



Legal Services
of NORTH FLORIDA
HOPE. JUSTICE. FOR ALL.

2024 Annual Report

*A clear pathway to justice for
everyone in North Florida.*

☎ 850-385-9007

🌐 www.LSNF.org

Serving the Florida Panhandle

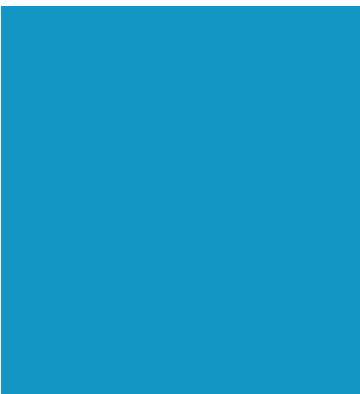


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Message from Our Leaders

Legal Services of North Florida worked toward our vision of a Clear Pathway for Justice in 2024, identifying new and innovative ways to help those in need to resolve the unique legal issues they face. As a growing organization covering the large geographical area of the Florida Panhandle, we reviewed our strengths and our assets to ensure we adapt to the changing legal landscape and needs of our clients. With nearly 50 attorneys on staff, we leverage the experience of each of them to the benefit of all our clients, no matter where they live in the Panhandle.

Because of the work of Legal Services of North Florida, families stay in their homes or are able to move to safer ones and are better able to pay their bills. Elderly and disabled clients receive the benefits that allow them to live independently. Children are fed, educated, and live in safe and healthy homes.

Our clients must choose daily between food, housing, education, health, and other necessities. Many have no discretionary funds in their budgets to cut. Missing one day of work because a sick child is sent home from school could result in not having enough money to pay the rent, utilities, or life-saving medications. Families searching for new housing were forced to pay application fees to multiple landlords in order to find a suitable home – funds they should be able to use to stay afloat.

Legal Services of North Florida helps these families find solutions within the courts and other legal processes. We know that those solutions are only a part of the puzzle and we must continue to work with other agencies that help – food pantries, housing providers, medical centers, homeless and domestic violence shelters, law enforcement, social workers, educators, and others. Legal Services of North Florida is honored to be a part of this shared safety net that makes our communities stronger, safer, and healthier.

Looking toward 2025, Legal Services aims to continue to play a supporting role in the lives of our neighbors. Whether you volunteer your time, make a donation, serve as a community partner, or directly fund the work of Legal Services of North Florida, thank you for your part in supporting us in our mission and vision to achieve effective change in North Florida. We could not do it without you.

Thank you.



Jamie Ito
LSNF Board President



Leslie Powell-Boudreaux
LSNF Executive Director

“Legal Services of North Florida is honored to be part of this shared safety net that makes our communities stronger, safer, and healthier.”

Our Leadership



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Edrene Johnson, Esq.

Michael Johnson

Kathleen Lanier

Skip Mitchell

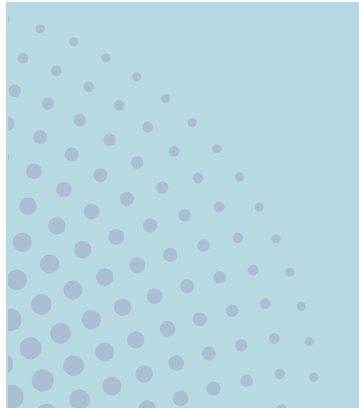
Magie Ozarowski, Esq.

Phil Smith, Esq.

Dan Thompson, Esq.

Stephanie Tillery-Rothfeder, Esq.

Yvonne Whitehead



EXECUTIVE STAFF

Leslie Powell-Boudreaux, Executive Director

Scott Manion, Director of Litigation

Ashley Nevels, Director of Finance

Melissa Ashton, Programs Director

Amy Browning, Director of Operations

Rashel Johnson, Director of Pro Bono

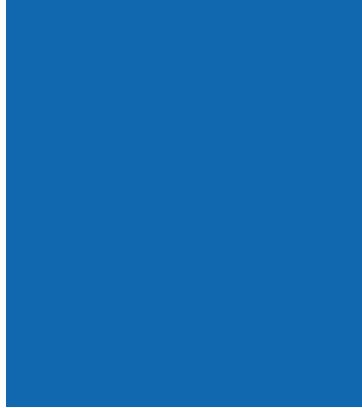
Charlotte Waters, Director of Communications

Jennifer Geeker, Director of Philanthropy

Jai McClure, Executive Assistant

Legal Services of North Florida is guided by a 21-member Board of Directors, seven of whom represent low-income client groups or are low-income clients themselves. The remaining members include an accountant and volunteer attorneys appointed by local voluntary bar associations and the Florida State University College of Law.

