

**APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE
EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT**



Kristina L. Paulter
September 16, 2026

APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE EIGHTEENTH CIRCUIT COURT

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

Full Name: Kristina Lynne Paulter

Social Security No.: [REDACTED]

Florida Bar No.: 95701

Date Admitted to Practice in Florida: 4/26/2012

1. Please state your current employer and title, including any professional position and any public or judicial office you hold, your business address and telephone number.

**General Magistrate-Civil Division
Seminole County Board of County Commissioners
301 N. Park Avenue
Sanford, FL 32771
407-665-4239**

**Adjunct Instructor- Real Estate Law
University of Central Florida
4000 Central Florida Blvd.
Orlando, FL 32816
407-823-2000**

2. Please state your current residential address, including city, county, and zip code. Indicate how long you have resided at this location and how long you have lived in Florida. Additionally, please provide a telephone number where you can be reached (preferably a cell phone number), and your preferred email address.

My current address is [REDACTED]. I have lived at this address for 1 year. I have lived in Seminole County for 22 years and have lived in Florida for 36 years.

My cell phone number is [REDACTED]

My preferred email address is Kristina.Paulter@FLCourts18.org.

3. State your birthdate and place of birth.

I was born on September 13, 1977, in Evansville, Indiana.

4. Are you a registered voter in Florida (Y/N)?

Yes.

5. Please list all courts (including state bar admissions) and administrative bodies having special admissions requirements to which you have ever been admitted to practice, giving the dates of admission, and if applicable, state whether you have ever been suspended or resigned. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Florida State Bar April 26, 2012–present
Federal Middle District of Florida 2013–present

6. Have you ever been known by any aliases? If so, please indicate when you were known by such alias.

Yes, my maiden name was Kristina Lynne Frances Turpin from birth until marriage.

EDUCATION:

7. List in reverse chronological order each secondary school, college, university, law school or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, the date the degree was received, class standing, and graduating GPA (if your class standing or graduating GPA is unknown, please request the same from such school).

Barry University School of Law
Attended: August 2008–December 2011
Degree Conferred: Juris Doctor
GPA: 3.27 *Cum Laude*

University of Central Florida
Attended: August 2003–May 2005
Degree Conferred: Bachelor of Science with a Major in Legal Studies
GPA: 3.43

Daytona State College
Attended: August 2001–May 2003
Degree Conferred: Associate of Arts
GPA: 3.1

Hillsborough Community College

Attended: January 1998–July 2000

Degree Conferred: Academic Credit

Tallahassee Community College

Dates Attended: August 1995–July 1997

Degree Conferred: Academic Credit

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

Phi Alpha Delta

Member, Fall 2008–Fall 2011. This organization is a law fraternity with the purpose of forming strong bonds uniting students and teachers with members of the bench and bar in a fraternal fellowship designed to advance the ideals of liberty and equal justice under the law. To the best of my recollection, I was a member of this organization from 2008 until graduation.

EMPLOYMENT:

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

Seminole County Board of County Commissioners

November 2023–Present

General Magistrate-Civil Division

1101 E. 1st Street

Sanford, FL 32771

407-665-7215

Paulter Law Firm, PLLC November

2016–November 2023 Principal

Attorney

166 Lookout Place, Suite 200

Maitland, FL 32751

407-801-8023

Paulter Law Firm d/b/a Cornerstone Law Firm

January 2018–August 2018 Principal

Attorney

2700 Westhall Lane, Suite 220

Maitland, FL 32751

407-801-8023

The Orlando Law Group, PL

November 2015–November 2016 Of
Counsel

12301 Lake Underhill Road, Suite 213
Orlando, FL 32828
407-512-4394

The Johnston Law Firm, PA

October 2014–November 2015
Of Counsel

4798 New Broad Street, Suite 220
Orlando, FL 32814
Firm is closed. No phone number.

Paulter & Liatsos, PLLC June

2013–October 2014

Attorney/Partner

1349 S. International Parkway, Suite 2421 Lake
Mary, FL 32746
Firm is closed. No phone number.

The Paulter Law Firm, PA

April 2012–June 2013 Principal
Attorney

820 W. Lake Mary Blvd
Sanford, FL 32773
Firm is closed. No phone number.

Michelle B. Kane, PA

June 2010–April 2012
Law Clerk

941 W. Morse Blvd
Winter Park, FL 32789
407-493-9872

Bealls Inc.

1997–2010

Store Supervisor 1997–2000

Loss Prevention Agent/District Manager 2000–2010

700 13th Avenue East
Bradenton, FL 34208
941-747-2355

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

Current practice. I have the privilege of serving as a General Magistrate in Seminole County. I am assigned to the Civil Division in Sanford, Florida. I preside over matters referred by the Circuit Judges that include actions such as breach of contract, equitable lien, premises liability, negligence, fraudulent misrepresentation, and residential and commercial foreclosure actions.

I am also assigned to the Small Claims Division for Seminole County. Each week I conduct approximately 230 pre-trial conferences where I determine the nature and validity of the claims, narrow the triable issues and schedule future proceedings, if necessary. Additionally, I preside over all the small claims bench trials for Seminole County.

When I assumed the role of general magistrate in November 2023, the Civil General Magistrate Division was brand new. There had never been a general magistrate assigned to the Civil Division in the 18th Circuit. I focused on ensuring that I had ample hearing time available in person and via Microsoft Teams, streamlined policies and procedures, and that I entered consistent, fair, and timely rulings.

In 2024, I was referred 979 circuit civil matters, conducted 475 hearings, and 15 foreclosure bench trials. Additionally, from September 2024 to December 2024, I conducted approximately 2,400 small claims pre-trial conferences and presided over 21 bench trials.

In 2025, I conducted 429 circuit civil hearings, 14 foreclosure bench trials, approximately 8,824 small claims pre-trial conferences, and 84 small claims bench trials.

