

SANDRA C. UPCHURCH



FOR FLORIDA BAR BOARD OF GOVERNORS ~ 7TH CIRCUIT

I am a mom, a wife and an attorney. I have been a member of the Florida Bar since 1994.

I am proud beyond words of my profession and what it represents.

I want very much to represent the 7th Circuit on the Florida Bar Board of Governors and work to advance our profession.

My professional experience is primarily in the government sector. I represented the State of Florida, the City of Tallahassee and the City of Ormond Beach. For most all of my practice I have in effect been a general practitioner handling class action litigation, employment law matters, law enforcement matters, land use and environmental concerns, contract and procurement disputes, negligence cases, appellate issues, civil rights cases, regulatory issues and administrative matters. I am practicing now as a full-time mediator with the Upchurch Watson White and Max Mediation Group mediating a wide variety of circuit civil disputes which means I am still a general practitioner for all intents and purposes. It is my desire to bring to the Board of Governors the observations and talents of a broadly-experienced general practitioner and government lawyer.

I am interested in many facets of membership on the Board of Governors. Of primary importance to you and therefore to me is court funding. Many of you have shared with me the frustration of knowing that our circuit has been authorized for 3 more circuit judges and 2 more county judges in Volusia County but that the funding for those positions has not been forthcoming. Many of you shared with me stories of judges with thousands of cases on their dockets and no available hearing times. This situation is a disservice to the practitioners and public alike and it simply must be rectified. Also important is the need for the Board of Governors to embrace social media and technology advances as through these avenues The Florida Bar will be able to offer timely, cost-effective and convenient benefits to its members such as affordable CLE programs and paperless communications.

I am pleased to say that I have met countless attorneys from the 7th Circuit. I have made many new friends and become reacquainted with many old friends in the Volusia, Putnam, Flagler and St. Johns County bar associations. I have experienced Corky Bells and eaten “shad” in Putnam, partaken of a few too many Cuban sandwiches at The Columbia with my St. Johns colleagues, and offered more than a few Lunch and Learn seminars in Volusia and Flagler counties. My firm’s complimentary statewide webinars have been a great opportunity to reach out and meet more of you than I otherwise possibly could. I commit to continuing this circuit-wide outreach because it is important that you feel a real connection to your Florida Bar.

If you see to it to elect me as the 7th Circuit’s representative, I commit to contributing to the Board a broad perspective, an open mind, enthusiasm, and a strong work ethic.



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