



P R E S E N T S

MEET THE CANDIDATES 2020

Kristy Zinna

Candidate for Manatee County Court Judge, Group 4

Why are you running for County Judge?

- I want to serve my community. This is my home and it has been since childhood. My family and childhood friends still live here. What happens in this county matters to me. I also have the heart of a public servant, which is demonstrated by my years as a government attorney divided between the State Attorney's Office and the Public Defender's Office. This office naturally melds my desire to serve and continue being a public servant with the natural progression of my career.

How long have you been a practicing attorney? How much of your law career has been devoted to trial law?

- I have been a practicing attorney since 2008. I have been a trial attorney the entire time I have been a practicing attorney.

What, if any, changes would you like to see in the judicial process?

- I would like to see Manatee County have more specialty courts. I intend to do everything in my power to reimplement DUI Court in Manatee County. We had DUI Court years ago, and we lost it around 2012/2013 due to funding issues. I believe we have experienced enough of a population increase since then to now sustain funding and bring this great program back to our community.

What qualifies you to be a Judge?

- I have appeared in the County Court of Manatee County as an assistant state attorney, an assistant public defender, a private criminal attorney and a civil litigator representing both plaintiff and defense clients.

No other candidate has personally practiced in every role an attorney can have before a County Court judge. I am uniquely qualified to understand every argument that could be made in County Court because I have personally made them all myself. Finally, I have had thousands of cases and logged thousands of hours for the very seat for which I am seeking election.

What else should our readers know about you that will help them get to know you better prior to the election?

- I am hard working, responsible, honest and the most experienced candidate for the seat for which I am seeking election. I possess a patient and calm temperament. Every single person appearing before me will receive respect in my courtroom. Additionally, because of my well-rounded legal experience, if elected I will be able to hit the ground running with little training needed or required.



The Jewish Federation
OF SARASOTA-MANATEE