Prior practice. I closed my law firm in 2023 to assume the General Magistrate position. While in private practice, my practice was a combination of general civil litigation with a focus on real estate litigation and transactional real estate. Typical clients were real estate investors, parties to real estate contracts, developers and property owners. Prior to 2019, my practice included some domestic legal matters with individuals seeking assistance and guidance in issues relating to dissolution of marriage, time-sharing, domestic violence injunctions, paternity, and modifications of final judgments.

11. What percentage of your appearance in court in the last five years or in the last five years of practice (include the dates) was: **My last five years of practice was 2018 to October 2023 and my court appearance percentages were as follows:**

Court		Area of Practice	
Federal Appellate	<u>0</u> %	Civil	<u>75</u> %
Federal Trial	<u>0</u> %	Criminal	<u>3</u> %
Federal Other (Bankruptcy)	<u>5</u> %	Family	<u>12</u> %
State Appellate	<u>0</u> %	Probate	<u>5</u> %
State Trial	<u>90</u> %	Other	<u>5</u> %
State Administrative	<u>5</u> %		
State Other	<u> </u> %		
TOTAL	<u> 100</u> %	TOTAL	<u> 100</u> %

If your appearance in court the last five years is substantially different from your prior practice, please provide a brief explanation: **Not applicable.**

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

Jury?	3 (lawyer)	Non-jury?	20 approx. (lawyer)
Arbitration?	0		134 approx. (magistrate)
Appellate?	0	Administrative Bodies	3 (lawyer)

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

I have not argued at the appellate level.

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

No.

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

No.

16. For your last six cases, which were tried to verdict or handled on appeal, either before a jury, judge, appellate panel, arbitration panel or any other administrative hearing officer, list the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of the trial/appellate counsel on all sides and court case numbers (include appellate cases). *This question is optional for sitting judges who have served five years or more.*

1. **Bahram Yusefzedah v. Red Lambda, Inc.,**

Case Number: Circuit Court, Seminole County, FL, 2019-CA-003531

Co-Counsel: Paul Gupta, paul.gupta@rimonlaw.com, Keith Munson

keith.munson@rimonlaw.com, 786-930-4592

Opposing Counsel: David Borack, dborack@boracklawgroup.com, 407-644-8285

2. **Fairview Associates, Inc. v. Joy Lynn Kirkendall and Mark Kirkendall, County Court**

Case Number: Orange County, FL, 2022-CC-022144-O

Opposing Party was self-represented.

3. **State of Florida v. Nigel Lassiter**

Case Number: County Court, Seminole County, FL, 2021-CT-004107A,

Co-Counsel: Damon Chase, damonchase@outlook.com, 407-310-2758

Opposing Counsel: Sarah Mian, smian@sa18.org, 407-665-6000

4. **Shamir Patel et al, v. Micah Bass**

Case Number: Circuit Court, Orange County, FL, 2014-CA-012306-O

Co-Counsel: Kathryn Smith, kathy@kathrynsmithlawfirm.com, 407-342-7282

Opposing Counsel: C. Andrew Roy, aroy@whww.com, 407-423-4246

5. **Heather Munn v. Zahid Hussain**

Case Number: County Court, Seminole County, FL, 021-SC-004702

Opposing party was self-represented

6. **Dillon Lecco v. Chantelle Lecco**

Case Number: Circuit Court, Lake County, FL, 2019-DR-002036

Opposing Counsel: John Merritt, johnmerritt@embarqmail.com, 352-357-2932

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

1. **Bret Sirota v. Brian J. Goulet, Loancare, LLC, Nationstar Mortgage Settlement**

Case Number: Circuit Court, Seminole County, FL, 2020-CA-2704

Jacqueline F Perez, Counsel for Plaintiff

Phone: 727- 725-3227

Adam Joseph Knight, Counsel for Defendant, Loancare

Phone: 813- 221-2626

Amber Kourofsky, Counsel for Defendant, Nationstar Mortgage

Phone: 470- 832-5580

2. **In Re: The Former Marriage Of: Ryan Bensfield, and Gina Bensfield Mediation**

Case Number: Circuit Court, Seminole County, FL, 2019-DR-3476

Opposing Counsel: Amanda Jacobson

Phone: 407-327-8899

3. **Amanda Crespo v. Anthony Crespo**

Pre-suit settlement

Case Number: Circuit Court, Seminole County, FL, 2023-DR-2858

Opposing party: self-represented

4. **Pidaggi v. Leonardi**

Pre-suit settlement

Opposing party: self-represented

5. **Melissa Cordova v. Sand Dollar Realty**

Pre-suit settlement

Opposing party: self-represented

6. Daniel Crist and Holly Crist v. Jose Rivera and Maria D. Cruz.

Pre-suit settlement

Opposing Counsel: Ed Storey

Phone: 407-488-1177

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

As the General Magistrate, I appear in court almost daily. As an attorney in private practice, I appeared in the courtroom approximately 5 times per month.

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

Not Applicable.

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

My practice did not include any personal injury, workers' compensation or professional malpractice.

- 21.** List and describe the five most significant cases which you personally litigated giving the case style, number, court and judge, the date of the case, the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of the other attorneys involved, and citation to reported decisions, if any. Identify your client and describe the nature of your participation in the case and the reason you believe it to be significant.

