

COLIN BAENZIGER  ASSOCIATES  
EXECUTIVE RECRUITING

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*Section 3*

*James E. Saunders*

*Ocala City Attorney  
Candidate Report*

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*Cover Letter and Resume*

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Mr. Baenziger,

Thank you for returning my phone call last week and discussing the City Attorney position in Ocala, Florida. The in-house position appears challenging, in light of the Fire Assessment litigation and the citywide growth and development, but, by all accounts, should be very rewarding. As a result, I have attached my resume for your consideration.

As you may remember, when we met some fifteen years ago during your handling of the West Melbourne City Attorney recruitment, I have represented city, county and state governments and their agencies, providing legal analysis and advice to their officials, management and boards, on a variety of local and state issues. During this journey, I have gained considerable transactional experience drafting and reviewing numerous municipal and county ordinances, understanding and communicating implications of policy decisions, and negotiating and drafting agreements pertaining to construction, housing and community development and financing, procurement, public safety communication and consumer services in both Miami-Dade and Broward counties. I have served as co-Bond Counsel along with Nabors, Giblin on various projects in Broward County. Additionally, I have been fortunate to litigate public and private matters in the state administrative tribunals, trial and appellate courts, and in this state's federal districts. Each transaction offers an opportunity to interact and develop relationships at the local and state level. These relationships, over time, have proven invaluable and necessary.

During my legal career, I have been involved in a variety of governmental issues: land use and development, parking, transportation and mobility, construction, affordable housing, civil service disputes, code enforcement, purchasing, and utilities. I have represented public and private interests before Personnel Boards, Nuisance Abatement Boards, handled money judgments in civil forfeiture actions, sought injunctive relief against businesses engaging in unfair and deceptive trade practices or acts and defended governmental exercise of its regulatory power to deny or revoke licensure or permits or further define local towing rates.

This diverse and balanced experience was further complemented by my former position as a Senior Associate with Williams Wilson & Sexton, P.A. and private practice, where I represented individuals, governmental agencies and corporations in transactional and litigation matters involving real property acquisition and development; procurement, financing, licensing, sales and purchase agreements; construction defects; contractor/vendor qualifications; protests and other procurement disputes; and corporate governance, management and operations. These experiences have enhanced my legal judgment and provided a mechanism for blending a primarily governmental experience with the demands of private practice to forge an effective and efficient representation of public and private clients founded upon a clear understanding of government policy and procedures.

Should you find my resume of interest, I would welcome an opportunity to meet with you to discuss possible employment. Again, thank you for your time and consideration.

James Saunders III

James Saunders III, Esq.  
Saunders Legal Strategies & Solutions, P.L.  
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Pembroke Pines, Florida 33027  
Office: (954) 459-1919  
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**James E. Saunders III**

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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**LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

**Assistant City Attorney** March 2018 - Present  
Office of the City Attorney, City of Pompano Beach, Florida.

- ❖ Negotiate and prepare multimillion-dollar procurement, real property, finance, construction and professional service agreements on behalf of the City of Pompano Beach agencies such as the City's Public Utility, Development Services, Public Works, Parking, Real Property and Office of Housing and Urban Improvement;
- ❖ Advise department and division level personnel on legal matters including, but not limited to, Public Records requests, Sunshine Law requirements, and ethical restrictions, which involve legal exposure or which involve broad policy implications;
- ❖ Prepare ordinances, resolutions, administrative regulations, and other legal instruments;
- ❖ Prosecute code violations in county court; litigate real property and probate matters and specially assigned commercial lawsuits in state court;
- ❖ Serve as Counsel to the City's local planning agency, the Planning and Zoning Board, and the Zoning Board of Appeals, in its quasi-judicial capacity; attend all such publicly notice meetings; and advise committee members on matters of public records, sunshine law and ethical standards; and

Including, but not limited to the following accomplishments:

- ❖ Review and assist the City Management with Broward County Transportation Surtax Program Projects, specifically, assembling the design and construction material for review by the County Mobility Advancement Program Team and preparation of the respective interlocal agreements, solicitations and consultant/construction agreements;
- ❖ Prepare and review, along with Developer's counsel, the appropriate license agreement and declaration for construction of the overhead walkway across City street at the Pompano Station development;
- ❖ Prepared, filed and finalized probate action involving Cypress Landing parcel to facilitate City assemblage and ownership of parcels to provide alternative road access in light of taking resulting from City's roadway modifications, and continue to negotiate settlement agreement and related construction agreement;
- ❖ Continued review and counsel to the Planning and Zoning Board, City development services staff, City District Commissioner and community stakeholders regarding the handling of Westview Community Cemetery;
- ❖ Reviewed and prepared financing and leasing documents for multifamily state and bond financed affordable housing projects, Marquis Apartments and Sonata Apartments;
- ❖ Negotiated and prepared FEC Bus Bench Lease Agreement for bus benches along Dixie Highway throughout City; and
- ❖ Assisted and prepared, with Parks and CA staff, the necessary changes required for operation and implementation of the newly created Cultural Affairs Department: its authority, responsibilities and assets.

**Shareholder**

**Saunders Legal Strategies and Solutions, P.L.** January 2008 – Present

- ❖ Provide transactional and litigation services to a multi-million dollar privately held corporation with

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commercial assets including three (3) multi-story retail/office buildings, several industrial warehouses totaling over 300,000 sq. ft., a three-star hotel with a spa, restaurant, golf and country club, and catering and banquet facilities in Miami Dade and Broward counties.

- ❖ Interact, consult, advise, and negotiate on behalf of, the President and other senior management and department personnel on matters involving policy, real estate development, hospitality management, labor and employment, procurement, governmental regulatory and statutory compliance, land use and zoning, risk management and property management.
- ❖ Draft, review and analyze leases, licenses, real estate and stock purchase and sale agreements, NDAs, construction agreements, employment and management agreements; financial instruments and agreements.
- ❖ Perform formal internal investigations involving allegations of misconduct by employees and vendors.
- ❖ Represent corporate interests in state and federal court and monitor all outside counsel and litigation costs.
- ❖ Service legal needs of individuals and small for-profit and nonprofit corporate entities by drafting, reviewing, analyzing, interpreting, litigating, negotiating, managing, and advising these clients on matters involving commercial transactions, corporate governance, construction, title review, landlord-tenant disputes, probate, transportation (vehicles for hire, intermodal and public/private partnerships), land use and zoning, regulatory and statutory compliance, state and local DBE certification, and real estate development and management.

Some examples include:

- ✓ Successfully recovered damages for NC corporation in federal litigation against logistics company for negligent delivery of goods from international manufacturer
  - ✓ Represented Orlando land developer in the sale and transfer of the development and homeowners association to a national company
  - ✓ Successfully litigated title insurance litigation involving multiple parties and a railroad company and mediation that resulted in my client, original landowner receiving \$200,000 in settlement, payment of outstanding property taxes and other title challenges and return of the subject land without any encumbrances
  - ✓ Represented Florida investor against NC corporation and its officers and vendor for fraudulent misrepresentation in use/occupancy of manufacturing plant
  - ✓ Represented Orlando sports karting company as a nonparty in California state litigation regarding enforcement of judgment against Florida corporate assets
  - ✓ Successfully represented private lender in multi-million dollar commercial foreclosure and appointment of receiver
  - ✓ Successfully defended license revocation action by the City of Hallandale Beach Commission due to allegation of prostitution and building code violations
  - ✓ Represented Section 8 housing property owner in federal false claims act litigation to settlement
  - ✓ Litigated and later settled multimillion dollar commercial foreclosure action involving 156000 sq ft church building and school
  - ✓ Litigated state court action and appeal involving property owners' challenge to billboard company lease arrangement
  - ✓ Successfully defended wage and hour litigation against local restaurant from former employees
- ❖ Served as Co-Bond Counsel along with Nabors Giblin, P.A. to Broward County and its enterprise funded agencies, providing objective legal opinions with respect to the validity of bonds and other subjects, particularly the tax treatment of interest on the bonds, preparing and supervising bond proceedings, and assisting in structuring or evaluating the structure of a bond issue to ensure compliance with applicable law, where requested.

Senior Associate

September 2004 – December 2007

Williams Wilson & Sexton, P.A., Fort Lauderdale, Florida

- ❖ Provided professional legal services to local and state governments, and private corporations, with emphasis in the areas of land use, government procurement and contracting, civil litigation, transportation, public utilities, real estate development and construction.

