

Print

Application For Appointment/Reappointment - Submission #23635

Date Submitted: 2/10/2025

Name of Board or Boards for which you are applying:*

Historic Preservation Board

Name:*

Susan M Garrett

Home Address:*

1461-B Captains Walk

City:*

Fort Pierce

State:*

FL

Zip:*

34950

How long at this address?*

5 years resident; 13 years owner

Telephone Number*

(404) 219-2998

If less than two years, provide prior address:

1461 Captain's Walk

Are you a citizen of the United States? *

Yes

No

Occupation: *

Attorney

Employer:*

Torcivia, Donlon, Goddeau & Rubin (retiring April 2025)

Do you own a business that operates within the City of Fort Pierce?*

- Yes
- No

If yes, list the address and nature of said business:

Do you now or in the future plan to do business with the City of Fort Pierce or the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority(FPUA)?*

- Yes
- No

If yes, in which organization and in what capacity?

Fort Pierce

Are you employed by a business that is located within the City of Fort Pierce?*

- Yes
- No

If yes, state the business and location:

Do you have special training or knowledge in the area of:

Engineering:*

Yes

No

Architecture:*

Yes

No

Real Estate Brokering:*

Yes

No

Finance/Accounting:*

Yes

No

Contracting:*

Yes

No

Land Development:*

Yes

No

Utilities:

Yes

No

Management:*

Yes

No

Describe your professional background and what expertise you will bring to this Board. (Attach your resume or other applicable information below if desired) *

I am a five year, year-round resident and twelve year property owner in Fort Pierce, and a soon-to-be-retired attorney with 30+ years experience in land use, zoning, land development, environmental and historic preservation matters. I have advised historic preservation boards in Florida and Georgia, and served on and chaired the City of Decatur (GA) Historic Preservation Commission. For many years I taught Historic Preservation Law in the Heritage Preservation program at Georgia State University and was a frequent guest speaker at historic preservation commission training sessions throughout the southeastern states.

Are you currently a member of a Commission-appointed board/committee?*

Yes

No

If yes, please specify:

Have you ever been convicted of a felony?*

Yes

No

If yes, what was the nature of the crime(s) you were convicted of:

If appointed, are you willing to attend a training session which could last several hours?*

Yes

No

Referred by:*

Suzi Boardman; Tanya Earley

Applicant Email Address:*

susangarrett@mindspring.com

Date:*

02/10/2025

Applicant's Signature:*

Susan M Garrett

APPLICATIONS EXPIRE 6 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF SUBMISSION. PLEASE REAPPLY AS OFTEN AS DESIRED.

For additional information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 772.467.3065 or email lcox@cityoffortpierce.com.

Upload Resume (Optional)

Susan Garrett resume 02.2025.pdf

SUSAN M. GARRETT

1461-B Captain's Walk
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950
(404) 219-2998

susangarrett@mindspring.com

Experience:

Senior Associate, Torcivia, Donlon, Goddeau & Rubin, P.A.

West Palm Beach, Florida

November, 2020 – April, 2025

- Legal advice and representation to municipalities in all aspects of local government law, including land use, code enforcement, contracts and procurement, public safety, personnel, public records and Sunshine Law, and general business matters.

Division Chief, Public Safety, City of Atlanta Law Department

Atlanta, Georgia,

2019-2020

- Primary legal advisor to all public safety agencies including Police, Fire & Rescue, Courts, Solicitor, Public Defender, and Corrections.
- Advice and counsel on all business matters including contracts, finance, legislation, human resources, disciplinary actions, public records, open meetings, personnel and medical records, privacy issues, risk management and avoidance, and litigation oversight.

Deputy City Attorney, City of Atlanta Law Department

Atlanta, Georgia

2018 – 2019

- Legal advisor to Executive Offices (Mayor) and City Council members, Finance Executive Committee, Department of Finance, Information Management Department, Department of Procurement, Department of City Planning, Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Aviation.
- Oversight of bond and disclosure counsel, legislation, contract solicitations and bid protests, revenue, permitting, franchise and telecommunications matters, annexation, zoning and land use litigation.