1. MJC Orlando, LLC v. Triple T American, LLC and Inaki Saizarbitoria, Esq. P.A.

Circuit Court, Orange County, FL, Case No.: 2020-CA-5071-O

Judge: Kevin Weiss

Opposing Counsel: Sahily Seredat, ss@lgplaw.com, 305-379-0400

Victor Inaki, Victor@InakiLaw.com, 305-374-4106

This case was a dispute arising from a multi-million-dollar commercial real estate deal. My client was selling a high-volume hotel in Orlando near the attractions. After several extensions at the request of the buyer, the closing was set to occur on April 18, 2020. Shortly before the closing date, the Covid-19 pandemic caused a global lockdown. Since travel was restricted nationally, tourism suffered and my client's hotel, which catered largely to tourists, experienced a significant loss of revenue. On the date the closing was to occur, the buyer failed to execute any documents

or tender the funds claiming its country (Colombia) was prohibiting citizens from leaving their homes to conduct routine business. Shortly after the buyer failed to perform under the contract, buyer sought the cancellation of the contract and a return of the \$500,000 escrow citing force majeure as the cause of its non-performance. Buyer argued that due to the restrictions imposed by the Colombian government, it could not appear in person at the bank to wire the closing funds or travel to the U.S. to conduct a pre-closing walk through and attend the closing. The Force Majeure clause in the contract defined force majeure as “[h]urricanes, floods, extreme weather, earthquakes, fire, other acts of God, unusual transportation delays, wars, insurrections, or acts of terrorism.” Buyer’s position was that the restrictions imposed by the Colombian government constituted “unusual transportation delays” thus triggering the force majeure provision. Through some creative research, we were able to establish that the citizens of Colombia were permitted to conduct essential business to include, *inter alia*, financial matters, and took the position that, even if the Buyer was prohibited from going to the bank, such restrictions did not amount to “unusual transportation delays.”

This case is significant to me because at the time, much of the world was on lock-down due to the Covid-19 pandemic and there was a lot of uncertainty surrounding when or if things would return to “normal.” Additionally, the issue required interpretation of the force majeure language in the contract and some creative research to identify the restrictions imposed by the Colombian government.

2. Fifer v. Howard

Circuit Court, Flagler County, FL, Case No.: 2010 -DR- 001209

Judge: Dennis Craig

Opposing party was self-represented

State of Florida, Department of Children and Families was represented by Shawn Rountree, Esq. (routree.shawn@gmail.com).

Some cases are significant because of the complexity of the legal issues or the parties involved, and some cases are significant to a lawyer because of the result and the human aspect of the case. My client in this case was the father of a young girl. The father lived in Michigan and the child resided in Flagler County with her mother, who had several other children and was struggling with alcohol and drug addiction. My client was worried about his daughter and the environment she was in, but the trial kept getting delayed for one reason or another. We were finally two weeks away from the trial on the father’s Petition for Majority Timesharing when DCF intervened and removed the children from the mother’s care. If a dependency petition had been filed prior to our trial, the Domestic Relations case would have been tolled indefinitely. I was able to collaborate with the attorney for DCF, and we reached an agreement that he would delay filing the dependency petition until after our trial. My client prevailed at trial and was awarded 100% timesharing and sole parental responsibility. The child has thrived under his care, and he still occasionally sends me updates about their family. Sadly, the mother was never able to overcome her addiction and she passed away several years ago without ever reuniting with her children.

This case is significant to me because it highlights the human element of the cases before the Court. If I am appointed, I will apply the lessons from this case to the bench. While a judge should not allow emotions to override the law, it is also important to recognize that the Court's rulings shape lives, families, and futures. Having empathy and respect for the parties before the Court regardless of their circumstances reinforces the public's confidence in the judicial system.

3. **Gayatri Krupa Hldg Company, LLC v Unknown Occupant 1 and Unknown Occupant 2**
County Court, Orange County, FL, Case No. 2022-CC-016104-O
Judge: Andrew Bain
Opposing Party: Unknown Occupants

This was a case where I was hired after the initial complaint was filed by prior counsel. My client was an investor who purchased a property sight unseen from the sellers as he lived out of state. Shortly after closing, he visited the property for the first time and discovered it was occupied. The seller assured my client that no one was living there as they had vacated the home prior to the closing a few days before. My client hired an attorney who filed an ejectment action and spent months trying to get the parties served. The process server verified the property was occupied and the residents were inside, but they would not open the door. After nearly a year passed without obtaining service, the Plaintiff hired my firm to take over representation. We believed the sellers were still residing in the property, dodging service of the ejectment action, all while insisting they had moved out prior to closing. We established evidence that the occupants of the home were neither the prior owners claiming an interest in title, nor tenants pursuant to an undisclosed lease agreement. We dismissed the ejectment action, refiled the claim as an unlawful detainer, which doesn't require personal service and obtained a writ of possession expeditiously.

The case is significant because every day the occupants remained in possession of my client's property my client was losing money. This case highlights the importance of judicial efficiency and the importance of providing timely resolutions to the parties before the Court.

4. **Shamir Patel et al, v. Micah Bass**
Case Number: Circuit Court, Orange County, FL, 2014-CA-012306-O
Co-Counsel: Kathryn Smith, kathy@kathrynsmithlawfirm.com, 407-342-7282
Opposing Counsel: C. Andrew Roy, aroy@whww.com, 407-423-4246

This case, along with its companion cases, had been heavily litigated for years by the time I appeared as additional counsel for trial. This case is memorable for several reasons. First, it was my first experience picking a jury. Second, on day four of the trial, the Judge declared a mistrial, sua sponte, in response to a question my co-counsel asked the Defendant during cross examination. Third, right before the second trial was scheduled to begin in September 2022, we filed a motion for sanctions against the Defendant for conduct we believed amounted to witness tampering. The Judge did not sanction the Defendant for his actions but did strongly admonish the Defendant regarding his conduct. Fourth, the second trial in September 2022 spanned seven days including my birthday. Celebrating my birthday by being immersed in a jury trial remains my favorite birthday memory. Fifth, after our client ultimately prevailed at trial, the Defendant, who had a history of harassing my co-counsel during the span of the case, escalated the harassment and began

posting veiled threats, aimed at her on his social media account. Finally, this case was not just memorable, but also significant because, while the case was very contentious and the parties immensely disliked each other, all of the lawyers involved in the case remained pleasant and professional while still being zealous advocates. This case is a reminder that professionalism and civility should be displayed by lawyers and judges alike.

