



# **Proposal for Legal Services**

## ***The City of Edgewater***

**September 10, 2025**



Law Firm of Charles Vega P.A.  
Corporate Headquarters  
4550 Clyde Morris Blvd. Suite C  
Port Orange, Florida 32129

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From the desk of Charles D. Vega

September 11, 2025

City of Edgewater City Counsel  
104 N Riverside Drive  
Edgewater, Florida 32132

Re: Response to request for proposal

Dear City of Edgewater City Council,

In response to your request for a proposal we want to first thank you for considering the Law Firm of Charles Vega P.A. to represent the **City of Edgewater**. We understand that selecting legal counsel is a critical decision, and this proposal is intended to demonstrate our qualifications, our approach to legal service, and our unwavering commitment to our clients and the community.

As a firm we offer a unique perspective with a vast portfolio of legal services, expertise and tenure as opposed to an individual attorney. For each new matter, we offer a free consultation for up to 30 minutes which provides significant value to the city. The consultation offers a risk-free way for the City to get an initial assessment of a legal matter. In just 30 minutes, the City can gain a clear understanding of their legal standing, available options, and potential risks without any financial commitment. This allows the City to make an informed, strategic decision about how to proceed. It's an efficient way to get a professional opinion, establish a potential course of action, and determine if the legal provider is the right fit for their specific needs, all before investing time or money into a larger engagement.

This quote is valid for 90 days.

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## Our Proven Expertise

**The Law Firm of Charles Vega, P.A.**, delivers a proven record of excellence in sophisticated legal analysis and impactful negotiations. Our team is recognized for our meticulous approach to legal research, our ability to simplify complex disputes, and our skill in developing and executing strategies that achieve meaningful results.

Our expertise covers consumer, commercial, and government negotiations, where we have successfully guided both organizations and individuals through challenging legal matters. We pride ourselves on building trusted relationships at every level, whether with corporate leadership, employees, or individual clients and on fostering clear, effective communication that is essential for resolving conflicts and securing favorable outcomes.

### A Deep Understanding of Dispute Resolution

Four attorneys at our firm are duly admitted to the Florida Middle District Court (federal) and certified as Civil/Circuit and Appellate Mediators by the Florida Supreme Court. This background gives us a deep understanding of effective dispute resolution mechanisms. Mr. Vega has also had the distinct honor of presenting at high-level forums in Washington D.C., a testament to our professional communication and advocacy skills.

### Our Commitment to First-Class Service

Serving individuals and businesses throughout Central, North, and South Florida, the Law Firm of Charles Vega P.A. is built on a guiding philosophy: to provide first-class legal service grounded in honesty, integrity, knowledge, and a commitment to fulfilling our promises. This is more than a slogan; it is a principle embraced by our entire team, from our attorneys to our office assistants, legal assistants, and investigators.

### Practice Areas

Our comprehensive legal services include a wide range of practice areas, allowing us to serve diverse client needs with expertise and care. Our practice areas include:

- **Business Law:** Commercial Business, Contracts, Sale, Purchase
- **Family Law:** Divorce & Child Custody
- **Real Estate:** Landlord/Tenant Disputes, Deeds, Residential/Commercial
- **Personal Injury:** Automobile & Truck Accidents, Plaintiff and Defense
- **Medical Malpractice:** Plaintiff and Defense
- **Estate Planning:** Wills, Trusts, Power of Attorney, Health Surrogate & Probate
- **Employment Law:** Workmans' Compensation, Advisor to Employer
- **General Practice:** Animal Control, Mediation, General Civil Litigation
- **Governmental Law:** City, County, State, Federal
- **Investigation Services:** General & Specialized Investigations

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## The Law Firm of Charles Vega P.A. Advantage

Our practice is built on the philosophy of treating people the way we'd want to be treated. We believe that excellent customer service is just as important as legal skill, and we prioritize **responsive communication, empathy, and a personalized approach** for every client. Our office is organized and efficient, utilizing the latest client billing technology and advanced legal research tools to ensure your case is handled with the utmost care and attention.

This dedication to exceptional client service has fueled our rapid growth, with the vast majority of our new business coming from referrals and other trusted sources. We believe this speaks volumes about the trust we've earned and the quality of our work. Mr. Vega's is professionally known by Sheriff Mike Chitwood of Volusia County Sheriff's Office, Manuel Marino Police Chief Port Orange Police, and Don Burnette former Port Orange Mayor.

## What People Say About Us

# Google Reviews

# Testimonials

**Steve Osterhout**  
6 reviews • 0 photos

★★★★★ 8 weeks ago

I was referred to Charles by several of my business colleagues. Everyone in that office was very pleasant and Charles saw me at the scheduled time and went over all my business legal concerns. He was clear and concise as to what I needed do. I highly recommend Charles to all my business colleagues.

**Karen Adams**  
1 review • 0 photos

★★★★★ 6 hours ago

Just a wonderful group of professional and friendly people work for this business. Right up to Mr. Vega.

My attorney was Minerva Poblet and I can't say enough about her knowledge, helpfulness, and work ethic!

I came to them with a complicated adult guardianship case and then, later the next year, a double probate which was also very complicated. They helped smooth things out and explained everything as it was happening and told me, step by step, what I needed to do and take care of during the entire process.

I highly recommend this legal team for all of your needs.

**CIVIL LITIGATION**

*Highly recommend the legal services of Charles Vega P.A.*

George A.

**PERSONAL INJURY & PROBATE**

*Best In Florida!*

Robert E.

