

RHONDA PEOPLES-WATERS, P.A.

ATTORNEY AT LAW



Statement on behalf of Callie Adams

Ms. Adams is thankful to State Attorney Melissa Nelson, Detective McClain, ASA Jeff Moody, Attorney Eric Friday, Florida Carry gun rights organization and many others involved in this case matter.

On July 22, 2011, Ms. Adams's life changed forever. She lost her beloved husband of over 19 years. Ms. Adams was forced to respond in self-defense because she had a reasonable fear of imminent great bodily harm or death.

Ms. Adams served her country honorably in the United States Marine Corps for over 21 years. She does not take lightly the decision she made to protect her own life. She lives daily with the reality of living without Rodney. Her heart goes out to Rodney's mom, brothers, daughters and other family members.

This case is the prime example of the importance of the new amendment to the Stand Your Ground law which will shift the burden to the State to prove by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant is not entitled to immunity or did not act in self-defense according to the law.

The duty of the prosecutor is to seek justice, not merely to convict. Melissa Nelson and her office did just that. Ms. Nelson personally spoke with witnesses and Rodney's daughters. Ms. Nelson went to South Carolina to speak with Rodney's family... all in pursuit of justice. We are forever thankful that justice and truth prevailed.

Lastly, Ms. Adams sends a message to others experiencing domestic abuse even if it is infrequent and sporadic, to seek help to end this behavior.