



LAW OFFICES OF  
**Markeishia L. Smith, P.A.**  
EVERY CLIENT EVERDAY

408 S 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Haines City, FL 33844  
Ph: (863) 866-9917, Fax: (863) 438-6860

January 16, 2026

Ken Cassel, Town Manager  
202 E Main Street  
Dundee, Florida, 33838

Dear Mr. Cassel,

Please accept this Letter of Interest on behalf of The Law Offices of Markeishia L. Smith, P.A. in response to the Town of Dundee's solicitation for municipal attorney services. I respectfully submit my qualifications for consideration and would welcome the opportunity to serve as legal counsel to the Town Commission, Town Manager, and Town staff.

My name is Markeishia L. Smith, Florida Bar No. 122772, and I am the principal attorney of the firm, located at 408 S. 10th Street, Haines City, Florida 33844. I have been a member of the Florida Bar for nearly a decade, during which time I have guided thousands of clients through a wide range of legal matters. My practice includes municipal and local government representation, and I operate a small, hands-on firm to ensure consistent attorney involvement, accessibility, and practical guidance tailored to the day-to-day demands of municipal operations. I am directly available to elected officials and staff and may be reached at 863-866-9917 or [msmith@thesmithlawfirm.org](mailto:msmith@thesmithlawfirm.org). Affiliated counsel Cheyenne Whitfield, Esq., provides additional depth and perspective, offering valued support as needed.

I understand the unique responsibilities of municipal counsel, including providing timely and practical legal guidance, attending commission and board meetings, and supporting elected officials and staff in conducting public business transparently and lawfully. I am adept at balancing legal risk with policy objectives, upholding the public trust, and ensuring compliance with Florida's Sunshine Law, Public Records Act, and ethics requirements. I have experience assisting with navigating growth and development for a municipality, and my practices aligns closely with the Town of Dundee's goal of promoting orderly growth while preserving community character and supporting long-term social and economic sustainability. I routinely assist with structuring land use decisions and development-related agreements that are transparent, legally defensible, and consistent with adopted plans and municipal objectives.

I currently serve as City Attorney for the City of Fort Meade in Polk County, Florida. I began my service as Interim City Attorney in October 2024 and was appointed City Attorney in June 2025. In this role, I provide proactive, solutions-oriented guidance to the City Commission, City Manager, Deputy Clerk, and staff on a broad range of legal, procedural, and policy matters. My approach emphasizes clarity, responsiveness, and collaboration, while strictly adhering to the Florida Constitution, Florida Statutes, the municipal charter, and applicable administrative rules.



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My municipal legal experience includes, but is not limited to:

- Municipal governance and Sunshine Law compliance
- Public records law and response coordination
- Ethics and conflicts of interest
- Employment and labor matters, including coordination with management, staff, and outside counsel
- Land use, zoning, and development matters
- Development, redevelopment, and territorial agreements
- Contracts and procurement
- Code enforcement
- Litigation management, including foreclosure actions
- Annexation matters
- Resolution and ordinance drafting
- Risk management, claims coordination, and policy development

My office is structured to provide responsive, efficient, and cost-effective legal services. I work closely with municipal officials, staff, and outside agencies to address both routine and emergent legal issues. As a small firm, the Town would benefit from my direct and consistent attorney involvement which would ensure continuity, accountability, and a deep understanding of the Town's priorities and operations.

**References include:**

- City of Fort Meade Commission (2024, 2025, and current)
- Jim Elenski, City Manager, Haines City
- Jane Waters, Former CRA Director, Haines City
- Additional references available upon request

I would welcome the opportunity to provide additional information or participate in an interview at the Town's convenience. I look forward to the possibility of serving the Town of Dundee. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

*M. Smith*

**Markeishia L. Smith, Esquire**  
Florida Bar No. 122772