Mission & Vision



Our Vision

A clear pathway to justice for everyone in North Florida.

Our Mission

Legal Services of North Florida advocates for improved quality of life through high-caliber civil legal assistance for those unable to otherwise access such services.



Client Story

Maria and her young son were stuck in a cycle she couldn't break. One mistake on her credit report, something she didn't even cause, kept them shut out of every rental. She juggled two jobs just to afford the worst places; they stayed wherever landlords didn't ask questions.

Then came Legal Services of North Florida. LSNF legal staff stepped into her life and stood beside her, digging into her case, and removed the credit error that haunted her. Her score went up. They found safe, affordable housing. **And for the first time in years, Maria can finally say: she's home.**



7,438

Cases Handled
in 2024

17,654

Children & Adults Assisted

WHO DO WE SERVE?

Clients are normally limited to an adjusted income of 125% of the federal poverty guidelines, with several of our grant sources having other income guidelines. All cases must be civil in nature and adhere to our priorities.

Supported

366

clients with wills and
estate plans.

40%

Cases directly helped
children.

Provided housing advice
to

1,386

people.

Help Provided

LSNF serves thousands of people each year across 16 counties.

Each of our 5 primary locations manage hundreds of cases at a time, ensuring eligible clients receive professional and quality legal assistance.

Gender of Clients Served



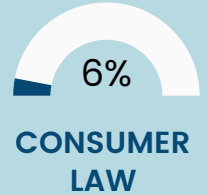
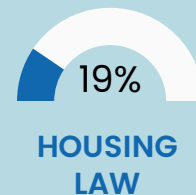
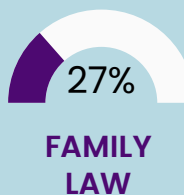
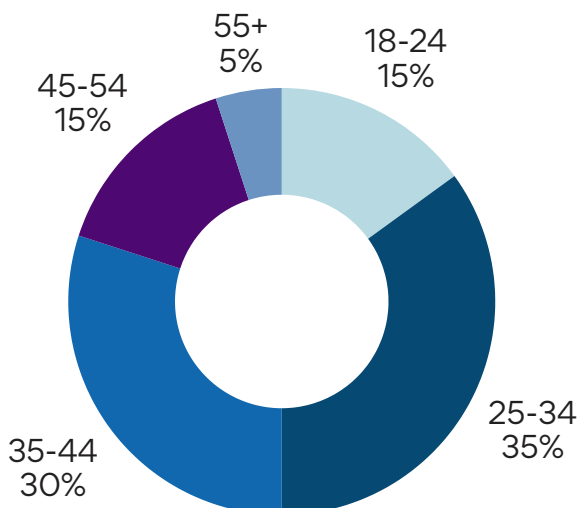
\$5,800,626

in benefits for
our clients

1,344
seniors helped

444
veterans assisted

Age of Clients Served





Additional Legal Solutions Provided



Resolved tax controversies for low-income taxpayers.

Recovered social security benefits for clients with disabilities.



Provided specialized service to veterans experiencing homelessness.



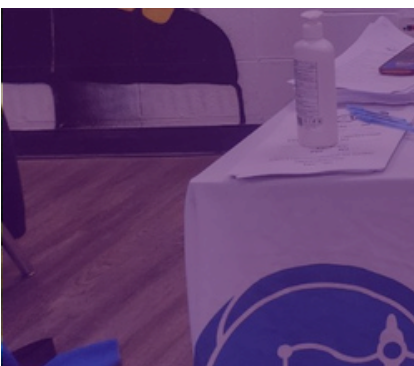
Helped victims of domestic violence or sexual violence or human trafficking separate from their abusers.



Represented children in the foster care system.



Obtained financial relief for residents of public housing.



Pro Bono Recognition Law Day Celebration

Law Day Celebration 2024 honored legal professionals in the Second Judicial Circuit who, together, dedicated thousands of hours to legal aid organizations in Florida's Big Bend. These individuals include professionals, firm partners, judges, students, and government attorneys. Thank you to our co-hosts and partners: Legal Aid Foundation of Tallahassee, the Florida State University's College of Law, and the Tallahassee Bar Association.