5. State of Florida v. Nigel Lassiter

Case Number: County Court, Seminole County, FL, 2021-CT-004107A

Co-Counsel: Damon Chase, damonchase@outlook.com, 407-310-2758

Opposing Counsel: Sarah Mian, smian@sa18.org, 407-665-6000

In this case I appeared as additional counsel for trial. The Defendant was charged with driving under the influence, and careless driving. The Defendant was involved in a traffic accident and the officer on scene suspected Defendant was under the influence of alcohol. The officer administered the field sobriety tests, determined that the Defendant exhibited signs of intoxication based on the performance of the tests, and arrested him. At trial, the body worn camera footage entered into evidence and shown to the jury, directly contradicted the officer's direct testimony. The jury ultimately believed what they saw on the video rather than the officer's testimony and found our client not guilty. This case is important because it is a reminder that judges often weigh witness credibility in making decisions and should be mindful of the temptation to afford a witness more credibility because of their position or authority.

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

Writing Sample No. 1

Amended Report and Recommendation of Civil General Magistrate After Small Claims Non-Jury Trial

Writing Sample No. 2

Report and Recommendation of Civil General Magistrate on Defendant's Motion for Determination of Right to Attorney Fees

I was the sole author of all writing samples.

PRIOR JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE OR PUBLIC OFFICE

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

No.

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

I applied for an open circuit seat in the Ninth Circuit in August 2026. My name was certified to the Governor's office and is still under consideration.

I applied for two (2) open county court seats in Orange County in May 2026. My name was certified to the Governor's office for consideration.

I applied for four (4) open circuit court seats in the Ninth Judicial Circuit in January 2026. My name was certified to the Governor's office for all of the open circuit seats as well as the Osceola County Court seat.

I applied for an open circuit court seat in the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit in July 2023 and April 2026. My name was not certified to the Governor's office for consideration.

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

I have been a General Magistrate for the Civil Division in Seminole County. I began my service in November 2023 and currently hold the position.

I hear issues in the Circuit Civil Division including motions to dismiss, motions to compel, motions for protective order, motions to exclude evidence, motions to amend, motions to strike, motions for summary judgment, motions to withdraw, as well as any other matter referred by a circuit judge.

In addition to the above matters, I preside over a docket of approximately 230 small claims pre-trial conferences weekly, preside over all of the small claims non-jury trials in Seminole County, as well as all of the foreclosure trials for Division W.

If you have prior judicial or quasi-judicial experience, please list the following information:

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

1. **Jason O'Neal**

Cornerstone Law Firm
1511 E State Road 434 Ste 3049
Winter Springs, FL 32708-5645
407-488-6627
joneal@mycornerstonelaw.com

2. **Gary Siegel**

520 W. Lake Mary Blvd, Suite 103
Sanford, FL 32773
407-878-7860
gary@garysiegellaw.com

3. **Debbie Warner**

Warner & Warner, P.L.
5200 S. US Hwy 17/92
Casselberry, FL 32707
321- 972-1889
debbie@warnerandwarner.com

4. **Jonathan Paul**

Weissman Paul, PLLC
999 Douglas Ave., Ste. 2214
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
321- 384-0515
jonathan@weissmanpaul.com

5. **Olivia Miller**

Chad Barr Law
238 N. Westmonte Dr. # 200
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
480-203-5364
olivia@chadbarrlaw.com

6. **J. Marc Jones**

Cipparone & Cipparone, PA
1525 International Pkwy, Ste.1071

Lake Mary, FL 32746
321-275-5914

- (ii) the approximate number and nature of the cases you handled during your tenure;

In 2024 I presided over the following civil matters:

475 hearings
15 foreclosure bench trials
2,400 small claims pre-trial conferences
21 bench trials

In 2025, I presided over the following civil matters:

429 hearings
14 foreclosure bench trials
8,824 small claims pre-trial conferences
84 bench trials.

- (iii) the citations of any published opinions; and

None.

- (iv) descriptions of the five most significant cases you have tried or heard, identifying the citation or style, attorneys involved, dates of the case, and the reason you believe these cases to be significant.

1. **Joanne Morgan v. Nicole Marie Manzi and Carmax Auto Superstores, Inc., Hearing on Defendants' Motion to Compel Provide Better Responses to Request for Production Relating to Wearable Technology, August 13, 2025.**

Circuit Court for The Eighteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Seminole County, Florida
Case Number: 2023-CA-000693
Plaintiff's Attorney: Dane Jordan
Defendant's Attorney: Tabatha Jackson

This matter was interesting because Defendant sought access to data contained in Plaintiff's Apple Watch. Specifically, Defendant wanted data from Plaintiff's Apple Health App, which is pre-installed automatically on every iPhone/Apple Watch and cannot be

deleted. Plaintiff objected citing privacy concerns. Resolution of the issue required that I analyze case law and weigh the relevance of the data with the privacy interests of Plaintiff. I distinguished this case from others where parties were seeking data that was tracked on apps voluntarily downloaded and utilized by the subject of the request. Unlike fitness apps that are intentionally downloaded, the Apple Health automatically tracks the user's activity without knowledge or affirmative consent. As technology becomes more advanced, the courts will routinely be tasked with weighing relevancy against privacy concerns.

2. Bitman O'Brien & Morat, PLLC v. Oliver Dawoud and Rosemary Dawoud, Husband and Wife, And Dr. Nagi Youssef, Motion for Entitlement to Attorneys Fees, December 17, 2025.

Circuit Court for The Eighteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Seminole County, Florida

Case Number: 2023-CA-002737

Plaintiff Counsel: James M. Talley

Defense Counsel: H. Clay Parker

In this case, one of the Defendants sought entitlement to attorney's fees and costs pursuant to Florida Statutes § 768.79 and Rule 1.442 Florida Rules of Civil Procedure after judgment was entered in Defendant's favor. The parties did not dispute that the Defendant was the prevailing party, but rather Plaintiff asserted the Defendant's proposals for settlement were "riddled with ambiguities," facially contradictory, and improperly required the dismissal of non-parties, thereby rendering the proposals unenforceable. Specifically, Defendant argued the phrase "all claims in both cases" was ambiguous. To reconcile the issue, I reviewed the whole document rather than certain provisions in isolation and found that the provisions cited by Plaintiff, when read in context with the entire document, revealed clear, unambiguous language that was reasonably susceptible to only one meaning. This case is significant because it highlights the importance of interpreting a provision in light of the whole text and not in isolation.

