

Shumaker Alumni



Julie Brown

Commissioner of the Florida Public Service Commission

" Do not focus on money; focus on your specific passion of the law."

Q: What is your current position and company?

A. *Commissioner of the Florida Public Service Commission (and Chairman of Gas Technology Institute's Public Advisory Committee, Board of Directors of the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners, Presidential Task Force Member on Emergency Preparedness, Recover and Resilience, Southern States Energy Board's Blue Ribbon Task Force-a partnership with the U.S. DOE to provide guidance to Puerto Rico, Executive Committee Member of the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition, Advisory Board Member of the Financial Research Institute, and a Commission Member of the State of Florida Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission).*

Q: What was your practice area at Shumaker?

A. *I started with Darrell Smith's practice group as a young M&A attorney fresh out of law school.*

Q: What do you enjoy most about your career?

A. *The diverse experiences in the public and private sector (law firm, in-house, and city attorney) while I tried to find my passion of the law, ultimately leading to a tremendously rewarding career in the energy and utility sector.*

Q: What is your favorite Shumaker memory?

A. *The camaraderie and bond of the associates.*

Q: What is the best advice you can give a new lawyer?

A. *Many young lawyers are saddled with so much debt that it's often hard for one to focus on the real reason he/she went to law school in the first place. If you love what you do, you will be happy.*

Q: What news would you like to share about your personal or professional life?

A. *I am a three-term commissioner, appointed by three different governors and confirmed by three different senates. I certainly do not take my job for granted and know that my position at the Commission is always subject to discerning scrutiny. It makes me work harder and longer to ensure our decisions are always in the public interest. Despite being a Public Service Commissioner for 10 years (the average time as a commissioner across the country is 3.5 years), I continue to strive for more knowledge and involvement. It's important to the work that we do at home in our great state.*