To commence Law Day events, two back-to-back CLEs were held. After which, a festive Law Day Program was held celebrating the theme **Voices of Democracy**. The 2024 celebration included a panel of speakers who shared their view on what it meant to be a voice of democracy by pulling from their personal experiences in the legal profession. As is tradition, all attorneys in attendance, who volunteered at LSNF in the previous year, received a special challenge coin in recognition of their service.

We'd like to thank our Presenting Sponsor, Stearns Weaver Miller, for making this happen. We'd also like to thank Berger Singerman and Ameris Bank for generously sponsoring the event as our reception and program sponsors.



Judge Ashanti Richardson
2nd Judicial Circuit of Florida

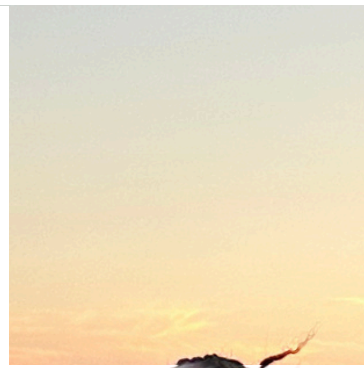
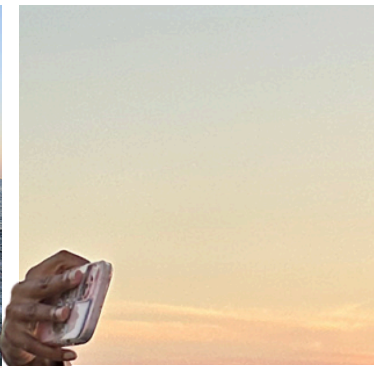


Alexis Fulton
Rising 3L at FSU College of Law &
LSNF Law School Student Coordinator

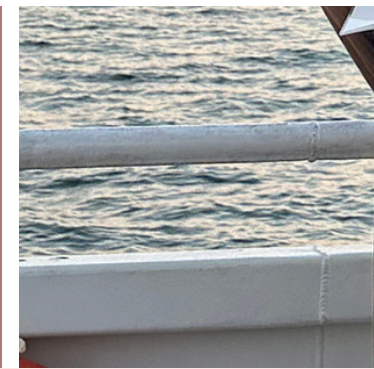


Rachel Jankowski
Sexual Violence Prosecutor





Pro Bono Recognition Pro Bono Celebration



LSNF honored legal professionals throughout the First Judicial Circuit at the Annual Pro Bono celebration on October 24, 2024, by enjoying a sunset charter via Pensacola Bay City Ferry. At this unique event, attorneys networked with one another while watching the sun go down. Pro Bono attorneys were honored with Challenge Coins. This night was focused on thanksgiving, enjoying the natural inspiration of Pensacola Bay, and being in the company of others dedicated to supporting pro bono service.



Pro Bono Recognition & Engagement

LSNF serves clients across the Florida Panhandle from a robust network of over 250 attorney, student, and paralegal volunteers.

Their service provided incredible resources for low income and vulnerable populations that otherwise would not have had access to our courts.



Attorneys gave over

1,000

hours of service to low-income individuals across North Florida.

LSNF Pro Bono attorneys gave the equivalent of

\$424,571

in legal services through their time.

605

...clients were served by pro bono attorneys.

The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award Recipients

...represent members of the legal community across the entire state who are dedicated to their local communities and give their time to helping bridge the gap to justice by providing access to the courts through their pro bono work. Each year, the Florida Bar President recognizes 21 lawyers for their pro bono services throughout the year. After a rigorous panel process, these attorneys are chosen. LSNF proudly nominates attorneys in our service area and are thrilled that Kendra, Ryland, and Todd were among the recipients for 2024.



KENDRA LANATA CONDON
1st Judicial Circuit



RYLAND TERRY RIGSBY
2nd Judicial Circuit



TODD CLIFFORD BRISTER
14th Judicial Circuit

Investing in LSNF

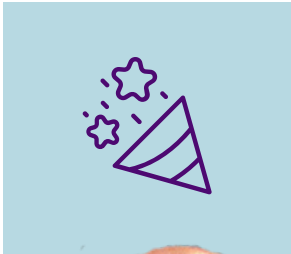


One-time or Monthly Recurring Gifts

Make a one-time online gift or set up a recurring donation to sustain our mission year-round.

Sponsor an Event

There are many sponsorship opportunities available for our signature events, like Jazz for Justice or Dancing with the Stars.



