Why did you choose to become an attorney?

I was diagnosed with stage 4 Hodgkin’s lymphoma cancer in my senior year of college. My experience as a patient and the accompanying battle to live, helped me realize the truly significant and meaningful aspects of life. Through that process, I discovered my professional calling in the area of law for those in need.

What do you find rewarding about working in the legal profession?

Atting resolution to conflict is the goal and service I strive to provide all clients. Saving a client’s experience and eliminating onerous resolutions and maximizing their experiences of relief and gratitude in having an advocate on their side are the most rewarding aspects of my work.

Why did you choose to become an attorney?

I became interested in law when I was in college. I did not plan to attend law school or become an attorney. I was diagnosed with a very rare disease called acromegaly. Only 1 in 40,000 has this disease. No one can tell by looking at me that I have something wrong with me. To help others cope with very difficult and challenging events in their lives. I felt that I could make a difference in people’s lives and that I could use my intellect to help others cope with very difficult and challenging events in their lives.

What do you find rewarding about working in the legal profession?

It’s rewarding to make lives better, business relationships more amicable, transactions safer, and advocate for them.

Why did you choose to become an attorney?

I think about the future, I told myself that I had always wanted to be a lawyer and I followed that path. I found that I really enjoy contributing to the community through various bar community service activities; I find it is most rewarding when I am able to help individuals. When I get to help people achieve great results/resolutions, their sincere appreciation of my efforts makes me very rewarding. I also enjoy working with lawyers/legal assistants and the ability to devote time to community and bar activities. I also enjoy working with lawyers/legal assistants and the ability to devote time to community and bar activities.

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MELISSA FINLEY WILLIAMS
Age: 29
Practice Area(s): Estate Planning, Probate, Guardianship, Special Needs Planning, Elder Law
Undergraduate Degree/Major: Psychology
Year Passed the Bar: 2013
Why did you choose to become an attorney?
I pursued my law degree as a way to serve as an advocate and counselor to the voiceless within society. I wanted an opportunity to speak publicly and to assist people who would otherwise never be able to resolve these issues on their own.

Why do you find rewarding about working in the legal profession?
I have skills that most lay people are unable to acquire. Those skills include understanding the law, the ability to analyze and resolve problems, and the ability to speak publicly. I’m able to use the skills to protect those people who needed help and were not given their constitutional rights.

MERCEY ROBERG
Age: 36
Practice Area(s): Education Law
Undergraduate Degree/Major: Elementary Education
Year Passed the Bar: 2013
Why did you choose to become an attorney?
I was in the sixth grade when I decided I wanted to be a judge – the following incidents were a few of the ideas that allowed me to succeed at what I wanted to do.

Why do you find rewarding about working in the legal profession?
I was seeking a career change. After selling a business and seeking other opportunities, I found that the J.D. is a multifaceted degree which afforded me an opportunity to teach, continue in business, or pursue a career as a lawyer. I chose to teach and become a lawyer in order to counsel students and guests about diversity and inclusion.

JAMES (JIM) M. THALER, JR.
Age: 56
Practice Area(s): Business Law, Real Estate, Estate Planning
Undergraduate Degree/Major: Biology and German
Year Passed the Bar: 2000
Why did you choose to become an attorney?
I wanted to be an attorney as my 12 year old was a combination of reading about Clarence Darrow, as well as reading about the works of the American Civil Liberties Union. I wanted to protect those people who needed help and gave me that opportunity.

Why do you find rewarding about working in the legal profession?
To protect those people who needed help and gave me that opportunity.

Why did you choose to become an attorney?
I wanted a law degree as a way to serve as an advocate and counselor to the voiceless within our community. Being an attorney, and furthermore a legal services attorney, has enabled me to render assistance to those in need.

Why do you find rewarding about working in the legal profession?
I have the incredible opportunity to ensure access to justice to those that are sometimes the most vulnerable in our society. Being able to provide legal assistance that protects families and individual housing, familial stability, and self-sufficiency is priceless.

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Why do you find rewarding about working in the legal profession?
The counseling – I enjoy helping students and clients identify the “real” goal they are seeking.

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Why did you choose to become an attorney?

I became a lawyer because I was encouraged by my father, who was an attorney, to take law school. Attending law school was something that I viewed as being a positive educational goal, even if I elected to go into paralegal work. As an attorney, I feel as though my voice and the skills that I have are more easily transferrable to different types of jobs. As an attorney, I feel as though my voice can be used to help people. A lot of non-attorneys automatically think of litigation when they think of an attorney. Why did you choose to become an attorney?

Why did you choose to become an attorney?

I chose to become an attorney because of my commitment to public service work. I wanted to give back to the community. I started my legal career with legal aid and was employed by the Public Defender's Office in New Jersey. (I also taught at Rutgers University as an adjunct instructor.) My family and I moved to Florida in 1996 where I went to work for the Pinellas County Clerk of Court. I was appointed to the County Court Bench by the Governor of Florida in 2015 and elected to County Court Judge in 2016.

What do you find rewarding about working in the legal profession?

I chose to become an attorney because I have a strong belief that anything is possible if you work hard enough.) Religion (Catholic)

What are you working on now?

I continue to work full time as a Judge in the County Court in the State of Florida. I hear a lot of cases in my court and am involved in many community activities. I continue to work full time as a Judge in the County Court in the State of Florida. I hear a lot of cases in my court and am involved in many community activities.

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