



NEWS FROM:
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Newest APD in Fourth Circuit on Winning Defense Team During First Week

Jacksonville, FL: Fourth Circuit Public Defender Matt Shirk applauds his newest assistant; staff attorney De'Anna Hines helped convince a jury to deliver a 'not guilty' verdict for a Duval County woman who was arrested for Driving Under the Influence. *The State of Florida vs. Ashlynn Walt* was decided on January 13th in a Duval County courtroom. Assistant Public Defender Matt Lufrano led the defense in asserting that Ms. Walt, who was charged with DUI, was innocent due to inconsistencies between the State's story and physical injuries she suffered. Additionally, the State was unable to provide any evidence of her impairment during the incident that took place in April 2009.



“Our office is well balanced with senior, more experienced attorneys who have tried cases for many years as well as a solid group of newer attorneys who possess unique energy and enthusiasm for the law,” said Shirk. “The fusion that we’ve created with this balance ensures that we are upholding our duty to provide the most effective representation to the clients appointed to us by the court. I’m extremely proud of De’Anna and Matt, two of our newest attorneys, for their outstanding work on this case.”

(L-R) APD Matt Lufrano, Matt Shirk, APD De’Anna Hines

APD Lufrano started with the Fourth Circuit office in September 2009, he is a graduate of the University of Florida, Levin College of Law. Ms. Hines has been on the job for less than one month, serving as Assistant Public Defender in the County Court Unit. She is a May '09 graduate of Florida Coastal School of Law.
