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Legal Professionals Recognized at Circuit's Pro Bono Award Ceremony

CLEARWATER - The Sixth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee conducted its annual pro bono award ceremony on Friday, Nov. 16, 2018 at the annual Wild, Wild West Bench & Bar-B-Que CLE Conference, held at Stetson University College of Law and hosted by both the St. Petersburg and Clearwater bar associations. Pinellas-Pasco Circuit Judge Susan St. John, the chair of the committee, informed those in attendance of the recipient for the 2018 Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Award, Erica Smith.

The Florida Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award, presented annually, recognizes attorneys who provide hours of their time and expertise without charge, to make sure that those who are underprivileged have access to legal services. This is known as pro bono work. An attorney in each of the state's twenty circuits, as well as one attorney who is not a member of the Florida Bar, is recognized. The ceremony was held on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at the Florida Supreme Court in Tallahassee, where Erica Smith received her award. Erica's areas of practice include wills, estate planning, trusts and administration.

During the ceremony, Judge St. John also recognized those who have completed more than twenty hours of pro bono services, some of whom completed more than 100 hours locally. Farrah Salman, a Tampa attorney, was recognized for completing over 450 hours of pro bono work relating to immigration law.

Judge St. John encouraged the many legal professionals in the audience to fulfill their professional obligation and personal responsibility to help in addressing the legal needs of those in Pinellas and Pasco counties and to attend the committee's next meeting in January of 2019.



Judge St. John speaking at the annual Wild,
Wild West Bench & Bar-B-Que