3. Sanctuary At Aloma Association, Inc.,v. Scott W. Marion, Motion to Enforce Trial Order, April 23, 2025.

Circuit Court for The Eighteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Seminole County, Florida

Plaintiff Attorney: Jennifer Davis

Defense Attorney: Mark Lippman

This case was initiated by a Homeowner's Association against a homeowner for injunctive and declaratory relief. The parties disagreed as to whether the homeowner's garage door

decorative fixture was in compliance with the governing documents. Just before the trial, the parties entered into an agreement which was ratified pursuant to an Order entered by the Court. Less than a month later, Plaintiff filed its Motion to Enforce Trial Order. Defendant responded and asserted that he had complied with the Order as written. During the hearing both parties made contract interpretation arguments, advocating for interpretation in their favor. I found that the trial order had a latent ambiguity which permitted me to look outside the four corners of the document and consider extrinsic evidence such as the transcript of the proceedings, the historical dealings and negotiation between the parties. Using the extrinsic evidence, I found in favor of the Plaintiff. This case is significant because it highlights the importance of determining whether an ambiguity is a patent ambiguity or a latent ambiguity before proceeding with the analysis and interpretation.

4. Joshua Michael Shamah, v. City of Sanford and Sanford Police Department. Defendant's Motion to Dismiss and Ore Tenus Motion for Sanctions. November 19, 2025.

Circuit Court for The Eighteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Seminole County, Florida

Plaintiff Attorney: Self-represented

Defense Attorney: Lindsey Greene

This was a case initiated by a pro se plaintiff against the City of Sanford and Sanford Police Department. Plaintiff was seeking to have all records of his prior arrest destroyed. Defendants filed a Motion to Dismiss detailing the frivolousness of the Complaint and the impossibility of Plaintiff obtaining his requested relief. Rather than dismissing the case, Plaintiff filed a Response to Defendant's Motion to Dismiss replete with hallucinated cases and incomplete citations. At the hearing, Plaintiff admitted he was "grasping at straws" and that he had relied heavily of Artificial Intelligence to draft his pleadings and had no idea if the cases were real or not. Defendant made an ore tenus request for sanctions against Plaintiff, which Plaintiff surprisingly agreed to pay. This case is significant because the use of Artificial Intelligence is becoming prevalent, particularly among pro se parties. It is a reminder that judges have a duty to maintain the integrity of the judicial system by ensuring that the process is not abused by frivolous filings or hallucinated cases.

**5. Small Claims Matters, Ineffective Service of Process Issue
County Court for Seminole County, Florida, Small Claims Division**

This is not one case, but a pattern that emerged culminating in the realization that a particular process server was failing to properly serve the parties and falsifying the Return of Service to reflect service, thereby significantly interfering with the due process rights of the parties. The actions of the process server came to light after numerous Defendants appeared over the course of several weeks claiming they had not been properly served.

Each time a party claimed ineffective service of process I reviewed the Affidavit of Service, and each time it was the same server. The allegations of improper service were corroborated by the descriptions of the person served. Often the description provided on the affidavit was vastly different than the person standing before me. It was apparent that this process server was failing to properly serve Defendants and then falsifying the affidavits. I conferred with Judge Grunor on the issue to determine how best to address the situation, but before we took any further action, we were provided reason to believe the server had been terminated from the company and was no longer serving in Seminole County. This series of events highlights the important role of the Judge as the gatekeeper of our system. It is incumbent on judges to protect the integrity of our judicial system.

- 26.** Provide citations and a brief summary of all of your orders or opinions where your decision was reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, attach copies of the opinions.

None.

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

None.

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

No.

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

No.

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

No.

NON-LEGAL BUSINESS INVOLVEMENT

- 31.** 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.

None.

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

In 2017, I owned a title company with another attorney, Kimberly Soto, Esq., and two real estate brokers. The title company was in business from 2017 to 2020. The company has been dissolved. I received approximately \$40,071.59 in compensation from 2017 to 2020 from the company.

In 2020, I acquired a 215 Health and Life Insurance License and briefly sold insurance policies for Florida Blue. I received approximately \$6,500 in compensation.

In 2020, I opened a process-serving business with another attorney. The company only did business for a short time and was dissolved when I became a General Magistrate.

POSSIBLE BIAS OR PREJUDICE

- 33.** 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.

I don't believe there would be cases or litigants that I would find difficult to sit as the presiding judge to the extent that a conflict would arise.

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

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

None.

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

None.

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

“Why Hire a Real Estate Attorney” Real Estate Success Podcast, (March 17, 2021). I was asked to be a guest on the above podcast to discuss the benefits of having an attorney involved in real estate transactions.

“Property Done Properly” Panelist, OCBA Real Property Committee CLE, (April 12, 2019). I presented information on the dispute resolution clause in the FARBAR contract and discussed escrow disputes and how to protect the Title Company’s right to attorneys’ fees.

Uniform Motion Calendar Workshop, The Florida Bar Young Lawyer’s Division Law School Division, (March 23, 2018). I discussed the general practice and procedures for Uniform Motion Calendar Hearings and conducted some role-playing exercises with the students.

FARBAR Contract Review, One Blue Real Estate School, (April 25, 2017). I presented best practices for completing contracts to prospective and newly- licensed real estate agents.

Junior Achievement-Career Success Program, (2018–2020). I presented weekly lectures and workshops to high school students to teach them interpersonal skills, provide interviewing techniques and assist them with learning how to work in team settings.

