

Mayor and Commissioners
May 16, 2022
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- 4) William E. Pruitt, Esq., Pruitt & Pruitt, P.A., <https://pruittpruittlaw.com>, whose proposed hourly rate is \$350.

Attached is the resume of each of these individuals, as well as the links to their websites.

Each of these attorneys has been invited to attend, either in-person or via Zoom, your May 19, 2022, meeting, so that they may make a short presentation and you may discuss this matter with them. It is anticipated that after meeting each of these individuals, the Commission may decide to select one of them to assist the City in negotiations with the owners and representatives of the Gulfstream.

Sincerely,

Glen J. Torcivia

Glen J. Torcivia

Enclosures

cc: Carmen Davis, City Manager
Juan Ruiz, Assistant City Manager
William Waters, Comm. Sustainability Dir.
Melissa Coyne, City Clerk

Pam E. Booker Pettis, Esq.
401 North Avenue of the Arts
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33311
(772) 971-8676

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE Experienced local government attorney at one of the fastest growing Cities in the nation with over twenty-eight years-experience in various areas of local government practice, including circuit court, appellate court and federal court litigation. Effectively works with government officials, the public and staff to advise the City on all legal matters with a focus on avoiding costly litigation.

BAR	Florida Bar, Admitted	October 1994
MEMBERSHIP	U.S. Federal Court Southern District of Florida, Admitted	October 1998

LEGAL **LAW OFFICES OF AUSTIN PAMIES NORRIS WEEKS POWELL PLLC**
September 2019-current
Responsible for land use and zoning items, including representation of the Planning and Zoning Boards for multiple cities, special development projects and land use related litigation matters.

CITY OF WESTLAKE **June 2016- April 2021**
City Attorney for a newly incorporated municipality in Palm Beach County. Responsible for creating, drafting and obtaining approval of initial comprehensive plan for the city. Responsible for drafting all ordinances and resolutions for the operations of the city.

CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE **April 2014-February 2016**
EXPERIENCE **City Attorney**
Responsible for Management of the Legal Department and all of the legal matters for the City of Port St. Lucie, including legal advisor to the City Council, the City Manager and Department Heads on various legal issues. Responsible for management of outside counsel for complex litigation involving the City and for issuing legal opinions on legal matters as they arise.

Senior Assistant City Attorney **March 1997-April 2014**
Acting City Attorney in the absence of the City Attorney, responsible for advising the City Council and City Manager on all legal matters that arise. Responsible for property acquisitions, review of purchasing contracts, review of multi-million-dollar water and sewer installation services contracts, review of plats, and general counsel for various departments on multiple City issues.
Planning & Zoning Board Attorney, responsible for representation of the board for all matters appearing before the board. Responsible for representing the City in negotiating complex contracts with multiple developers regarding annexation, transportation and development rights. Several of these transactions involved complex bond funding.
Community Redevelopment Agency Board Attorney, responsible for representation of the Community Redevelopment Agency ("CRA") including review of several bond financings and Council for the establishment of the CRA.
Responsible for providing legal opinions and legal advice in writing and orally for various statutes, ordinances, the constitution, and case law for a variety of legal issues which have occurred during my tenure at the City of Port St. Lucie.

**LEGAL
EXPERIENCE**

Circuit Court Practice

Represented the City in a breach of contract case over former Chief of Police termination. Case was dismissed based upon a Motion to Dismiss for failure to state a cause of action. Represented the City in suit for injunctive relief regarding City's bidding procedures under Florida Statutes, Chapter 255. The request for injunctive relief was denied by the Circuit Court. Represented the City in a breach of contract issue on a multi-million-dollar road construction project. The case settled based upon the construction engineer's estimates.

Represented the Expressway Authority and Florida Department of Transportation for an environmental challenge and request for injunctive relief objecting to transportation funding for a bridge over the St. Lucie River. The request for injunctive relief was denied. Represented the City in civil forfeiture proceedings.

Appellate Practice

Represented the City in the appeal of the complaint for injunctive relief for alleged violations of Florida Statutes, Chapter 255, for bidding procedures and posting of a bond for a construction project. The lower court's decision was affirmed on appeal, injunctive relief was denied.

Represented the City twice in a case of first impression, in appellate practice before the Fourth District Court of Appeals regarding stormwater litigation and notice requirements under Florida Statutes, Chapter 197. The first case was brought on behalf of a large developer, the second case was brought as a class action suit. The City had to refund stormwater fees due to improper notice under Chapter 197.

Federal Court Practice

Worked with outside counsel representing the City in two federal court cases regarding sober homes and/or community residential facilities locating within the City and possible violations of the American's with Disabilities Act and the Fair Housing Act based upon reasonable accommodations.

Represented the City in Federal Court on a complaint based upon several constitutional claims violations in a zoning matter for alleged discrimination against a church locating in a strip shopping center. The case was settled. Represented the City in Federal Court on an alleged Federal Telecommunications Act violation case. The case was dismissed in a Motion for Summary Judgment based upon the record below, statutory interpretation and case law analysis.

**LEGAL
EXPERIENCE**

Represented the City in a Federal Court case for Breach of Contract with Clear Channel Communications, regarding construction of billboards on City owned property. That case resulted in a settlement agreement wherein the City pays no attorney's fees.

Assisted in trial preparation by interviewing and preparing over forty witnesses for trial, conducted direct and cross examination of several witnesses and representation of the City during a two-week trial in a federal discrimination case under 42 U.S.C. 1981 and 42 U.S.C. 1983.

SIMMONS & SOLOMON

June 1994-March 1997

Solely responsible for family law practice, guardianships, representation for condominium associations, and litigation. A change of custody case was appealed to the Fourth District Court of Appeals, the change of custody for my client was affirmed by the Fourth District Court of Appeals.
Legal research as an intern and trial assistance.

COONEY, HALICZER, MATTSON & LANCE

Summer 1993

Responsible for legal research and writing for a major insurance defense firm on complex legal liability issues post hurricane Andrew. Writing memorandums of law on various legal matters.

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

1994

Virgil Hawkins Scholarship Recipient

Public Interest Fellowship Recipient

**Bachelor of Science Business Administration, Finance/
Insurance, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

1991

**PROFESSIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS**

Board of Directors Pace Center for Girls

2015-2020

Board of Directors First Tee of the Treasure Coast

2016-2022

Florida Bar Judicial Administration & Evaluation Committee

2014-2022

Vice-President Port St. Lucie Business Women's Association

2010-2011

President, Port St. Lucie Bar Association

2003-2004

Vice-President, Port St. Lucie Bar Association

2002-2003

Treasure Coast Women's Lawyers Association

2001-2004

References Shall be Provided Upon Request