



NEWS FROM:
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Summer 2010 New Hires in Clay, Duval County Public Defender Office

Green Cove Springs, FL: The Law Offices of Fourth Judicial Circuit Public Defender Matt Shirk welcomes several new faces to both the Green Cove Springs and Jacksonville offices.

New to the **Clay County Office** of the Public Defender are an attorney, a legal assistant, and a mentor:



Darcy Galnor: The former prosecutor and private practitioner became Assistant Public Defender in Clay County effective August 9th and will handle Juvenile Court. Ms. Galnor is a 2004 graduate of Florida Coastal School of Law. After her admittance to the Bar, she served as an Assistant State Attorney until 2008. Shortly thereafter she joined a private Jacksonville firm. Prior to entering the law, Darcy earned a B.A. in Journalism from Ohio State University and worked as a newspaper reporter for the Battle Creek, Michigan *Enquirer*, covering the education and police beats.



Sheila Pickman – Ms. Pickman joined the Clay County Public Defender Office as Secretary Two, effective July 1. A May graduate of Florida State College at Jacksonville, she earned her Associate's Degree and Certification as a Paralegal. Pursuant to her certification, she completed an internship in the PD Office. During that three month internship, the Jacksonville native also gained experience as a witness interviewer.



Raj Gupta – Serving in a newly created role, Mr. Gupta became the Director of Juvenile Mentoring in Clay County in June. The ordained minister also teaches a juvenile behavior modification program and leads a non-profit called Life Interrupted. Additionally, he is active in Guardian ad Litem, Meninak and the Justice Coalition. He earned a B.A. from UCLA and a Doctorate in Divinity from Trinity Seminary School. For 15 years, the New York native was an executive in the music industry. Mr. Gupta and his wife of 20 years Sonia, have two children; they reside in Fleming Island.

The **Jacksonville** office welcomes two new Assistant Public Defenders:



Lisa Haskins – A Jacksonville native, Lisa joined the Juvenile Unit as APD in June. She is an '09 graduate of The Thomas Cooley Law School and was admitted to the Florida Bar in April. Her prior legal experience includes a clerkship at private Jacksonville firm McGuire/Woods and an internship with the Public Defender Investigations Unit. Lisa earned her undergraduate degree from the University of North Florida. In her spare time, she plays locally in a competitive co-ed softball league.



Chris Blaisdell – For the past six years, Mr. Blaisdell has served as an Assistant State Attorney in Brevard County. He brings significant prosecutorial experience to the Felony Court Unit of the Public Defender Office where he started in July. He earned both his Bachelor's and law degree from Tulane University in New Orleans. He has lived in six other states as he comes from an Air Force family.