We the People Leadership Class, Program Mentor, South Seminole Academy, (September 2019–November 2019). I attended classes during the school day to serve as a mentor for the students enrolled in the program which explores how the Founders’ ideas on government led to the creation of the Constitution. I also provided feedback on their presentations and debates as they prepared for the statewide competition.

Judge, 18th Judicial Circuit High School Mock Trial Competition, (February 2022). I was a member of a 3-person panel who evaluated the teams’ performances and provided feedback to each member of the team.

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

I currently teach two sections of Real Estate Law for The University of Central Florida's School of Business Administration.

University of Central Florida,

(August 2021–Present)

Real Estate Law, REE 3433 - 0002

Fundamentals of Real Estate, REE 3043 - 0002

Capstone-Legal Issues, PLA 4935-0077

Seminole State College

(August 2020–August 2023)

Real Property Transactions, PLA 2614

Real Property II, PLA2612

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

Recognition of Service Award, Seminole County Bar Association, (2025). Awarded in recognition for my service as President of the Seminole County Bar Association.

Distinguished Service Award, Seminole County Bar Association, (2022). Awarded only periodically to recognize outstanding service to the Seminole County Bar Association.

Certificate of Appreciation, Seminole County School Board, (2019). Awarded to the volunteers who participated in the Junior Achievement Program.

Guardian of Justice Award, Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida, (2013).

Pro Bono Service Award, Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida, (2013). Awarded to lawyers who provided pro bono services for their organization.

Book Award- Adoption Law, Barry University School of Law, (2010). Awarded to the law student who received the highest grade in the course.

President's Honor Roll, University of Central Florida, (2005). Awarded in recognition of scholastic honors to degree-seeking undergraduate students who maintain a 4.0 GPA in two consecutive part-time terms.

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

No.

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

Seminole County Bar Association, (2012–Present)

President (2025)
President- Elect (2024)
Board of Directors (2023, 2025, 2026)
Secretary (2023)

Seminole Inn of Court, (2019–Present)

Board of Directors (current)
President (2023–2024)
President-Elect (2022–2023)
Membership Chair (2021–2022)
Program Chair (2020–2021)

Federalist Society, Orlando Chapter (2021–Present)

Seminole County Florida Association for Women Lawyers, (2018–Present)

President (2021–2022)
President-Elect (2020–2021)
Chapter Representative (2018–2020)
Founding Board Member (2018)

Orange County Bar Association, Real Property Committee, (2018–2020)

Officer (2018–2019)

Central Florida Real Estate Attorneys' Council, (2018–2023)

Chair, Mentor Program (2019)
Board Member (2018–2021)

Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers, (2012–Present)

Member

Junior Achievement, Career Success Program, (2018–2020)

Instructor

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

Central Florida Women's Resource Center, (2018–2021)

Board of Directors (2018–2021)

Chair, Fundraising Committee (2019)
Committee Member, “I am Possible” (2019)

Community Leaders and Elected Officials, (2021–Present)
Member

Business Networking International (2017–2020)
Member

Orlando Regional Realtors Association (2017–2020)
Member

Make-a-Wish, Walk-a-thon Recruitment Committee (2019)
Member

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

No.

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

American Bar Association Military Pro Bono Project, (2012–2013). I dedicated my time to volunteer my services to members who needed representation for various legal matters, including dissolution actions, foreclosure defense, petitions for name change.

Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida, (2012–2015). I met with community members in need of advice regarding bankruptcy and family law matters.

Judge, Volusia County Teen Court, (2012–2015). I facilitated the proceedings for teenagers charged with minor crimes. I provided oversight to the high school students serving as the jury members, and ensured the jury issued fair sentences to the defendants.

44. Please describe any hobbies or other vocational interests.

My daughter and I are both passionate about riding and caring for horses. I recently purchased the lesson horse my daughter formed a bond with, and we spend most Saturday mornings training and enjoying time with our horse. Participating in horsemanship allows us to spend quality time together enjoying the same activity.

I also enjoy visiting national parks and collecting "Passport Stamps" from each location.

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

I have never served in the military.

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

<https://www.facebook.com/kpaulter>

<https://www.instagram.com/kristinapaulter/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kristina-paulter-esq-8033a150>

<https://www.tiktok.com/@kpaulter>

<https://truthsocial.com/@kpaulter13>

FAMILY BACKGROUND

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

My husband and I have been separated since September 2023. We maintain separate residences with him retaining the marital home. We are amicably working toward finalizing a Marital Settlement Agreement and Parenting Plan prior to filing the Petition for Dissolution.

Spouse- Evan Paulter

Occupation- Business Development Manager

Employer- North South Supply Company

Date of Marriage: 6/13/2009

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



CRIMINAL AND MISCELLANEOUS ACTIONS

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

No.

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

No.

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

No.

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

Carol Sylvester v. Beall's Outlet, et al.,

Circuit Court, Volusia County, FL, Case Number, 2004-31874-CICI.

In 2003, I was working as a loss prevention agent in a Beall's Outlet store when a person later identified as Carol Sylvester, accompanied an unknown male subject into the store. The unknown male subject concealed items passed all points of sale and exited the store with the person later identified as Carol Sylvester. The pair got into a vehicle and drove away. I provided the description of the vehicle to the Daytona Beach Police Department, and the vehicle was stopped later in the day by a Daytona Beach Police Officer who investigated the incident and arrested Ms. Sylvester for petit theft. The State Attorney's Office declined to prosecute Ms. Sylvester based on the video

evidence and Ms. Sylvester filed a lawsuit against multiple parties, including Bealls' Inc., and myself individually. I was ultimately dismissed as a Defendant.

Jose Torres v. Odalis Torres.

Circuit Court, Seminole County, FL, Case Number, 2020-CA-000157.

