida. She held all attorneys to the same standard, expected the highest level of professionalism and legal wherewithal from everyone appearing before her. Accordingly, I found myself performing more legal research and working to develop my skill set in a way I simply would not have if assigned to a different judge. In addition to making me prepared for court, Judge Starr would use every mistake I made as a teaching lesson, which helped me grow as a legal advocate. After every significant litigation I participated in, whether a trial or hearing, she made it a point to give positive feedback and constructive criticism. Because of the high standard she expects from all attorneys, she aided my growth and helped me become a better attorney, advocate, and public speaker. Needless to say, not every judge possesses these qualities.

Judge Starr often told the attorneys who practiced in her courtroom how much she loved the law and watching attorneys interpret the law. It is clear she has a genuine passion for the law and her knowledge of the law is unparalleled. Although we did many trials in her courtroom, Judge Starr's favorite kind of litigation was the motions to suppress that were argued before her. Judge Starr took no shortcuts when it came to criminal procedure. She expected every attorney to stay up to date with the case law and its application. Judge Starr knew the law and she ensured we knew the law as well by requiring us to accurately cite to it for every case.

Besides case law, Judge Starr sought out other areas where she could impart her knowledge and wisdom, such as teaching us about her experiences trying cases or explaining the importance about candor to the court. She became more than just a Judge, rather a person who wanted others to leave her courtroom better than how they entered. That is what I admire about Judge Starr the most. If you were unaware of changes in the law, she would do her best to make every situation a learning opportunity for both young and seasoned attorneys. When I moved on from her courtroom, I took with me very valuable practices including preparedness, efficiency and knowledge of the law.

Judge Starr is a perfect fit for the Fifth District Court of Appeal. She will bring with her a wealth of knowledge, candor and responsibility to the position. It is with pleasure that I highly recommend Judge Starr to the bench of the Fifth District Court of Appeal.

Sincerely,



Judeen Molyneaux, Esq.
Assistant State Attorney
Bar Number: 1003324



Jeanne T. Tate*
Danelle D. Barksdale *
Martha A. Curtis*
Nicole W. Moore*
Robert L. Webster III*
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August 16, 2019

Judicial Nominating Commission
C/O Michael Sasso
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission
1031 W. Morse Boulevard, Suite 120
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Distinguished Members of the Judicial Nominating Commission for Florida's Fifth District
Court of Appeal:

It is a privilege for me to write this letter in support of the nomination of Judge Elizabeth Starr for the current vacancy on the Fifth District Court of Appeal. I have known Judge Starr, both personally and professionally, for almost a decade and could write an entire book regarding my sheer admiration for her. We originally connected through our shared love for both adoption and the legal profession, as I practice adoption law and she adopted two children. Since meeting her, I have had a rare opportunity to see someone exemplify the true meaning of hard work, determination, gratitude, persistence, and dedication. I have witnessed her professional and personal growth over the years, and I must say that all the awards, nominations, and honors have not gone to her head. Judge Starr is the most down to earth attorney and Judge I have ever met. She is solid in her beliefs, her values, and her goals. Her dedication for service, coupled with her intelligence and experience, will serve her in all other future endeavors, and especially in a position such as this. I could not think of a better Judge to fill this open seat. Thank you for considering this sincere recommendation for Judge Elizabeth Starr.

Sincerely,

Nicole W. Moore, Esq.

R

The Reiss Law Firm LLC
701 S. Howard Ave., Ste 106 - 412
Tampa, FL 33606
813-369-5597

August 14, 2019

Judicial Nominating Commission
c/o Michael Sasso
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission
1031 W. Morse Boulevard, Suite 120
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Re: Letter of Recommendation for The Honorable Elizabeth J. Starr

Dear Mr. Sasso,

I am writing this letter of recommendation to the Judicial Nomination Commission for the Honorable Elizabeth J. Starr. I have known Judge Starr for over twenty years, first meeting Liz as a new Assistant State Attorney (ASA) at the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office. At the State Attorneys office, I was in a supervisory role for the incoming ASA class of 1999, of which Liz was a member. Liz showed an immediate ability in and out of the courtroom and that, coupled with her incredible work ethic, quickly demonstrated that Liz was going to be an excellent ASA.

Although I have not worked with Liz since our days at the State Attorney's Office, we have maintained a special friendship. As friends, Liz and I have always enjoyed discussing interesting legal issues and cases. We have also shared our career experiences with each other and it is through this that I know for certain that Liz is now a compassionate, hard working Judge who takes her time on the Bench very seriously.

Judge Starr would be an outstanding addition to the Fifth District Court of Appeal. She was a hard working litigation attorney who didn't shy away from difficult cases and she has proven to be a well-respected Judge. She has demonstrated her keen ability to analyze complicated legal issues and apply the law appropriately. I recommend Liz without reservation.

Sincerely,


Michael B. Reiss, Esq.

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Ashley C. Winship, LL.M.
Attorney at Law
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August 8, 2019

Judicial Nominating Commission
c/o Michael Sasso
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission
1031 W. Morse Boulevard, Suite 120
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Re: Letter of Recommendation for The Honorable Elizabeth J. Starr

Dear Mr. Sasso:


I am writing this letter of recommendation to the Judicial Nomination Commission for the Honorable Elizabeth J. Starr. I have known Judge Starr for over eight years. We met through our involvement in the Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers (CFAWL). Judge Starr has been an active member of CFAWL, participating in event committees, mentorship programs, and panel discussions on leadership and professionalism. In 2016 she received the Leader in the Law award by the Florida Association for Women Lawyers for her contribution to CFAWL. Judge Starr has been a positive role model for her peers. She has made meaningful contributions to the legal profession and her legal community, having advanced the causes of women.

Judge Starr would be a fine addition to the Fifth District Court of Appeal. She was a hard working litigation attorney and she is a well-respected judge. She has demonstrated her keen ability to analyze complicated legal issues and apply the law appropriately.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

WINSHIP LAW, P.A.

By: 
Ashley C. Winship, LL.M.,
President

August 10th, 2019

Telephone: 407-738-3992
Email: czubkin@circuit9.org

Judicial Nominating Commission
C/o Michael Sasso
Fifth District Court of Appeal Judicial Nominating Commission
1031 W. Morse Boulevard, Suite 120
Winter Park, FL 32789

RE: The Honorable Elizabeth Starr

Mr. Michael Sasso,

Please accept this letter of recommendation for the appointment of Judge Elizabeth Starr to the 5th District Court of Appeals.

I have had the distinct opportunity to work with Judge Starr for a year in her courtroom and have experienced first-hand her abilities to navigate law and enforce the proper procedures and remedies that the legislature and the higher courts have deemed fit to govern our jurisdiction.

Throughout her nearly four and a half years of judicial experience in our area, Judge Elizabeth Starr has been an active mentor in our community with involvement in the Orange County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division as a mentor for professionalism and with Central Florida Association for Woman Lawyers as a mentor for women in the legal community, myself included. On a more personal level, Judge Starr has helped mold me into the powerful attorney I feel I have become. Being in her courtroom for an entire year has taught me how to effectively argue, present case law in a manner that is clear to understand for all parties, and most importantly, she has taught me how to stay strong while maintaining professionalism and composure in a courtroom setting.

I have no doubt that Judge Elizabeth Starr would bring a tremendous amount of professionalism and dedication to the 5th District Court of Appeals and I am pleased to give her my recommendation.

Warm regards,



Chloe Zubkin
Assistant Public Defender
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