Planned Giving
Leave a lasting legacy by naming LSNF as a beneficiary in your will.



Founders of Justice

Pledge or give \$5,000 or more to LSNF to become a Founder of Justice.

Endowment Fund
Sustain LSNF's services well into the future by helping our endowment grow.



Partners in Service

Become a Partner in Service by making a gift of at least \$350.

Cy Pres Awards
Designate LSNF as the recipient of cy pres funds.



\$349,131

Raised in Cy Pres Funds



Jazz4Justice

Jazz for Justice 2024 was a resounding success, showcasing the invaluable impact that only trusted community support can achieve. Fusing local and award-winning New Orleans-based talent with generous supporters and community members created an unforgettable day of music and impact. Guests enjoyed lively jazz performances while contributing to Legal Services of North Florida's mission to provide equal access to justice for those in need.

Thanks to the incredible support of our sponsors, volunteers, and attendees, the event raised essential funds that will empower individuals and families to navigate legal challenges and secure a brighter future. We are grateful for the continued dedication to justice and community, and we look forward to next year!

KERMIT RUFFINS



9TH
AVENUE
BRASS
BAND

FLOW TRIBE

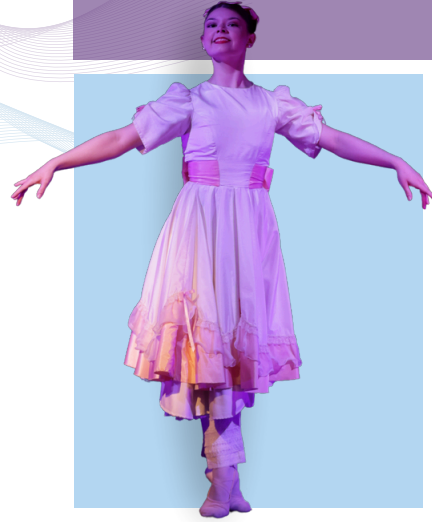




The **2024 Dancing with the Stars: With a Twist** was a spectacular evening of showcase performances from our partner studios, all in support of our mission. Held in the Grande Ballroom at Doak Campbell Stadium, this year's event was especially memorable, with Casanova Nurse serving as our emcee and a special guest performance by singer and LSNF staff member, Alexis Garner.

We were honored to have Holland & Knight as our reception sponsor, helping us kick off the evening in style. The night also celebrated outstanding individuals who make a difference in our community: Alex Medina received the Catherine Chapman Volunteer of the Year Award, Samantha Padgett was recognized with the Spirit of Excellence Award, and Elizabeth Ricci & Neil Rambana were named Champions of Justice.

Adding to the excitement, the audience had the opportunity to learn and participate in a flash mob dance, making for an unforgettable interactive experience! The evening was filled with outstanding dances, heartfelt stories, and enthusiastic support from our audience. We are incredibly grateful for the overwhelming community participation and can't wait to bring back the competition next year to see who will dance their way to victory!



Funding Partners

LSNF is grateful to work alongside so many local, state and national governmental entities, along with agencies across the Florida Panhandle who have embraced our mission of justice by supporting our work. On behalf of all those we serve we, LSNF would like to thank our funding partners.

90Works

Advantage Aging Solutions

Apalachee Regional Planning Council

Bay Area Legal Services

Bay County Commission

Calhoun County Commission

Children's Services Council of Leon County

City of Pensacola

City of Tallahassee

Community Human Service Partnership

Equal Justice Works

Escambia County Commission

Family Promise of the Big Bend

Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta

First Presbyterian Church of Quincy Florida

Florida Department of Children and Families

Florida Department of Elder Affairs

Florida Office of the Attorney General

Foo Foo Festival

Franklin County Commission

Gadsden County Clerk of the Courts

Gadsden County Commission

Gulf County Commission

Holmes County Commission

Internal Revenue Service

Jacarlene Foundation

Jackson County Commission

Jefferson County Commission

Jesse Ball duPont Fund

Legal Aid Foundation of Tallahassee

Legal Services of Greater Miami

Leon County Commission



Funding Partners

Liberty County Commission
 Neighborhood Medical Center
 Northwest Florida Area Agency on Aging
 Office on Violence Against Women
 Okaloosa County Commission
 Refuge House
 Santa Rosa County Commission
 State of Florida, Justice Administration
 Commission
 U. S. Department of Justice, Office for
 Victims of Crime
 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
 Development
 U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs
 United Way of Central Alabama, Priority
 Veteran
 Wakulla County Commission
 Walton County Commission
 Washington County Commission

LSC | America's Partner
 for Equal Justice
 LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION



United Way
 Emerald Coast



United Way
 of Northwest Florida



United Way
 of West Florida



United Way of the Big Bend



ESCAMBIA
 CHILDREN'S TRUST
 Our Children. Our Community. Our Future.