**REAL ESTATE**

Thank you so much for your professionalism helping us get through this dispute with our builder. We appreciate you very much!

Diane D.

**My experience with the office of Charles Vega P.A. was upbeat. They were very professional. Mr. Vega took the time to educate us with our Wills, Durable Power of Attorney, Healthcare Surrogate, and a Living Will.**

Richard & Yvonne A.

**CORPORATE CLIENT**

*I was impressed with Charley's background and his attention to detail.*

David R.

**CIVIL LITIGATION**

*Charley first of all calmed me down...he let me talk as much as I wanted and he LISTENED. He kept in contact with updates or news every few days whether anything happened or not. He never tried to sell me his services, he told me what he could do, different outcomes, and possible costs of everything. He was always very clear and he made me very comfortable with my problem and speaking with him, I would never hesitate if I needed anything legal to contact him for help.*

Scott M.

**THE FLORIDA BAR**

Dear Charles Vega,

Angelo Petrocilli has left you feedback related to your services.

Likely to Recommend	★★★★★
Trustworthy	★★★★★
Responsive	★★★★★
Knowledgeable	★★★★★



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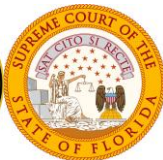
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### **Why Choose the Law Firm of Charles Vega P.A.**

Choosing the right legal partner is about more than a list of services, it requires trust, proven capability, and confidence that your interests are protected. At **The Law Firm of Charles Vega, P.A.**, we bring decades of experience leading high-impact initiatives, including analyzing complex federal regulations, negotiating inter-agency agreements, and guiding multi-stakeholder compliance. Our insight and advocacy assist clients navigate complex challenges to achieve favorable outcomes.

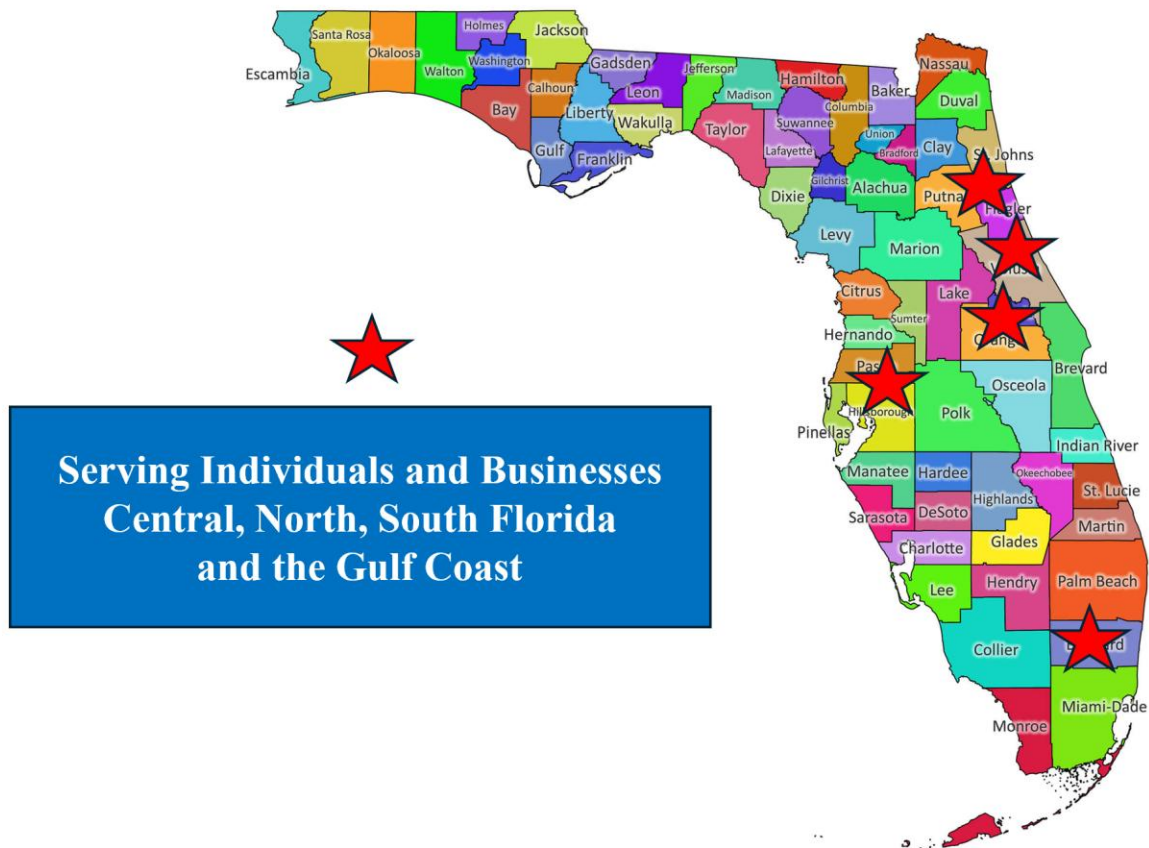
### **What Sets Us Apart**

- **Integrity & Ethics:** Our practice is built on honesty, transparency, and a steadfast commitment to ethical representation.
- **Personalized Service:** Unlike large, impersonal firms, we prioritize open communication and provide hands-on attention tailored to each client's needs.
- **Tenacity & Dedication:** We pursue your goals with determination, ensuring every matter is handled with the diligence it deserves.
- **Strategic Perspective:** With experience spanning legal, regulatory, and business environments, we bring a comprehensive, solutions-driven approach to complex challenges.
- **Exceptional Negotiation & Advocacy:** Skilled in negotiation, conflict resolution, and executive-level communication, we consistently secure favorable outcomes.
- **Clear Communication & Presentations:** We excel in delivering persuasive arguments and impactful presentations, whether in the courtroom, boardroom, or mediation setting. Our team combines strong verbal advocacy with effective visual tools and adaptive communication styles, ensuring that every audience; judges, juries, executives, or employees - receives a clear, compelling message.
- **Comprehensive Case Support:** From initial consultation and case assessment to research, strategy, negotiation, mediation, and if necessary litigation, we provide full-service legal representation designed to protect your interests.



