

TERESA J. SOPP, P.A.
Attorney at Law
tjsopp@crimlawyer.com

Florida Bar Board Certified Criminal Trial Attorney

Senior Lead Counsel, Office of Regional Conflict Counsel, Tallahassee, Florida, (2013-August, 2014)

Chief Assistant for seventy-three attorney office representing indigent clients in thirty-two counties. Supervise and train attorneys and support staff.

Law Firm of Teresa J. Sopp, P.A.

1993-2013, solo practitioner handling criminal defense at the trial and appellate levels in both state and federal court; handling trials and appeals of misdemeanor, felony, and death penalty cases; extensive criminal jury trial practice; extensive discovery (including depositions of experts) and pre-trial motion practice in criminal matters; constitutional and civil liberties issues; filed petitions for certiorari in United States Supreme Court in death penalty cases.

Partner, Law Firm of Sasser and Sopp, (1990-93)

General practice two-attorney firm, handling criminal and civil (family law, personal injury) matters at trial and appellate levels in both state and federal court.

Assistant Public Defender, Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida (1980-89)

Felony Division Chief (supervising 2-4 attorneys and secretarial pool); Member, Special Defense Division (defense of major crimes and high-profile cases); co-counsel on capital and first-degree murder cases; extensive motion and discovery practice; special writs and appellate practice

Reginald Heber Smith Fellow, Staff Attorney, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (1978-80)

Recipient of Reginald Heber Smith Fellowship from Howard University

Handled general civil litigation and domestic cases in four-county northeast Florida area; handled major Federal class action lawsuit at District Court and Court of Appeal levels asserting constitutional issues on behalf on public assistance recipients

Adjunct Instructor, Florida Coastal School of Law, Jacksonville, Florida (1998-99)

Organized internship programs; taught and supervised second-year law students in hands-on internship programs. Preparation of course curriculum and evaluation; placement of students in intern programs and maintenance of on-going relationship with employers

Instructor, American Institute for Paralegal Studies (1987-91) Jacksonville, Florida

Taught criminal law, family law, and legal research and writing to paralegal students; designed curriculum, oversaw practical internships, including placement and evaluation of students

EDUCATION

Juris Doctorate, Florida State University College of Law, Tallahassee, Florida, June 1978

Articles Editor, *Florida State University Law Review*
Instructor, Legal Writing and Research Program
Assistant, College of Law Library
Law Clerk, Thompson, Wadsworth, Messer, Turner & Rhodes,
Tallahassee, Florida

Bachelor of Arts in English Literature, University of South Florida, March 1975

Graduate, NACDL Two-week Trial Practice Course, 1982, University of Houston

Graduate and lecturer, Florida Public Defender Association Trial Practice Course, Florida State University College of Law, 1987

BAR MEMBERSHIPS

Florida Bar (admitted 1978)

Board Certified Criminal Trial Lawyer
Member, Criminal Law Section
Member, Fee Arbitration Committee (1997-2000)
Member, Grievance Committee, 4-D (1992-96)
Member, LOMAS Committee

**Board Member, Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
2005-2010**

Founding Member, Nassau County Inns of Court

**President, Nassau County Bar Association
2005-06; 2007-07; 2007-08**

**Program Chair, Nassau County Bar Association
2008-2009**

**Admitted to United States Supreme Court, United States District Court, Middle District of Florida,
Eleventh and Fifth Circuit Courts of Appeals**

Jacksonville Bar Association

Editor, Jacksonville Bar Association *Bulletin* (1991-93)
Co-Chair, Criminal Law Section (1998-2000)
Chair, Committee on Admissions
Chair, Law Library Committee

Northeast Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

Chaired committee planning events for National Association Conference,
including reception for 200 attendees

National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

ORGANIZATIONS & COMMUNITY SERVICE

Recipient of Rotary International Foundation Group Study Exchange Fellowship, 1994

Selected as one of four professionals to participate in business and
Cultural Exchange Program in Denmark for one month, representing
North Florida Rotary District

Leadership Jacksonville, Graduate, Class of 1984

Civic organization designed to train community leaders and to engender
networking

Served on various "Day" planning committees; active in alumni
organization for community leadership program

Other Organizations

**Former Board Member, Equinox Documentaries, Inc.
Lodging Committee Chair and Author Selection Committee Chair,
Amelia Island Book Festival**

Trustee, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Society

Member, Rotary Club of Arlington (Jacksonville)

President 2001-02

President Elect 2000-01

Vice President 1999-2000

Bulletin editor 1997-99

District GSE program Vice-Chair

President, Friends of the Florida Theater 1999-2000

**Former Board Member, Women Business Owners of Jacksonville
Program Chair 1996-97**

Newsletter Editor 1995-96

Former Board Member, Jacksonville Urban League

Former Board Member, Mental Health Association of Jacksonville

Former Board Member, League of Women Voters of Jacksonville

Former Member, Junior League of Jacksonville