

**SUMMARY EXPLANATION AND BACKGROUND**

The position of Assistant General Counsel became vacant on June 30, 2018 and was advertised in the Florida Bar News and on the District Website from August 1, 2018 to August 15, 2018. A total of 24 resumes were received and screened. Six candidates participated in an initial interview and two individuals proceeded to a second interview.

Initial interviews were held on October 10, 2018. The interview panel consisted of Marylin Batista, Deputy General Counsel and Robert Paul Vignola, Deputy General Counsel. Second interviews were conducted on October 19, 2018 and the interview panel consisted of Barbara J. Myrick, General Counsel, as well as Mr. Vignola and Ms. Batista. The interview team reached consensus and recommends Eric Abend for the position of Assistant General Counsel. Mr. Abend's primary responsibility will be reviewing contracts.

Mr. Abend currently works at Ryan and Ryan, PA, a local law firm that works with local city governments. Mr. Abend brings experience to the General Counsel's Office in the areas of contracts, public records and procurement.

A salary of \$110,000 was negotiated with Mr. Abend based on his experience and qualifications.

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