## COVERAGE AREA

**Jacksonville, Orlando, Daytona Beach, Miami, and Tampa**



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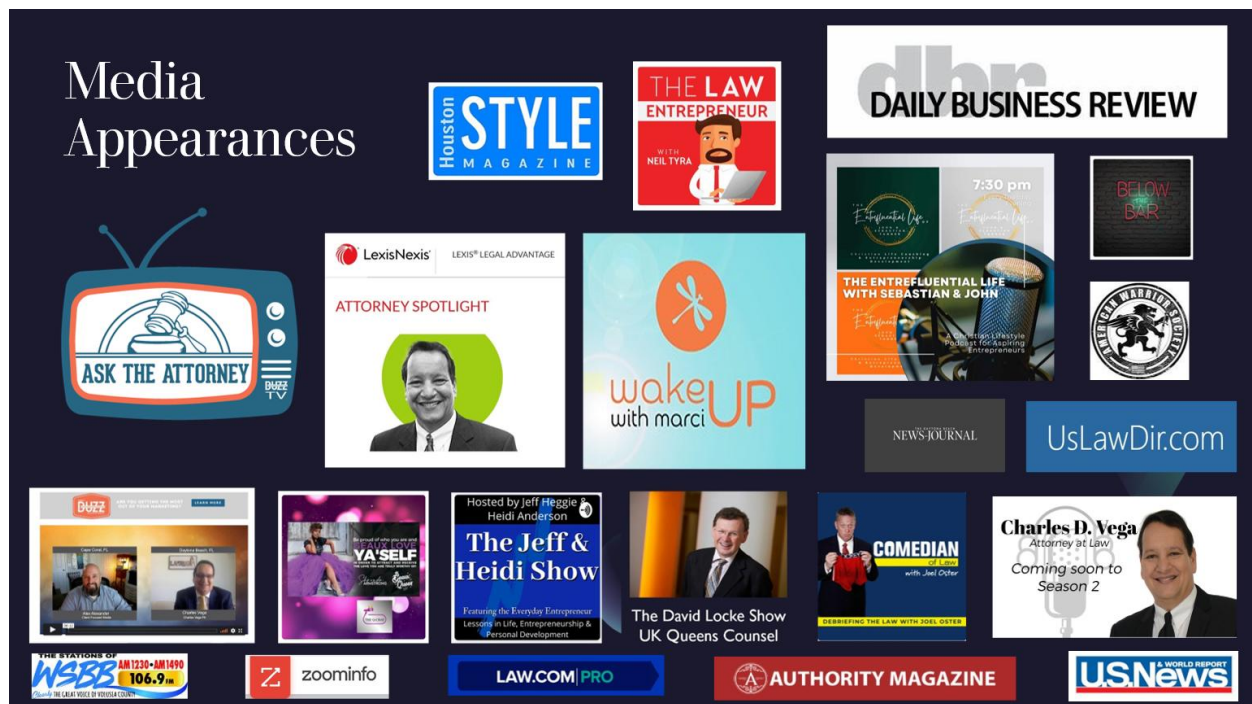


CONFIDENTIAL

# Charles D. Vega

Attorney at Law

Coming soon to  
Season 2



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## Legal Team



**Charles Vega**  
Attorney/  
Founder  
Licensed in Florida &  
Washington D.C.



**Scott Pestcoe**  
Of Counsel/  
Chief Counsel



**Minerva Poblet**  
Attorney



**Gretchen Bailey**  
Attorney/CPA  
Licensed in Florida &  
New York

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## Legal Team



**Matthew Romanik**  
Attorney



**Jonathan Benjamin**  
Attorney



**Tyler Chasez**  
Attorney



**Susan Ancona**  
Paralegal

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**Charles Vega**

**Attorney/Founder**

**Leads the Firms Team; Operations and Select Cases**

**Professional Experience**

- Licensed in Florida and Washington D.C.
- Licensed in the Middle District of Florida (federal)
- Trained Arbitrator
- Florida Supreme Court Certified Civil/Circuit and Appellant Mediator
- 2021 Attorney of the Year for Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida
- Master Instructor of Combat Hapkido, 5th degree black belt
- Co-founder Simple Self Defense for Women®

**Professional Memberships**

- The Florida Bar
- The Washington D.C. Bar
- Board Member - Volusia Civil Trial Attorneys Association
- Board Member - Volusia County Bar Association
- Board Member – Daytona Beach Chamber of Commerce
- Port Orange Chamber of Commerce
- Seminole County Chamber of Commerce
- Seminole County Economic Development Committee - Past
- Masterminds (Business leaders think tank)
- The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) - Past
- The White House the Federal Electronics Stewardship Working Group (FESWG) - Past
- The White House National Strategy for Electronic Stewardship (NSES) -Past

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- The Coalition for Government Procurement (CGP) - Past
- Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida: To provide legal services Pro Bono in the community we serve. Recognized by the Florida Supreme Court for legal services provided to those in need.

