



Paula Turner Luce Retires After 29 Years of Service
By: Hon. Caryl E. Delano, Chief Judge



One of our Court's longest-serving employees, Paula Turner Luce, retired on February 28, 2021, after 29 years of service.

From 1992 until 2012, Paula worked in the Tampa Division. Paula started and ended her service in Tampa as the Secretary/Administrative Assistant to Deputy-in-Charge, Chuck Kilcoyne. But over the years, Paula wore many hats, including Asset Closing Clerk/Administrative Analyst; Administrative Assistant to the Clerk of Court; and Judicial Assistant to Judge Paul M. Glenn. She was often the Court's liaison with the District Court, General Services Administration, the U.S. Marshals Service, and the Tampa Bay Bankruptcy Bar Association. For many years, she helped organize the holiday drive to benefit the residents of Hanna Oaks Assisted Living Center.

Paula is a woman of many talents and was always the go-to person for anything that needed to be done, whether it was ordering furniture and supplies for the Court, coordinating investitures and other court events, or making sure the printer in the Tampa Attorney's Conference Room was supplied with paper. Paula approached any task, no matter how small, with grace and enthusiasm.

Court Connection
Volume No. 10 -- Issue No. 2
April 2021

In 2012, I assumed the role of presiding judge in our Fort Myers Division, taking over after two years of visiting judges, and Paula took on two new roles as the Fort Myers Courtroom Services Clerk for both the Bankruptcy Court and the District Court. Always a “people person,” Paula quickly got to know the Fort Myers attorneys and assisted the Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association in setting up its monthly meetings in the District Court’s jury assembly room, as well as its Annual Dinners. Although I traveled to Fort Myers only once each month (this was pre-pandemic), Paula, an inveterate garage sale shopper, made sure my chambers were filled with knickknacks and family photographs; she was in court with me at every hearing. I will miss working with Paula so much!

Paula looks forward to spending more time with her extended family, especially her daughter and son-in-law, Alexandra and Kurt, and her two adorable grandsons, three-year-old Nolan and four-month-old Kameron. I know you all will join me in wishing Paula many years of health and happiness in this exciting new chapter of her life!

Pictured above: Paula (second from right) at the 2018 Southwest Florida Bankruptcy Professionals Association Annual Paskay Dinner in Fort Myers, along with (l to r): Dana Robbins, Lisa Mills, Judge Delano, Laura Stevenson, and Kathy Deetz.