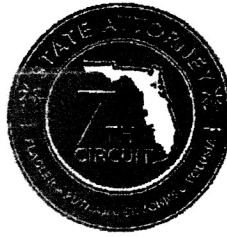


OFFICE OF THE STATE ATTORNEY

SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
VOLUSIA, FLAGLER, PUTNAM & ST. JOHNS COUNTIES

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January 31, 2017

Michael Sasso, Chair
Judicial Nominating Commission
Fifth District Court of Appeal
1031 W. Morse Blvd., Suite 120
Winter Park, FL 32789

Re: Letter of reference for Circuit Judge Randell H. Rowe, III for nomination to the Fifth District Court of Appeal

Dear Mr. Sasso;

Please accept this letter as my recommendation for the Honorable Judge Randell H. Rowe, III, for the appointment to the Fifth District Court of Appeal.

Judge Rowe was appointed a circuit judge by Governor Jeb Bush in December 2005. Before becoming a judge he worked as an assistant county attorney for Volusia County for almost 12 years. Since that time he has served in a criminal felony division for five years, a civil division for four years and in the family law division for two years. He was elected to full term in 2008 and reelected in 2014. Judge Rowe is also a 23 year member of the DeLand Rotary Club, a Volusia Teen Court Volunteer and a Volusia County Law Library Board of Trustees member.

Judge Rowe has a diversity of experience that would serve him well on the Court of Appeals. He is calm and professional on the bench, and he interacts well with all parties present in the courtroom. Judge Rowe has demonstrated a strong intellectual understanding of the law, and his judgments reflect a good dose of common sense. He has an impressive ability to articulate his rulings and rationale in a clear, concise and understandable fashion. He is a man of integrity and good character.

Therefore, it is without hesitation that I recommend Judge Randell H. Rowe for the Fifth District Court of Appeal position.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.J. Larizza", with several overlapping strokes.

**R.J. Larizza
State Attorney
Seventh Judicial Circuit**