### **Major Accomplishments**

- 2021 Pro Bono Attorney of the Year - Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida
- Nominated for the White House Executive Council Green Government Award
- Published author 1001 Professional Sales Tips® (ISBN:1-55369-594-1)
- Created the National Federal Recycling & Federal Sector Program
- Created the AT&T Mobility government program

### **Specialized Educational Certification**

- Successfully completed the Executive Advanced Leadership Program
- Certified Business Management Professor at Daytona State College
- Master Instructor Combat Hapkido (5<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt)
- Top Secret security clearance

### **Skills**

- **Legal Expertise:** Legal Research, Legal Document Drafting, Case Management, Strategic Legal Advice, Federal Regulations, Environmental Compliance, Analyzing facts presented on both sides of a dispute and provide recommends, Litigation Management, Mediation, Arbitration.
- **Business Acumen:** Contract Negotiation, Commercial Sales, Strategic Business Planning, Program Management, Revenue Generation, Market Analysis, B2B Sales, Leadership, Mentoring, Making professional oral presentations. Strategical and tactical business planning expertise. Experienced with C level executives commercially, state, and federal agencies. Experienced in working with numerous federal agencies in Washington D.C.
- **Government Experience:**  
Experienced in securing federal contract (Schedule-48) with General Service Administration (GSA); Experienced in securing a communications contract with the State of Florida for AT&T; Led the creation and program management of the National Federal Recycling Program, an innovative initiative that enables more than 36 federal agencies to recycle electronics. This program ensures environmental compliance with federal regulations and executive orders.; Experienced in working with numerous federal agencies in Washington, D.C., including Health and Human Services; Federal Aviation Administration; Department of Labor, Department of Defense, and numerous others.

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## ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT



**Charles Vega** is a licensed attorney in Florida and Washington D.C who believes that personalized service is the foundation of effective legal representation. His professional journey is a testament to the dedication, tenacity, and hard work he brings to every case.

Mr. Vega's background instilled in him the core values of respect, integrity, and hard work. While supporting a young family, he earned his bachelor's degree from Nova Southeastern University. He went on to achieve significant success in sales and marketing at major corporations like Siemens, AT&T, and the federal government, where his accomplishments were recognized with multiple presentations at the White House and many federal agencies.

Driven by a lifelong dream, Mr. Vega pursued his law degree while working full-time, a challenge that required extensive commuting of 180 miles a day to attend both Barry University School of Law and Florida Coastal School of Law. He completed the demanding four-year program in just three and a half years and successfully passed the Florida Bar on his very first attempt. This story of perseverance is a powerful reflection of the commitment he brings to achieving positive outcomes for his clients.

Beyond his legal practice, Mr. Vega is a dedicated community member who cherishes time with his family. His diverse interests, including public speaking and conducting workshops on personal safety for women and children through **Simple Self Defense for Women®**. Mr. Vega is a 5th Degree Black Belt in Combat Hapkido, reflecting a disciplined and dedicated character that translates directly into his professional life.

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**Scott L. Pestcoe**

**Attorney Of Counsel/Chief Counsel  
Leads the Firms Complex Cases and Medical Malpractice Division**

**Professional Experience**

Scott L. Pestcoe is a highly experienced attorney with a distinguished career spanning over two decades. Based in Florida, he has built a reputation for delivering exceptional legal counsel across a range of practice areas.

Mr. Pestcoes expertise encompasses complex litigation, business law, and personal injury cases, with a particular focus on wrongful death claims and medical malpractice. His deep understanding of Florida law, combined with his meticulous approach to case preparation, has earned him the trust of clients and peers alike.

Throughout his career, Mr. Pestcoe has successfully represented individuals, families, and businesses, achieving favorable outcomes in both trial and appellate courts. His dedication to client advocacy is matched by his ability to navigate intricate legal challenges with precision and strategic insight.

In addition to his legal practice, Mr. Pestcoe is committed to professional development and community engagement. He has contributed to legal education through seminars and publications, sharing his knowledge to advance the profession.

Scott L. Pestcoe's unwavering commitment to excellence and his client-centered approach make him a trusted advocate for those seeking justice and resolution in Florida's legal system.



**Minerva Poblet**  
**Attorney**  
**Leads the Firm's Probate Division**

**Professional Experience**

Legal expert and litigator on Probate, Estate Planning, Personal Injury and General Civil Litigation & Community Involvement.

Attorney Minerva Poblet has been a cornerstone of the Law Firm of Charles Vega PA, expertly leading our probate division. A highly experienced and successful attorney, Ms. Poblet is a trusted advocate for her clients, navigating the complexities of probate, guardianship, estate planning, and general civil litigation with unwavering dedication.

Ms. Poblet's impressive academic background includes a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice, both from Florida International University, culminating in her Juris Doctorate from Florida Coastal School of Law. Licensed to practice in Florida, Ms. Poblet brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to every case.

Born in Peru, Ms. Poblet is bilingual in English and Spanish, allowing her to connect with a diverse clientele. Her commitment to serving others extends beyond the courtroom, as she passionately assists others in the community through various endeavors including Florida Rural Legal Services in the southwest area.

Outside of her demanding work, Ms. Poblet cherishes time with her family, finds solace in exploring national parks across the country, and enjoys the simple pleasure of watching the sunrise with her husband. A devoted cat lover, Ms. Poblet embodies compassion in all aspects of her life. We are incredibly fortunate to have Ms. Poblet as a valued member of our team.



