

JUDGE DARREN DUNIFON SHULL

By Jean Marie Middleton (on behalf of the Judicial Relations Committee)

Judge Darren Dunifon Shull is currently assigned to Family Division FA. Governor Ron DeSantis appointed Judge Shull to the Circuit bench in 2022 after 32 years as a practicing Attorney.

Judge Shull was born in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. His family moved to Lake Worth, Florida when he was nine (9) years old when his father moved with the family to manage WJNO & WRMF radio stations. His mother volunteered as a Registered Nurse at a women's health clinic while keeping the home and raising three boys. Shull at the age of 17 years old, enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and was initially attached to 4th Anglico Recon Unit in West Palm Beach. After graduating Lake Worth High School Judge Shull went through boot camp at Parris Island, S.C.

Between 1982-1983 Judge Shull was trained as an aircraft mechanic, training on active duty in Tennessee and North Carolina, with his permanent duty station at NAS Cecil Field in Jacksonville, FL.

After being discharged into the Marine Reserves Judge Shull lived and worked with the family in St. Augustine after his father purchased two local radio stations WFOY and WUVU. Shull worked at the Radio Stations as a FCC licensed DJ and then received his Bachelor's degree from Flagler College in St. Augustine in 1987. Thereafter Judge Shull moved to Miami, Florida and earned his law degree from St. Thomas University School of Law School in 1990.

From 1990 until 2006 he served as an Assistant State Attorney where he served as a prosecutor in County Court, Felony Circuit Court, Felony Division Chief, Major Crimes/Sex Crimes Unit and then as the Chief Prosecutor of the Auto theft/Carjacking Unit. Then prosecutor Shull and the multi-agency task force received acclaim for a substantial reduction in auto theft in Palm Beach County.

In 2006 Shull entered into private practice, centering his practice on Criminal Defense where he defended high profile cases involving Police Officers, Mistaken Identity, and Homicide cases. Shull pioneered the Battered Child Syndrome defense in the State of Florida defending a juvenile in a double homicide case in the Treasure Coast. As a prosecutor and as private counsel Judge Shull tried almost all his Jury trials as sole counsel.

Judge Shull has been involved with Veteran's causes throughout the years including as a District Director of the Florida Veteran's Foundation, has proposed legislation for the States Veteran's Courts and currently serves with the Veterans service organization, the Marine Corps League.

Judge Shull expects the attorneys that practice in his division to be on-time, prepared and to be courteous to the opposing counsel, litigants and the Court.
Judge Shull is proud to be a member of the 15th Judicial Circuit and part of the best Circuit in the State of Florida!

Jean Marie Middleton has the pleasure of serving as an Assistant General Counsel for the Palm Beach County School District practicing employment and labor litigation. She can be reached at jean.middleton@palmbeachschools.org.