Interim Chief Procurement Officer, City of Atlanta Department of Procurement

Atlanta, Georgia

2017 – 2018

- Interim executive leadership as member of Mayor's Cabinet managing 75+ employee department.
- Responsible for solicitation, contract execution and administration for all city goods, supplies, services and real estate for \$2.2 B annual budget.

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Senior Assistant City Attorney

City of Atlanta, Georgia
2012- 2017

- Key legal advisor to Department of Procurement, Atlanta Information Management Department, Department of Finance, Department of Planning & Community Development, Department of Human Resources, and Executive Offices.
- General business/financial advice, legislative drafting and document review.
- Representation in administrative proceedings and employment litigation.
- Procurement advice, drafting and negotiation of contracts, including employee benefits, technology, telecommunications franchise agreements, consulting services, intergovernmental agreements.
- Counsel to Board of Zoning Adjustment and License Review Board; Community Development and Human Services Committee and Zoning Committee.

Assistant City Attorney, City of East Point

East Point, Georgia
2009 -2012

- Municipal governance, employment, finance, procurement, contracts, legislation, land use and economic development. Advice and representation in administrative proceedings and litigation.
- Acting City Attorney, November 2011 – April 2012.

Principal, Law Office of Susan M. Garrett

Decatur, Georgia
1996-2008

- Representation of local government, civic organizations, businesses and individuals in land use, historic preservation, and environmental matters;
- Interim City Attorney, City of Clarkston, Georgia, May – August 2008.

Associate, Kirwan, Goger, Chesin, Parks & Remar, P.C.

Atlanta, Georgia.
1993-1996

- Representation of individuals and businesses in federal constitutional law, civil rights and employment-related administrative proceedings and litigation.
- Representation of health care providers in licensure, patient confidentiality, and general business matters.

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Associate, Remar & Graettinger, P.C.
Atlanta, Georgia.
1988-1993

- Representation of individuals and businesses in federal constitutional law, civil rights and employment-related administrative proceedings and litigation.

Legal Teaching Experience

Adjunct Professor, Georgia State University
Atlanta, Georgia
Fall Semester, 2005-2019

- Historic Preservation Law course in post-graduate Heritage Preservation Certificate program.

Visiting Professor, Emory University School of Law
Atlanta Georgia.
1993-1995

- Legal Research, Writing & Appellate Advocacy

Instructor, Georgia State University
Atlanta, Georgia
1987-1988 and 2000-2002

- Legal Research, Writing & Appellate Advocacy

Education

- Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, Georgia.
Juris Doctorate, June 1987.
Executive Editor, Emory Journal of International Dispute Resolution (now Emory International Law Review).
Author, Comment, *Resolving International Environmental Disputes Between Private Parties and States*, 1 Emory J. Int'l Disp. Res. 81(1987).
- New York University, New York, N.Y. and Paris, France, 1980-83.
Graduate studies in French.
- McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
B.A., French Language & Civilization, 1976
Post-graduate Diploma in Education (French and ESL), 1977

Bar Admissions

- State of Georgia, 1987
- Georgia Superior and Appellate Courts, 1987.
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, 1987.
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, 1988.
- State of Florida, 2018

Affiliations

- International Municipal Lawyers' Association, 2009 to date.
- American Bar Association, Public Contract Law and State and Local Government Law Sections. Vice Chair, Public Contracts Committee, 2020-2021.
- State Bar of Georgia, 1988 to date.
Local Government and Environmental Law Sections, 2009 to date. Individual Rights Section, 1988-2009. Chair, 1998-2002.
Diversity Program Committee, 1999.
- The Florida Bar, City, County & Local Government Law Section, 2018 to date.

Community Service

- *City of Decatur (Georgia) Historic Preservation Commission.* Member, 1995-1997 and Chair, 1997-1998.
- *City of Clarkston (Georgia) Planning & Zoning Committee.* 2005-2006.
- Annual guest lecturer at Historic Preservation Commission Training programs throughout the southeastern states.
- Frequent lecturer and panelist at Continuing Legal Education seminars on zoning land use, historic preservation, and civil rights law matters.
- Panelist on *Ransomware and Governments* (local government cybersecurity issues) at International Municipal Lawyers' Association Annual Conference, 2019.
- Fort Pierce Yacht Club, Member, 2023-present. Board of Directors Member and Secretary, 2025 – present.