I was named as Defendant because my name appeared on the Warranty Deed as the preparer. I was dismissed as a party after filing a Motion for Sanctions against the Plaintiff. The case was between divorcing spouses who sold a property and closed using the title company that I co-owned from 2017 to 2020. Mr. Torres alleged that the conveyance was fraudulent and that his wife, with the assistance of the title company closing agents, had forged his name on the documents. After investigating the matter, it was determined that my only personal involvement was drafting the warranty deed. It was further determined that the staff had engaged in direct communication with the husband, had mailed documents for signature to the parties, and had neither witnessed nor notarized the documents. The documents were executed by the sellers independently and returned to our office. The case against me individually, and all other defendants was wholly without merit. Each defendant was subsequently dismissed without proceeding past the initial filing stage, and the case is now closed.

PNC Bank National Association v. Evan Richard Paulter, et al,

Circuit Court, Seminole County, FL Case Number, 24-CA-0900

My husband and I agreed to separate in September 2023 and maintain separate residences. Pursuant to that informal agreement, my husband was to remain in the marital home and be solely responsible for the expenses and liabilities associated with the marital home. Subsequently, and unbeknownst to me, after I moved out, my estranged husband failed to make the required monthly mortgage payments. I am not a party to the Promissory Note, do not reside in the home, and only signed the Mortgage as the non-borrowing spouse. As such, I did not receive notice of the delinquent payments under the Note until the foreclosure action commenced on May 15, 2024. Once I was aware of the pending action, I immediately contacted the attorney of record, accepted service on behalf of myself and my estranged husband, and paid the full amount required for reinstatement of the terms of the original Note and Mortgage. I took this action and paid the arrearage in full even though I was not legally responsible for the debt as the non-borrowing spouse, nor equitably responsible for the debt pursuant to the informal, albeit non-enforceable, agreement with my estranged husband. Even though I did not want to pay a debt I did not owe, or fix a problem I did not create, I did so because I value integrity and believe in doing what's right, even when it's hard. The matter was pending less than 45 days before I ensured the account was returned to good standing and the case was dismissed.

Eric P. Miller v. Seminole County General Magistrate Kristina Paulter

County Court, Seminole County, FL, Case Number, 25-SC-7460

Plaintiff, Eric Miller, was a Defendant in case in the small claims division of the Seminole County Court. The case number of the underlying case is 25-SC-001704. I presided over a pre-trial conference on the underlying matter and set the matter for a trial. Defendant objected to the matter proceeding to trial and requested the case be summarily dismissed at the pre-trial conference. I found that Defendant was disputing the debt which created a genuine issue of material fact in dispute, which prohibited disposing of the case summarily at the pre-trial conference. Defendant filed the subsequent action against me asserting I had violated his due process rights by requiring the matter to proceed to a trial where he could present evidence and testimony in support of his defense. I was never served with the statement of claim and only became aware of the pending matter when I began receiving mail from attorneys offering their services with the statement of claim attached to the letters. The assigned judge, Judge Grunor, set a hearing with the Defendant and dismissed the matter with prejudice.

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

No.

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

No.

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

On November 08, 2024, I received a Florida Uniform Traffic Citation for failure to stop at a traffic control device. The citation number is AK6DSXE and the Case Number 24-TR-0900. I was assessed a civil penalty of \$264.00 which was timely paid.

On April 18, 2026, I received a written warning for making an improper U-turn. No citation was issued.

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

No.

- 57.** 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.

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

No.

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

No.

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

Yes.

HEALTH

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

No.

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

No.

63. In the past ten years have any of the following occurred to you which would interfere with your ability to work in a competent and professional manner: experiencing periods of no sleep for two or three nights, experiencing periods of hyperactivity, spending money profusely with extremely poor judgment, suffering from extreme loss of appetite, issuing checks without sufficient funds, defaulting on a loan, experiencing frequent mood swings, uncontrollable tiredness, falling asleep without warning in the middle of an activity. If yes, please explain.

No.

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

No.

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

No.

66. 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 or State law provisions.)

No.

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

No.

68. 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.

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

No.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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

Response:

My experience serving as General Magistrate has afforded me the opportunity to hone my practical skills as well as my philosophical skills. I have navigated the challenges of efficiently managing a heavy small claims docket, while ensuring the parties are afforded due process. I have learned new areas of the law and struggled to make difficult decisions. Serving as General Magistrate has tested my resolve to remain patient, even-tempered and respectful even when the person standing before me is not exuding the same restraint. My judicial philosophy has been tested, and I have proven that I can follow the law. The lessons I have learned as General Magistrate have prepared me to be ready on day one to serve as a Circuit Judge.

In addition to the on-the-job training as a General Magistrate, being part of the equestrian community has provided opportunities to refine and develop my resilience, humility and leadership. If given the opportunity to serve the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, I would bring those same qualities to the bench.

Finally, I have spent years as a servant leader building deep and meaningful relationships with people, both personally and professionally. I have lived in Central Florida for 26 years and am deeply entrenched in this community. I know what it takes to run a successful campaign, and I will have a solid community of support in any campaign to keep a judicial seat.

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

Response:

If I am fortunate enough to be selected to serve as a Circuit Judge, I will bring to the position a deep respect for the rule of law and a judicial philosophy grounded in principle that the independence of the judges is required to guard the Constitution and the fundamental rights of individuals. I believe it takes courage and humility for a judge to appreciate the limited role of the

judiciary and apply the law as it is written, and not as he or she would like it to be. I have steadfastly adhered to this philosophy as a General Magistrate and have proven that I can follow the law even when confronted with political pressure or personal preference. I believe I can serve the people of the Eighteenth Circuit well, based on my judicial philosophy and experience, and if selected, I will diligently fulfill the role in the manner in which it was intended; as an essential branch of government dedicated to preserving Constitution integrity.

