

LAW OFFICE  
of  
MELANIE TUCK FREIRE

April 15, 2002

Capt. Robert Duncan  
Florida Highway Patrol  
1551 E. International Speedway Blvd.  
Deland, Florida 32724

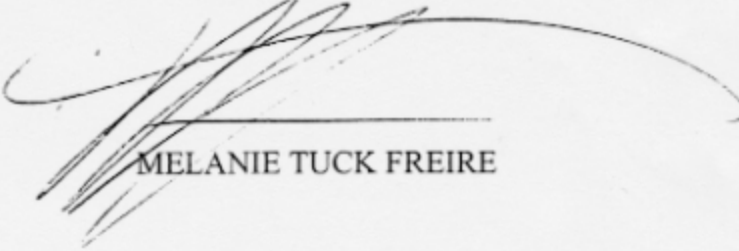
Re: Trooper D.A. Sims

Dear Captain Duncan:

This letter is written to inform you of the fine service and professionalism I have experienced in dealing with Trooper D.A. Sims. Trooper Sims was listed as a State witness against my client, Nelson Rosa, in a recent Volusia County case. After scheduling depositions of Trooper Sims and another State witness, I was contacted by Trooper Sims, who requested a rescheduling of the deposition time. Although it was impossible to reschedule the deposition prior to the trial date, I did speak to Trooper Sims at length and, although I had not intended to excuse him from the deposition, after speaking with him I elected to do so. We spoke at some length on the telephone and I was most impressed with his familiarity with the case and his insights into both its strengths and weaknesses. I took a chance and relied upon his word, believing that he would maintain his explanation of the facts of the case in the same manner that he had done with me. He did so, and was instrumental in causing the case to come to a just resolution.

I very much appreciated Trooper Sims' observations regarding his and my respective responsibilities to the Court and the law generally, and his clear understanding that, despite advocacy of a particular position, each of us serves the ends of justice. Most of all, I am grateful to encounter an officer upon whose word one may rely, regardless of whether it is given in a recorded statement, under oath, or in an unofficial telephone conversation with opposing counsel.

Very truly yours,



MELANIE TUCK FREIRE

MTF/rm