

MARY LI CREASY

Administrative Law Judge
Division of Administrative Hearings



"If you are going to get involved with something outside of work, pick something you really enjoy and become a leader."

Q: What is your current position and company?

A: Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), Florida Division of Administrative Hearings

Q: What was your practice area at Shumaker?

A: I worked in the Shumaker Tampa Office from 1999-20013 and I was Co-Chair of the Labor and Employment Law practice group

Q: What do you enjoy most about your career?

A: As an ALJ for Florida, I hear a wide variety of cases and work with exceptionally bright, hard-working, and kind colleagues. DOAH cases go to final hearing usually within 90-120 days so the work is fast-paced. In addition to my regular docket, I hear continued involuntary placement cases each month at the South Florida State mental hospital pursuant to the Baker Act. I love these cases because I can see an immediate impact in a patient's life by providing dignity and respect in the judicial process. I'm getting paid much less, working many more hours, but absolutely love my job!

Q: What is your favorite Shumaker memory?

A: The Saddlebrook firm-wide retreats and fishing with Mike Trocke; federal jury trial with Jan Pietruszka.

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

A: Your reputation is everything. Conduct yourself with the highest degree of ethics and professionalism at all times. Enhance your reputation by working towards board certification.

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

A: In October 2018, I was elected President of the National Association of Administrative Law Judiciary which is the largest voluntary membership organization for state and federal ALJs and hearing officers. In addition to education and networking, our members are working to preserve the independence of the administrative judicial system. On a personal note, my kids are now 21, 15, and 14. Jim and the kids did well with our transition to Tallahassee but we all miss the Tampa Bay area. My daughter Lily and I will be taking a 2 week homeland tour of China this summer. Come see us if you are in Tally!