FFLA
 FUNDING FLORIDA LEGAL AID



2024 Donor Honor Roll

Brenda Allman
Gypsy Bailey
Janine Bauer
Theresa Bender
Bruce Berger
Kara Berlin
Lisa Bernau
James Bertron
Elizabeth Billhimer
Michael Bixby
Brandon Blake
Jennifer Blohm
Frank Bondurant
Connie Bookman
John Bottcher
Carrie Boyd
Fred Breeze
Cameron Briggs
Sang Young Brodie
Melanie Brown
Audra Bryant
Virginia Buchanan
Anita Bushnyakova
Amanda Campbell
Charlotte Carre
Philip Claypool
Robert Cohen
Thomas Cooper
Pamela Cooper
William Cramer
Holly Curry
John Cycon
Maureen Daughton

Shannan de Jesus
Alison Debelder
David Dee
Laura Dennis
Natasha Diemer
Richard Doran
Evin Dyess Childs
C. Michael Evert, Jr
Gregory Farkas
Patrick Farrell
Kelton Farris
Howell Ferguson
Francine Ffolkes
John Fisher
Patrick Flemming
Belinda France
John Fuller
Jennifer Geeker
John Gilroy
Patricia Gleason
Kelly Gontarski
Marci Goodman
Amy Goodson
Joann Gore
Renee Gordon
Marcus Gross
Mitchell Haigler
John Harmon
Karla Hart
Mary Harvell
George Hatch
Maureen Hazen
Cynthia Henderson

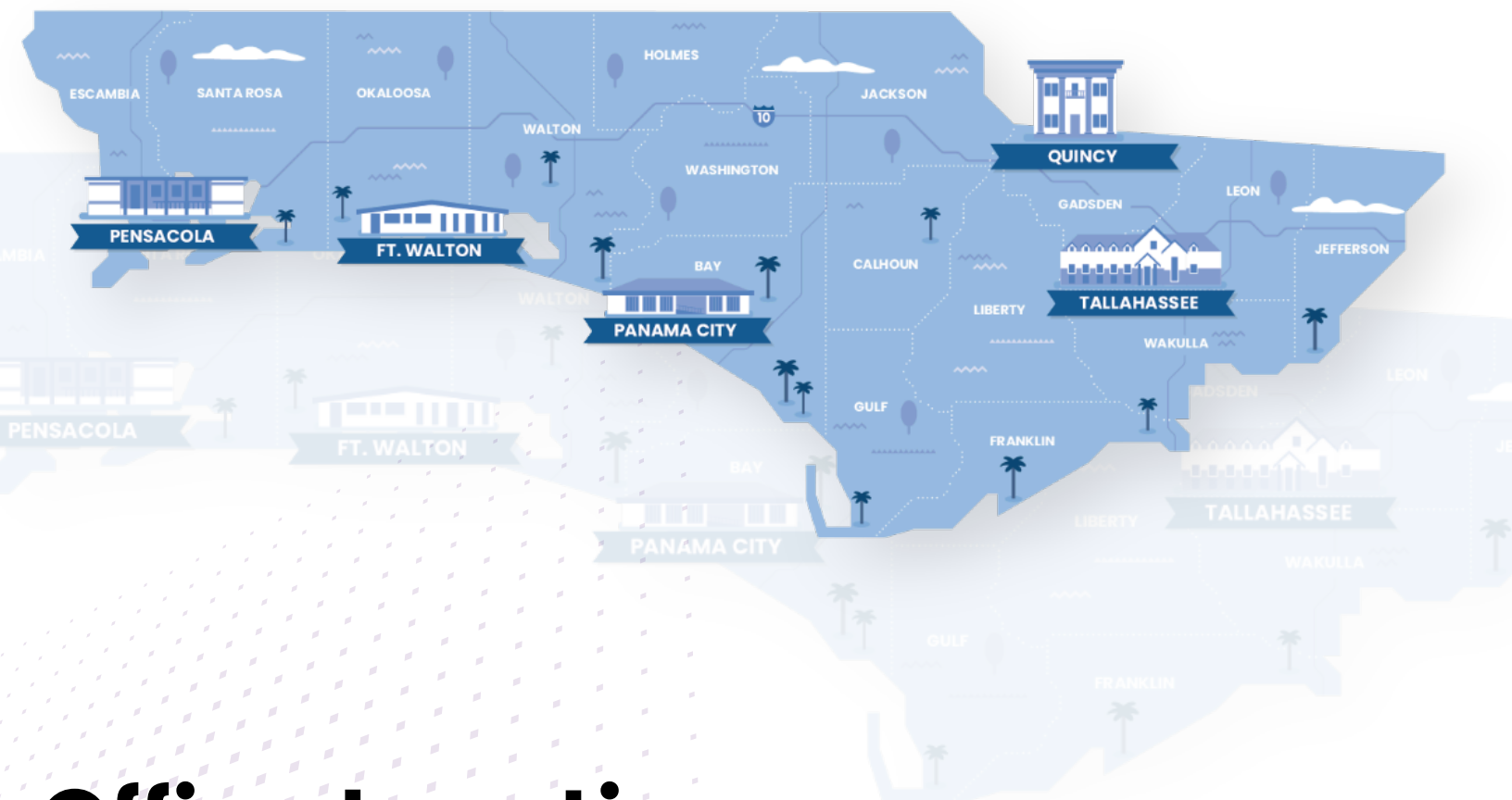
Robert Henderson
Bradley Herndon
Melanie Hines
Jennifer Hoekstra
Heather Hudson
Warren Husband
Jamie Ito
Veronica Jackson
John Jenkins
Paul Jess
Travis Johnson
Michael Johnson
Elise Judelle
Dawn Keller
Christine Kelly
Nathan Kenney
Robert Kerrigan
Austin Kirtley
Bruce Kuhse
Elizabeth LaFollette
John LaJoie
Barbara Larsen
Goldhagen Law
Carolyn LeBoeuf
Charles Liberas
James Logue
Pat Lott
Frances Lowe
Elysha Luken
Stephen MacNamara
Michael Maida
Jeffrey Mandel
John Marks