**Gretchen Bailey**  
**Attorney/CPA**  
**Leads the Firms Family Law Division**

**Professional Experience**

Legal, Family Law and Financial Expert

Gretchen S. Bailey is a highly experienced attorney and Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with over 25 years of expertise in legal and financial matters. Licensed in both New York and Florida, she specializes in family law, civil litigation, risk management, real estate, hospitality, and consumer services.

Her professional background showcases a diverse skill set, including strategic planning, financial analysis, M&A, auditing, and corporate governance. As a lead attorney, she handles complex civil litigation and contract disputes. During her time as a consultant for a major U.S. insurance brokerage, she advised executive management on COVID-19-related legal and regulatory changes and developed company-wide contract management policies.

In her previous roles, Gretchen served as an attorney at a full-service law firm, where she prepared legal documents and conducted court hearings in divorce cases. As the Chief Financial Officer for a real estate firm, she managed a large portfolio of commercial and residential properties and advised the CEO on strategic legal issues.

Her entrepreneurial spirit is evident from her time as the owner of Tanning Bed Ltd., a business she grew from one location to 33, achieving \$20 million in sales before selling it. She also has extensive audit experience, having held positions as a Corporate Audit Manager at a global hospitality company and a Senior Auditor at Ernst & Young LLP.

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**Matthew Romanik**  
**Attorney - Board Certified**  
**Leads the firm's Employment Division**

**Professional Experience**

With over 30 years of experience, Matthew E. Romanik is a distinguished legal expert specializing in workers' compensation, employment law, and personal injury. He holds the unique distinction of being Volusia County's longest continuously board-certified workers' compensation lawyer.

A Florida native, Matthew graduated from Lakeland High School in the top 3% of his class before attending the University of Florida. There, he earned two bachelor's degrees in finance and political science in under four years while also assisting with soil hydrology experiments to help farmers with sustainable water use. He continued this work while earning his Juris Doctor from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, graduating in 1995.

Since becoming a member of the Florida Bar, Matthew has dedicated his career to representing plaintiffs in workers' compensation, employment discrimination, personal injury, and disability cases in Volusia County.

Beyond his legal practice, Matthew is an active member of his community. He has served on the City of Daytona Beach's Historical Preservation Board and the Halifax Historical Society. He is also a proud father who enjoys cycling, kayaking, and hiking in his free time.



**Jonathan Benjamin**  
**Attorney**  
**Leads the Firms Consumer Division**

**Professional Experience**

Commercial and residential foreclosure defense; HOA foreclosure defense; Consumer collection defense; Real estate litigation; Bankruptcy; Business law; General civil litigation.

Jonathan Benjamin is an attorney who, after graduating from Boston University, worked as a litigation paralegal for five years. He then attended Stetson University College of Law, where he graduated with distinction and earned multiple honors, including the Best Advocate in a Preliminary Round Award and Second Place Team Award in the 2010 American Association for Justice Civil Trial Competition. He also received the Blews Pro Bono Award and the Stetson University College of Law Leadership Certificate.

He is known for his aggressive representation and for seeking ways to dismiss cases, with a successful track record reflected in client results and testimonials. As a former bank attorney, he brings a unique perspective to defense work, particularly in foreclosure defense, by understanding the opposing side's strategy. He is an aggressive and trustworthy litigator who makes himself available to clients for any questions or issues.

A dedicated family man with strong spiritual beliefs, he works hard for clients and is committed to representing each one as he would a family member. He invites potential clients to schedule a free consultation to discuss their needs.

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**Tyler Chasez**

**Attorney**

**Leads the Firms General Civil Litigation Division**

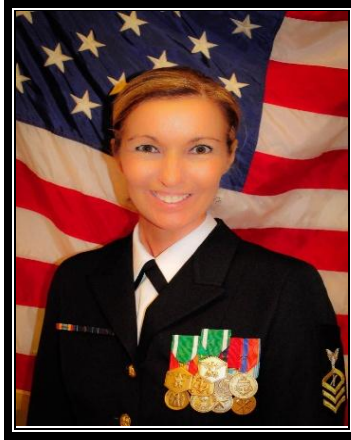
**Professional Experience**

Personal injury, Automobile Truck Accidents, Slips & Falls, Mediation, Arbitration, Government and General Civil Litigation.

Tyler J. Chasez, Esq. is a talented attorney with 15 years of practice in a variety of advisory and litigation roles with a focus on personal injury, mediation, arbitration, and general civil litigation. He earned his Juris Doctorate from Southwestern Law School in 2009 and a Bachelor of Arts from Rollins College in 2004. Chasez is admitted to the Florida Bar and the U.S. District Court Middle District of Florida. He is also a Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit/County Civil and Family Mediator and a Florida Supreme Court Qualified Arbitrator.

Chasez was a Partner at Hale, Hale and Jacobson, PA, where he served as lead litigation counsel on hundreds of first-party insurance cases and managed and trained associates, paralegals, and support staff. He also negotiated settlements with opposing counsel and developed strategies for court proceedings and negotiations. Chasez also served as an Assistant State Attorney for the State Attorney's Office, 18th Judicial Circuit. During this time, he managed and tried numerous criminal cases and handled a caseload of over 500 cases at a time.

