

Melody Creese

# Application Form

## Profile

Melody

First Name

Creese

Last Name

11918 SW Marigold Lakes Dr

Home Address

Port Saint Lucie

City

FL

State

34987

Postal Code

mscreese@yahoo.com

Email Address

What district do you live in? <http://www.cityofpsl.com/districts> \*

District 3

Home: (954) 461-8579

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

### Retired?

Yes  No

Retired

Employer

Attorney

Job Title

Attorney

Occupation

### Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning & Zoning Board: Submitted

### Were you nominated or recommended to apply by the Mayor or a Councilmember?

Yes  No

### If Yes, by whom?

(Former) Mayor Greg Oravec

### Please Agree with the Following Statement

I have read and guarantee that I meet all the requirements for board service.

I Agree

## Interests & Experiences

## Why are you interested in serving on a board or committee?

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To whom much is given, much is owed. This has been a commandment of my family; planted into the core of my being at a very early age. An individual's investment to a community reaps exponential dividends for many. As a child I served in church, as a Girl Scout and by my mother's side throughout our community. As a teenager and into adulthood my commitment to community service has not waned. Currently I volunteer in service to many facets of Port St. Lucie. It is my desire to serve within the governmental process as it is the foundation for a stable and thriving community. Additionally, I have a duty to serve as a representative of those who are unable to due to time constraints or one of many life's challenges. Possessing the time, it is imperative that I utilize my talent and passion to serve to the benefit of all reside herein.

## Why do you think you are qualified to serve on this board or committee?

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I am qualified to serve on the Planning and Zoning Board as a result of my legal training, commitment to increasing my planning and zoning knowledge, dedication to serving the city of Port St. Lucie, and my possession of the skills necessary for teamwork as well as task management. During my legal education, as well as my preparation for California and South Carolina Bar admission, I cultivated a working knowledge of property and contract laws. My legal training also equipped me with ability to easily comprehend government statutes, ordinances and guidelines. Additionally, there are many online resources for planning and zoning to promote greater understanding. To increase my planning and zoning knowledge I have begun, and will continue, to educate myself. Moreover, I seek appointment to this board after significant consideration of where my talents and time could best be utilized. When I moved to Port St. Lucie two years ago I began researching the city's volunteer opportunities. I actively participated in and completed City University (Class #11). Also, prior to his resignation, I spoke with Mayor Greg Oravec on multiple occasions regarding ways to serve. My desire to be a member of this board evolved from realizing the impact planning and zoning has on Riverland – the community wherein I reside. I have spent time visiting the Planning and Zoning Department as well as learning of planning and zoning concerns at various city governmental meetings. With further consideration and research I realize that as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board I have a rare opportunity. Port St. Lucie will experience momentous expansion over the next 5-10 years. Interstate 95 currently borders the western perimeter of Port St. Lucie. With the proposed expansion Interstate 95 will be the demarcation of the city's median. Serving on this board will provide me with the challenge and gratification of shaping the City of Port St. Lucie for the benefit of current residents as well as future generations. Last, but of relevance, is my career and history of volunteerism. The majority of my career encompassed serving people on behalf of local and state government. As an attorney and through my years of community service, I have acquired an abundance of experience with teamwork, consensus building and task management. I am now retired and my children are young adults. As such, I have the time, flexibility, and aforementioned traits at hand to serve as a member of this board. In sum, my professional training has prepared me to be an valuable contributing member of the Planning and Zoning Board. Moreover, to ensure that my decisions reflect the best interest of the community, present and future, I will enhance my knowledge through continuing education. In addition, my drive, desire, and dedication to volunteerism will ensure that I am always prepared to serve the board to the best of my ability and through it the citizens of Port St. Lucie.