2024 Donor Honor Roll

Daphne Martin
George Matlock
Stuart Maxey
Therese McKenzie
Donna McNulty
Cameron Metcalf
Kenneth Metzger
Ronald Meyer
Morris Miller
Holly Miller
Brian Montague
Christian Moretz
Wanda Morgan
Angela Morrison
Stanford Morse
Julie Myers
Ross Nabatoff
Michael Niles
Emily Norton
Pedro Notario
Carla Oglo
Chasity O'Steen
Samantha Padgett
Patsy Palmer
Summer Pedersen
Robert Pell
Amy Perry
Robert Pickels
David Pleat
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Martin Powell
Ralph Prescott
William Preston

Valerie Prevatte
Lauren Pride
Timothy Quinlan
Thomas Range
Dale Recinella
Ramsey Revell
George Reynolds
Elizabeth Ricci
Audrey Rierson
LaShawn Riggins
Daniel Rigo
Douglas Rillstone
Rebecca Robinette
Lacey Rocha
Anthony Rollo
Andrew Rothfeder
Whitney Rutherford
Bradley Ryan
S Ansley Samson
Kristina Samuels
Carmen Sardinas
Nona Schaffner
Linda Schmidt
Carly Schrader
Lisa Scoles
Darby Scott
Tim Sheehan
Brian Showman
Kelly Smith
Michael Smith
Ryan Smith
Louise St. Laurent
R Keith Stark
Elliot Stein

Wendy Stein Fulton
Crystal Stephens
Kristen Stewart
Ronald Stowers
Niki Sturm
Theresa Tan
Elizabeth Tarbert
Stephanie Taylor
Heather Telfer
Robert Telfer
Joanna Theiss
Herbert Thiele
Ray Thompson
Warren Todd
Amalie Tuffin
Jennifer Valenstein
Raymond Vickers
Kathleen Villacorta
Richard Voellmy
Sarah Waite
Stacy Walters
Elizabeth (Lisa) Walters
Carolyn Ward
William Warner
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Justin Warren
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Felicia Wymer



Office Locations



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& SANTA ROSA
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& LIBERTY COUNTIES**

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& WALTON
COUNTIES**

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JEFFERSON, LEON, &
WAKULLA COUNTIES**

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