## CONFIDENTIAL



**Susan Anacona**  
**Paralegal**

### **Professional Experience**

Susan M. Ancona is a highly experienced and dedicated professional with a background in legal administration, leadership, and military service. **Certified Paralegal (CP)**, she has a strong commitment to the United States Armed Forces, having retired as a Chief Petty Officer from the U.S. Navy's Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps after 21 years of service on December 1, Recipient of the **2010 Master Chief Delbert Black Award for leadership**. Ancona holds a Master of Science in Leadership from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and a Bachelor of Science in Legal Administration from City University in Seattle, Washington. Her professional career includes a range of roles that highlight her diverse skills. **Assistant Director of Military Student Services** at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Worldwide. In this role, she assists military service members and their families with their educational pursuits, ensures adherence to university policies and government guidelines, and manages the quality assurance process for students using VA benefits. She is also the institutional representative for the Higher Education Opportunity Act and provides leadership to her team.

### **Legal and Military Roles**

**Office Manager/Certified Paralegal** from 1998 to 2012, where she managed all aspects of a law office. Her responsibilities included drafting legal documents, interfacing with clients, attorneys, and court staff, and supervising staff members. She also performed legal research and demonstrated strong analytical and critical thinking skills.

During her time in the U.S. Navy JAG Corps, she served as the Leading Chief Petty Officer of Enlisted Sailors from 2001 to 2011. She provided key administrative support to Active Duty and Reserve Commanders, oversaw administrative discharge proceedings, and facilitated investigations and legal research projects.

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## Firms Community Mindedness – Personal Safety

Charles Vega Esq. with his wife Tracy are the co-founders of **Simple Self Defense for Women®** an award-winning company that promotes the personal safety of women and their children with a focus on **How to Prevent, Avoid and ESCAPE a Potential Attack, Threat, or Abduction.**



## Simple Self Defense for Women® Personal Safety Program

How to Simply Escape an Attack, NOT Stay and Fight!

### TV Guest Appearances



### TV Guest Appearances



[www.simpleselfdefenseforwomen.com](http://www.simpleselfdefenseforwomen.com)

TV Appearances

<http://youtu.be/1cr0J5r5bws>

These Cities Have Declared an Official Proclamation  
Declaring a Simple Self Defense for Women® Day



*"This program is a **MUST** opportunity for woman of all ages who are interested in their personal safety. Not only will they learn techniques to escape an attack, they will learn how to think about their surroundings and avoid being a victim altogether"*

**Michael Chitwood**  
**Daytona Beach**  
**Volusia County Sheriff**

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### **Our Legal Resources**

Our firm employs the latest technology to leverage a wide array of legal resources in research leading databases, research tools, libraries, and client management tools to provide you with the most comprehensive and effective representation.



One of those tools is LexisNexis one of the most advanced systems for legal research, risk management, and business intelligence for lawyers, businesses, and government agencies. LexisNexis offers access to a vast database of legal information, public records, news, and business data, allowing us to conduct thorough research, identify risks, and make informed recommendations and decisions.

### **Comprehensive Legal Research:**

LexisNexis provides access to a massive collection of legal materials, including case law, statutes, regulations, and legal treatises, enabling lawyers to conduct in-depth legal research for litigation, transactional work, and other legal matters.

### **Shepard's Citations:**

LexisNexis offers the Shepard's Citations service, which is a trusted tool for validating legal cases and ensuring the accuracy and validity of legal arguments.

### **Lexis+**

These platforms provide advanced search and analytical tools to help legal professionals quickly identify relevant cases, understand legal precedents, and develop effective legal strategies.

### **Drafting and Document Analysis:**

LexisNexis tools like Protégé can assist with drafting legal documents, summarizing complex information, and generating visual timelines to assist our team organize case details.

