

SHANNON A. TUCKER

Biography in Consideration for Public Defender North Carolina Defender District Fourteen

Shannon Tucker joined the Office of the Public Defender on December 1, 1994, after working in private practice handling civil, criminal and family law cases. She graduated from UNC Chapel Hill and UNC School of Law where Professor Rich Rosen told her ***“if you want to be a public defender, go to Durham - they’ve created a new office and they’re making it the best one in the state.”***

She began handling misdemeanor cases and traffic matters in District Court, quickly progressing to high level felony cases, including homicides, in Superior Court. She has successfully briefed and argued cases in the NC Court of Appeals and the NC Supreme Court and has taught at statewide public defender conferences and training sessions. She has served as guest legal expert on Court TV, WRAL, and WTVD.

Shannon has been married to her husband David, a Professional Engineer, for 23 years. They met after she won her first jury trial - an Assault With A Deadly Weapon With Intent To Kill case. After 5 minutes of jury deliberation, her client went home a free man, resuming his college career, and she celebrated by finding her partner in life. They have a 16-year-old daughter named Carson, and they cheer her on from the stands of whatever sport she is currently playing. They are members of Chapel of The Cross, where they were married.

Shannon serves on the Board of Directors of Communities In Schools of Durham, a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that at-risk youth in Durham have the tools and the support they need to stay in school, to graduate, and to achieve in life. She also volunteers at the Durham County Animal Protection Society with her daughter. Shannon is a graduate of Leadership Durham and is a Past President of the Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties, an international non-profit organization dedicated to training women to serve their communities and to become community leaders. Although Shannon received her legal training and leadership training as an adult, her love for her community and her desire to serve others were instilled in her in childhood by her grandmother.

After 25 years of serving Durham County as an Assistant Public Defender, Shannon would be honored to take this office to even greater heights as the next Public Defender ***leading a group of dedicated, hardworking attorneys who provide excellent and ethical representation to our clients.***