



**STATE OF FLORIDA  
SEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns & Volusia Counties  
S. James Foxman Justice Center  
251 North Ridgewood Avenue  
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

**RAUL A. ZAMBRANO  
CIRCUIT JUDGE**

**Phone: (386) 239-7791  
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October 31, 2023

The Honorable Ron DeSantis  
Governor of the State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe Street, Suite 209  
Tallahassee, Florida

Dear Governor DeSantis:

Greetings. It is my sincere hope and prayer that these words find you healthy and well. Please accept this letter as my intent to resign as Circuit Judge for the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida effective on December 31, 2023.

I have had the honor of serving the people of the State of Florida for 33 years. Resigning is a difficult decision for me. I have spent my entire career as an advocate and student of the law and have immensely enjoyed a very fulfilling career. During this journey, I have had the unique privilege of working with some of the best people you could ever encounter.

At times, people often wonder as to the reasons why someone would resign before the end of a term. I wish to leave no doubt as to the reasons for my retirement. Below is a picture of my 91-year-old father caring for my 80-year-old mother – who is currently in the advanced stages of Alzheimer's disease. Together they sacrificed so much of their lives in caring, supporting and raising me to be the person I am today, allowing me the opportunity to study, practice, and uphold the laws. They taught me that God comes first in our family. And family comes right after God. They taught me that caring for family is paramount in our lives. I accomplished all I've done and have achieved the American Dream because of their unwavering support and love. I believe it is now my responsibility to be by their side and care for them in the waning days of their lives.



I do want to express my utmost gratitude to State Attorneys John Tanner and Steve Alexander for giving me the opportunity to serve the people of the State of Florida as an Assistant State Attorney for 15 years. I also wish to thank Governor Jeb Bush for giving me the vote of confidence in appointing me Circuit Judge – a career that lasted 18 years of my life. I also wish to thank the people of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, especially the thousands of jurors who served in the many trials I prosecuted or presided over the many years.

With my sincere thanks I leave with a heart full of memories with friends and colleagues who were part of my journey. I've impacted thousands of lives and I pray that my work bettered society in some way. But in the famous words of the song *Running on Empty*, "I'd love to stick around but I'm running behind." Farewell, thank you, and may God continue to Bless the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Raul A. Zambrano  
Circuit Judge  
Seventh Judicial Circuit

Copies to:

The Honorable Carlos G. Muñiz, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court  
The Honorable Leah Case, Chief Judge, Seventh Judicial Circuit  
Mark Weinberg, Court Administrator, Seventh Judicial Circuit  
John Tanner, Attorney at Law  
Steve Alexander, Attorney at Law