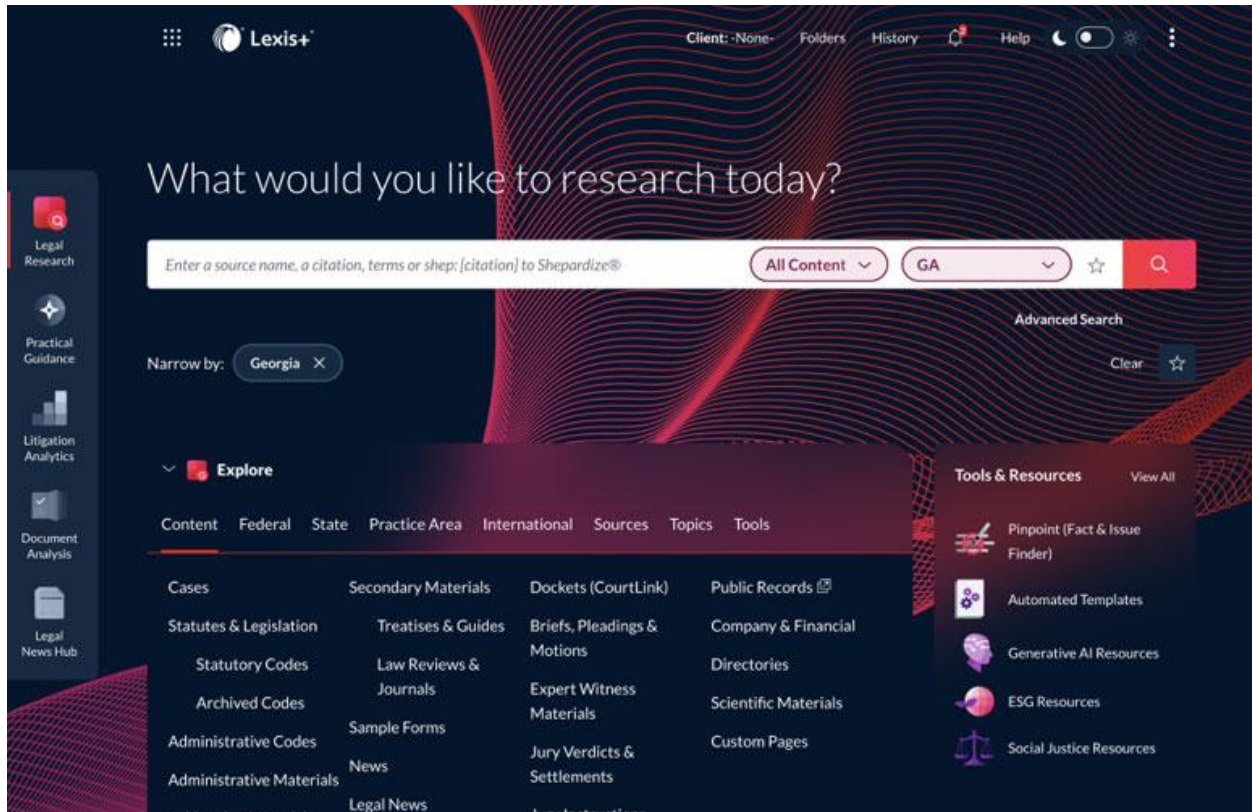
### **Public Records**

LexisNexis provides access to public records to conduct due diligence on potential clients, partners, or acquisitions, helping them assess risks and make informed decisions. LexisNexis helps businesses assist in preventing fraud by verifying the identity and background of customers, ensuring compliance with regulations, and mitigating potential fraud or security risks. By analyzing public records and other data sources, businesses can identify potential fraudulent activities and protect themselves from financial losses.



### **Risk Management:**

LexisNexis provides tools and data to help businesses identify and manage various risks, including financial, reputational, and legal risks.



**In summary** LexisNexis is a powerful tool employed by The Law Firm of Charles Vega P.A. and is used by attorneys and professionals in various fields to access and analyze vast amounts of data. It helps government agencies conduct investigations by providing access to comprehensive public records. By offering a centralized platform for research, LexisNexis saves users time and boosts their productivity, ultimately enabling them to make more informed decisions, manage risks effectively and offer their clients the most comprehensive legal analysis tool available.



Clio is the leading cloud-based software platform designed for law firms to manage their practice, clients, and finances. It offers a comprehensive suite of tools for case and client management, billing, document control, and relationship management. The platform supports firm efficiency through task and calendar management, secure client communications, and a robust system of the latest tools.

### **Core Features**

- **Clio Manage:**  
This core product is a law practice management system that helps firms organize cases, manage clients, contact details, track time and expenses, and handle billing.
- **Client Portal:**  
Provides a secure channel for firms to communicate with clients, share documents, and receive updates, fostering better client experiences.
- **Document Management:**  
Securely store, edit, and organize all firm documents, with features to generate new documents from case data.
- **Billing & Payments:**  
Tools for time and expense recording, invoice generation, and online payments help firms get paid faster.
- **Security:**  
The platform prioritizes security with industry-leading protocols, remote access, and permissions to protect sensitive client information.



## Legal Fee Schedule

We are pleased to offer you our legal services on an hourly rate basis. The attorney hourly rates are between \$425.00 and \$525.00 per hour. \$425.00 per hour for staff attorneys and \$525.00 per hour for senior attorneys.

**Support Staff Hourly Rate:** Our administrative assistants, paralegals and investigators are billed at a rate of **\$125.00 per hour**, in six-minute increments of \$12.50.

### Attorney Hourly Rates

- **Staff Attorney Hourly Rate:** \$425.00 per hour
- **Billing Increments:** All legal fees are billed in six-minute increments, with each increment costing \$42.50.
- **Senior Attorney Hourly Rate:** \$525.00 per hour
- **Billing Increments:** All legal fees are billed in six-minute increments, with each increment costing \$52.50.

**Retainer:** A retainer is a fundamental component of the client-attorney relationship in many legal practices. It's a deposit of funds made by a client to secure a lawyer's services and to cover the future costs and fees associated with their case.

**A retainer is NOT required for government clients. Government accounts are billed in arrears.**

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## Investigative Services

### Law Firm Investigations: A Strategic Advantage

In today's legal landscape, outcomes are determined not only by sound legal arguments but also by the strength of the facts behind them. At The Law Firm of Charles Vega, P.A., we know that evidence, intelligence, and thorough preparation can make the difference between success and setback. That is why we partner with licensed private investigators to provide our clients with a decisive advantage in litigation, negotiations, and dispute resolution.

### Why Private Investigators Matter

Private investigators (PIs) are not simply characters from television dramas; they are trained professionals who bring unique expertise and objectivity to complex legal matters. By working alongside PIs, we enhance the strength and depth of every case we handle.

- **Evidence & Fact-Finding** – Investigators can uncover information that may otherwise remain hidden, including locating assets, identifying witnesses, and gathering evidence through surveillance and research.
- **Case Strengthening** – PIs help validate or challenge information, perform background checks on key individuals, and provide an independent perspective that can expose credibility issues or uncover new facts.
- **Efficiency & Precision** – While attorneys focus on strategy, advocacy, and the law, investigators specialize in fact-finding. This partnership ensures that every case benefits from targeted investigative expertise handled with discretion and professionalism.



