

My name is Sarah Fransene and I am running for the position of Executive at Large. This July will be my 20<sup>th</sup> year as an Assistant Public Defender. Since December 2019, I have been assigned as one of the Grade IV attorneys at Bridgeview. Prior to that, my assignments were the Felony Trial Division (2006-2019), Traffic (2005-2006), and Child Protection (2003-2005). I have also recently completed the steward training and I am a union steward at Bridgeview.

Throughout my tenure in the office, I appreciated all that our union did for us, but I didn't become more involved because I thought I didn't have the time. I have decided to make the time now. When I had to file my first grievance back in 2017, the union was there for me. Board members walked me through the process of the grievance steps, appeared on my behalf, and advocated for me, all the way through arbitration. Our union is important, the board does important work on our behalf, and I want to be an integral part of that work.

I believe my courtroom advocacy is an accurate example of what I can offer our members as an Executive at Large. I believe that my first-hand experience at needing our union to step up on my behalf gives me an empathetic edge to fight for you, if and when you need someone. I hope to use all of my experiences to be a tough, diplomatic champion for the benefit of all of our interests.

Thank you for your consideration.