## Brief description of Education & Experience

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BA Degree Legal Studies Juris Doctorate Attorney Judge 30+ years Community Service

[M. Creese CV copy.docx](#)

Upload a Resume

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## Demographics

**Ethnicity**

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Other

**Gender**

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Female

81/71/963

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Date of Birth

**Do you now serve on any City Board, Committee or other Governmental Board or Committee? (NOTE: You cannot serve on more than one Board or Committee within the City of Port St. Lucie during the same time period.)**

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Yes  No

**Are you a registered voter?**

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Yes  No

**How long have you been a City resident?**

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2 1/2 years

**Have you attended the City University classes?**

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Yes  No

**Are you a United States Citizen?**

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Yes  No

**Are you presently employed by the City of Port St. Lucie?**

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Yes  No

**Are you a current or former law enforcement officer, other employee\* or the spouse or child of one who is exempt from public records disclosure under FS 119.07?**

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Yes  No

**Have you ever been convicted of a crime, pled guilty or no contest to a criminal charge, or entered into an agreement setting forth the terms leading to the reduction or dismissal of the charges?**

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Yes  No

**Please Agree with the Following Statement**

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**I agree that all of my answers are truthful and accurate to the best of my ability. I understand that if I have falsified any information my application will be withdrawn and I will not be considered for appointment.**

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I Agree

**MELODY S. CREESE, ESQ.**  
**POST OFFICE BOX 881929 • PORT SAINT LUCIE, FL 34988**  
**mscreese@yahoo.com**

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**BAR MEMBERSHIP**

South Carolina Bar - Admitted 2000  
State Bar of California - Admitted 1999

**EDUCATION**

**Juris Doctor - 1996**

University of California, Hastings College of the Law - San Francisco, CA

**Bachelor of Arts, Legal Studies - 1992**

University of California, Berkeley - Berkeley, CA

**EXPERIENCE**

**Judge**

FLORENCE MUNICIPAL COURT - Florence, SC 2003 - 2005

**Assistant Solicitor**

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR, 12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - Florence, SC 2000 - 2003

- Conducted jury and bench trials
- Represented State at Magistrate's Appeals hearings
- Managed all first offence DUI cases and other misdemeanor matters
- Organized and conducted presentations for law enforcement officers

**Paralegal**

CAROLINA REGIONAL LEGAL SERVICES - Florence, SC 1998 - 1999

- Drafted Complaints, Answers, Motions for the Court
- Researched and analyzed housing and bankruptcy matters
- Screened and advised clients regarding housing and bankruptcy matters

**Judicial Extern**

HONORABLE SAUNDRA BROWN-ARMSTRONG,  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA - Oakland, CA 1996

- Researched and analyzed Motions to Dismiss, Motions for Summary Judgment
- Motions to Exclude Evidence and Joinder Motions
- Drafted Bench Memorandums with recommendations
- Drafted Orders for Court's signature

**Law Clerk**

ALAMEDA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE - Oakland, CA 1995

- Conducted bench and jury trials
- Represented State before Appellate Panel
- Represented State at preliminary hearings

- Researched and drafted pre-trial motions

### **Law Clerk**

WARUHUI & MUI TE ADVOCATES - Nairobi, Kenya 1994

- Researched, analyzed and drafted reports regarding human rights and constitutional issues

### **In-take Coordinator**

ALAMEDA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE NETWORK PROJECT - Oakland, CA 1991 - 1995

- Screened and matched first-time juvenile offenders with appropriate resources
- Agency representative to probation, social service, and mental health programs
- Consulted with agency officials regarding referral and disposition of juvenile offenders

### **Office Manager**

JAMES E. WOOD, JR., M.D., San Francisco, CA 1984 - 1995

- Managed all insurance and patient billing
- Collected delinquent accounts
- Represented practice at various medical billing courses
- Coordinated all aspects of practice management

## **MILITARY**

### **Certified Aeromedical Technician**

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, Travis AFB, Fairfield, CA 1983 - 1989

- Provided medical care to airlifted military personnel

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- The Links Incorporated – Treasure Coast Chapter
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated
- League of Women Voters, St. Lucie County
- Junior League of Martin County
- Score Academy, Boca Raton FL
- Saint Andrew’s School Board - Boca Raton, FL
- Memorial Hospital and JDCH Foundation Board - Hollywood, FL
- YMCA Board – Florence, SC
- United Way Board – Florence, SC
- Rotary Club - Florence SC
- Junior League - Florence, SC
- Donald P. McCullum Youth Court - Oakland, CA
- Court Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA) - Oakland, CA
- Law & Government Academy – Oakland, CA