

## **Michelle Whitworth**

Ms. Whitworth began her career in criminal justice in 1994 upon graduating from Florida State University with a Bachelor's degree in Criminology. She started her career as a Correctional Probation Officer with the Florida Department of Corrections graduating from the Probation Officer Academy and being certified by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. She gained vital experience and was promoted through the ranks holding various positions in community corrections, institutions, training, and management. In 2006, Ms. Whitworth moved to the Florida Parole Commission, subsequently renamed the Florida Commission on Offender Review (FCOR). She served in several investigative and management positions within FCOR's Clemency Investigations office located in Tallahassee. On June 4, 2019, she was appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis and the Florida Cabinet as the Coordinator of the Office of Executive Clemency. Ms. Whitworth currently serves the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Board of Executive Clemency. In that role, she directs the Office of Executive Clemency and leads the quarterly Executive Clemency Board Meetings. Ms. Whitworth is considered an expert in general and capital punishment clemency matters, a segment of the criminal justice system that is unique and ever changing with each governor and cabinet administration.

Ms. Whitworth's contributions to the Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency (FCCD) have been numerous. She joined FCCD chapter 29 in 1999 and moved to chapter 2 in 2006. During her membership she has served as secretary for chapter 2 in 2007-2008 and has been active in the chapter serving on the Training Committee, Golf Committee, Distinguished Service Awards Committee, and Scholarship Committee. Chapter 2 holds an annual golf tournament and her efforts in acquiring sponsorships and networking have contributed to the tournament's continued success. She has participated in many chapter community service projects, volunteer events, charity events, and fund-raising activities. One of the most rewarding to her personally is participating in the annual senior angel charity event.

In addition to chapter activities, she has served the FCCD Executive Board as a member of the Exhibitor Committee since 2015. Serving on the Exhibitor Committee has provided her the opportunity to work closely with the President each year affording her vital operational knowledge of many key aspects of the training institute and golf tournament. Those efforts culminated in her receiving the President's Award on several occasions. Much of her time has been spent traveling and representing the organization to acquire exhibitors, sponsorships, and trainers for the training institute and board meetings. Serving on the Exhibitor Committee requires a year-round commitment due to excessive networking and follow up with potential sponsors. Her passion for the organization is evident by the continued success of the Exhibitor Committee.

Ms. Whitworth has previously served on additional Executive Board Committees: Merchandising Committee, 2003-2005, Membership Committee 2004-2005, Exhibitor Committee 2004-2005.

Ms. Whitworth has been recognized for her professional and civic contributions and has received the following awards: Chapter 2 Criminal Justice Distinguished Service Award 2013; Executive Board President's Award – President Gina Giacomo 2016; Executive Board President's Award – President Linda Brooks 2017; Chapter 2 Criminal Justice Distinguished Service Award 2020; Statewide Criminal Justice Distinguished Service – Executive Board Award 2020; Executive Board President's Award – President Shelly Liddle 2021.