## What Can a Private Investigator Do for You?

Through our collaboration with our own professional investigators under the firm, we provide clients with enhanced support across a wide range of matters:

- **Family Law** – Locating hidden assets, investigating child custody concerns, or verifying spousal activities.
- **Personal Injury & Insurance Fraud** – Documenting the true extent of injuries, uncovering fraudulent claims, and gathering evidence to support litigation.
- **Criminal** – Conducting independent investigations, re-examining evidence or scenes, and identifying new witnesses.
- **Civil Litigation** – Performing due diligence, verifying information, and locating difficult-to-find individuals to strengthen your case.
- **Pre-Employment Screening** – Comprehensive background checks to verify qualifications, history, and potential risks before hiring.
- **Truth Verification Testing** – Professional voice stress analysis to assess credibility in sensitive matters.
- **Impartial Internal Investigations** – Independent and unbiased investigations into workplace or organizational issues, including internal affairs.

At The **Law Firm of Charles Vega, P.A.**, we believe that strong cases are built on solid facts. By integrating professional investigative services into our practice, we deliver clients a powerful combination of legal insight and investigative precision, ensuring that every case is supported by the truth.

**Note: Investigative services can be part of a legal case or not. A legal case is not required to utilize our investigative services. They may be purchased separately.**

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**Rick Raymond**  
**Private Investigator**  
**Leads the Firms Investigative Division**

### **Professional Experience**

**As the head of investigations for the law firm of Charles Vega P.A.**, Rick brings over 35 years of experience in federal, municipal, and private investigations. He is a licensed and bonded investigator, and his deep knowledge and extensive experience are a significant asset to our firm and our clients.

Rick Raymond is a **court-certified expert witness** in locate investigations and missing persons, having successfully handled more than 1,000 cases during his career. He is skilled at collaborating with companies, individuals, and various government agencies - including City, County, State, and Federal—to ensure seamless and efficient handling of even the most complex cases. To deliver the most accurate and timely results, **we leverage the latest technologies and subscriptions in all our investigative work.**



## Investigative Services

### General & Specialized Investigations

- Background Checks & Asset Searches – Locate difficult-to-find individuals and witnesses, perform pre-litigation asset checks, and conduct financial and bank account investigations to uncover judgments and assets.
- Domestic & Family Matters – Discreet investigations for cases involving child custody disputes, alimony modification, suspected infidelity, and parental abduction.
- Wrongful Death Investigations – In-depth investigative support for wrongful death claims, including fact-finding, witness interviews, and evidence review.
- Corporate & Employee Investigations – Investigations into employee theft, fraud, misappropriation of corporate property, and enforcement of non-compete agreements.

### Technical & Forensic Services

- Surveillance Operations – Covert monitoring including physical surveillance, GPS vehicle tracking, hidden camera deployment, and technical surveillance countermeasures (TSCM) such as bug sweeps.
- Forensic Support – Access to specialized testing and analysis including latent fingerprint processing, gunshot residue (GSR) testing, and presumptive blood identification.
- Veracity Testing – Professional voice stress analysis testing.
- Scene Assessments – Detailed examinations of accident and crime scenes, including traffic crash reconstruction, drag factor analysis, and evidence documentation.

### Legal & Protection Services

- Litigation Support – Assistance with pre-litigation strategy, document retrieval, filings, trial preparation, witness interviews, and jury background research.
- Protective Services – Executive and VIP protection, as well as personal protection in cases involving stalking, domestic threats, or workplace concerns.
- Witness & Client Assistance – Supportive, non-confrontational witness interviews; secure escort and courier services for clients and witnesses attending court.
- Process Serving – Reliable and comprehensive process service across our coverage area, handled with professionalism and accountability.

## Commercial References

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

**In Summary:** The Law Firm of Charles Vega P.A. presents a compelling proposal to serve the **City of Edgewater**, emphasizing its extensive legal expertise, experience, and ability to provide a wide range of legal and investigative services. We have attorneys admitted to the State and federal Courts, certified as Civil, Circuit, and Appellate Mediators by the Florida Supreme Court, showcasing their proficiency in resolving complex disputes.

The firm offers comprehensive legal services across various practice areas, including governmental law, civil litigation, family law, probate, estate planning, employment law, and general civil litigation. Our attorneys bring decades of experience in litigation, negotiation, and advisory roles, with expertise in handling intricate legal matters for individuals, businesses, and government entities. The team includes specialists in commercial disputes, personal injury, real estate litigation, and community association issues, ensuring a broad scope of legal representation. Another key feature of the firm's services is its investigative capabilities, led by Rick Raymond, a licensed investigator with over 35 years of experience in federal, municipal, and private investigations.

The firm's commitment to client-focused service is evident in its personalized approach, responsive communication, and dedication to achieving favorable outcomes. The firm leverages advanced technologies, utilization of advanced legal research tools, such as LexisNexis and Clio, to ensure efficient case management and thorough legal analysis. Their guiding philosophy of integrity, honesty, and professionalism underpins their practice, fostering trust and confidence among clients.

The firm consistently validates its commitment to its clients by building a strong long-term relationship. This proposal highlights the firm's ability to address the **City's** legal needs comprehensively while providing high-quality, cost-effective services tailored to the **City**. The firm has consistently demonstrated our ability to manage complex legal and operational challenges through strategic analysis and persuasive negotiation.

We are confident that our government experience, business acumen, community involvement, and legal proficiency make us the ideal choice to represent the **City of Edgewater**. We are eager to contribute to your success and provide the high-quality legal services you deserve.

Sincerely,



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Charles D. Vega  
Founder/Attorney at Law

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