REFERENCES

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

Honorable Melanie Chase, Chief Judge

Criminal Justice Courthouse
101 Eslinger Way
Sanford, FL 32773
Melanie.Chase@flcourts18.org
407-665-4993

Honorable Christopher Sprysenski

Seminole County Civil Courthouse
301 N. Park Avenue
Sanford, FL 32771
Chris.Sprysenski@flcourts18.org
407-665-4245

Honorable Michael Rudisill

Criminal Justice Courthouse
101 Eslinger Way
Sanford, FL 32773
Michael.Rudisill@flcourts18.org
407-665-4218

Honorable Sylvia Grunor

Seminole County Civil Courthouse
301 N. Park Avenue
Sanford, FL 32771
Sylvia.Grunor@flcourts18.org
407-665-4300

Honorable Mark Herr

Seminole County Civil Courthouse
301 N. Park Avenue
Sanford, FL 32771
Mark.Herr@flcourts18.org
407-665-4910

Honorable Charlie Crawford

Deputy Chief Judge (Former Chief Judge)
Eighteenth Judicial Circuit
2825 Judge Fran Jamieson Way
Viera, FL 32940
Charlie.Crawford@flcourts18.org
321- 617-7258

Honorable Jigisa Dookhoo

Eighteenth Judicial Circuit 2825
Judge Fran Jamieson Way Viera,
FL 32940
Jigisa.Dookhoo@flcourts18.org
321-617-7281

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Matthews Bark, Esq.

Matthews R. Bark, P.A.
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matt@mrbarklaw.com
407- 865-8888

Raymond Traendly, Esq.

TK Law, P.A.
999 Douglas Ave., Ste. 3333
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rtraendly@onefirmforlife.com
407- 834-4847

Samanth Lambert, Esq.

The Law Office of David A. Webster, P.A.
1220 Commerce Park Dr.
Ste 207 Longwood, Fl 32779
samantha@thewebsterlawoffice.com
407-862-9222

Dave Webster, Esq.

The Law Office of David A. Webster, P.A.
1220 Commerce Park Dr.
Ste 207 Longwood, Fl 32779
407-862-9222

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 12 day of August, 2026.

Kristina L. Paulter

Printed Name

[Signature]

Signature

State of Florida

County of Seminole

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me by means of

☒ physical presence OR ☐ online notarization

this 12 day of August, 2026.

By Kristina L. Paulter

☒ Personally known _____

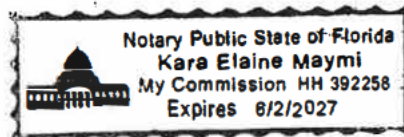
☐ Produced ID _____

Type of Identification _____

Kara E. Maymi

Signature Notary Public

Kara E. Maymi



Printed name of Notary Public

(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.

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: September 16, 2026

JNC Submitting To: 18th Circuit

Name (please print): Kristina L. Paulter

Current Occupation: General Magistrate

Telephone Number: 407-665-4300

Attorney No.: 95701

Gender (check one): ☐

Male ☐ Female ☒

Ethnic Origin (check one): ☒

White, non-Hispanic

☐

Hispanic

☐

Black

☐

American Indian/Alaskan Native

☐

Asian/Pacific Islander

County of Residence: Seminole

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.

Kristina Paulter

Printed Name of Applicant

Kristina Paulter

Signature of Applicant

Date: September 16, 2026

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: \$15,501.50

Last Three Years: 2025 \$96,048.00 (Est.) 2024: \$ 86,084.57 2023: \$84,791.83

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: \$15,501.50

Last Three Years: 2025: \$89,969.20 (Est.) 2024: 83,419.76 2023: \$70,898.22

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: \$3,300 (UCF Adjunct)

Last Three Years: 2025: \$23,894.55 2024: \$23,894.55 2023: \$23,894.55

4. State the amount you have earned in the preceding three years on a year by year basis from all sources other than the practice of law, and generally describe the source of such income or losses.

Current Year-To-Date: \$3,300 (UCF, Adjunct)

Last Three Years: 2025: \$22,094.47 2024: \$22,094.47 2023: \$22,094.47

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

Current Year-To-Date: \$3,300 (UCF Adjunct)

Last Three Years: 2025: \$22,094.47 2024: \$22,094.47 2023: \$22,094.47

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 September 16, 2026 was \$ 535,610.89 .

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 \$ 60,000

ASSETS INDIVIDUALLY VALUED AT OVER \$1,000:

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

VALUE OF ASSET

5561 Oakworth Place, Sanford, FL 32773	\$415,000.00
IRA (Price Financial Services)	\$150,000.00 (estimated)
Bank Account (Space Coast Credit Union)	\$6,230.43
2021 Ford Expedition	\$35,400
CD (Space Coast Credit Union)	\$75,000

PART C - LIABILITIES

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

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CREDITOR

AMOUNT OF LIABILITY

Space Coast Credit Union	\$39,975.16
Nelnet (Student Loans) P.O. Box 82561 Lincoln, NE 68501-2561	\$161,935.54
American Express	\$4,700
Chase Bank	\$3,400

JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITIES NOT REPORTED ABOVE:

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CREDITOR

AMOUNT OF LIABILITY

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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
Seminole County Board of County Commissioners	1101 E. First Street, Sanford, FL 32771	\$110,000.00
University of Central Florida	4000 Central Florida Blvd., Orlando, FL, 32816	\$23,894.00

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 BUSINESS' INCOME	ADDRESS OF SOURCE	PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY OF SOURCE

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

	BUSINESS ENTITY #1	BUSINESS ENTITY #2	BUSINESS ENTITY #3
NAME OF BUSINESS ENTITY			
ADDRESS OF BUSINESS ENTITY			
PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY			
POSITION HELD WITH ENTITY			
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.

STATE OF FLORIDA**COUNTY OF** Seminole

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this 16 day of Sept., 2026 by Kara E. Maymi

Kara E. Maymi

(Signature of Notary Public—State of Florida)

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

Personally Known X OR Produced Identification _____

Type of Identification Produced _____

[Signature]
SIGNATURE