Including, but not limited to the following accomplishments:

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- ❖ Advised the Broward County Charter Review Commission's Public Safety Subcommittee by providing legal reasoning and memoranda and preparing appropriate resolutions to support Broward County's residents' consideration, by referendum, of the creation of a Public Safety Council to coordinate county and municipal law enforcement, fire protection and emergency medical service communications, develop countywide minimum standards for fire protection and emergency medical services, and carry out other responsibilities as directed by the Broward County Commission.
- ❖ Advised the Broward County Management and Efficiency Committee's Transportation Subcommittee by providing legal framework and case study materials to support proposals for dedicated local funding source for capital improvements and services, establishment of a county transportation department, increased ridership, designation of transportation management leadership and enhanced accessibility and frequency of paratransit transportation services, and by assisting in drafting final recommendations for publication.
- ❖ Jointly served as counsel for the Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway Authority in its pursuit of damages against URS and its insurers for design defects resulting in collapse of portion of the Selmon Crosstown Expressway, particularly by providing analysis of the probability of recovery in a third party bad faith action against liability insurers, recovery of stigma damages above compensatory damages for design defect and mitigation of damages.
- ❖ Provides legal assistance to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in its development of the Miami Intermodal Center, a billion dollar intermodal transportation hub parallel and symbiotic to Miami International Airport, which will serve as a convergence of various transportation modes in Miami Dade County, such as light rail, high speed rail, bus, and other ground transportation, by handling matters involving real estate acquisition, development, leasing and financing; governmental restrictions and land use regulations; state and federal government financing; intergovernmental agency coordination, vertical and horizontal construction, and utilities.
- ❖ Co-authored practice guide to State Departments of Transportation and federal construction offices on how to protect transportation agencies against construction contract and disadvantaged business enterprise fraud, which examined the activities of highway departments and federal agencies in the false claims arena, specifically discussing federal and state actions, false claim liability, potential false claim abuses, individual false claim state statutes and the role of the United States Attorney in states that rely on the federal FCA (False Claims Act); identified various forms of disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) fraud and related scope of remedies used by state and federal governments to strengthen efforts to prevent and detect DBE fraud; and identified and evaluated how state and federal governments handle indicted, investigated or convicted contractors (i.e., legal devices, tactics and techniques) at the responsibility phase of their procurement and the impact on public integrity.
- ❖ Defended a local government's authority to install, place or require the installation or placement of traffic control devices onto roads within its territorial boundaries, thereby substantiating FDOT's decision to maintain corresponding traffic control devices, despite enactment of a charter county ordinance claiming exclusive jurisdiction.
- ❖ Represented local contractor and company in a five (5) day county debarment proceeding involving more than ten witnesses, numerous exhibits and several hundred pages of transcript, and later in a companion declaratory and injunctive relief action.

Assistant County Attorney

October 1999 - August 2004

Office of the County Attorney, Broward County, Florida.

- ❖ Negotiated and prepared multimillion dollar procurement, real property, finance, construction and professional service agreements on behalf of Broward County agencies such as the Office of Environmental Services (Broward County's Public Utility), Construction Management Division, Office of Project and Construction Management, Telecommunications Division, Consumer Affairs Division, Community Development Division, and the Office of Housing Finance;
- ❖ Advised department and division level personnel on legal matters, which involve financial or legal exposure or which involve broad policy implications;

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- ❖ Prepare ordinances, resolutions, administrative regulations, and other legal instruments;
- ❖ Litigate procurement bid protests, injunction complaints and administrative appeals, and specially assigned commercial lawsuits in state court;
- ❖ Attended selection and negotiation committee meetings and advised committee members on procurement and legal standards and
- ❖ Advised the Consumer Protection Board, in its quasi-judicial capacity, the Enterprise Zone Development Agency, and the Public Safety Communications Technical Committee.

Including, but not limited to the following accomplishments:

- ❖ Secured corporate and personal guarantee and, ultimately, payment of over \$96K in HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HUD funding) misappropriated by a building contractor after more than two years of evasion;
- ❖ Assisted in the development of Broward County's HOME Consortium involving Broward County and participating cities that resulted in doubling the original \$2.5 million HOME allocation to Broward County;
- ❖ Assisted in the application for HUD Brownsfield Economic Development Initiative grant funding and related loan to develop two film studios and/or an entertainment park in the City of Lauderdale Lakes totaling \$8 million in financing;
- ❖ Prepared the standardized construction agreements and security instruments currently used for commercial and single family and multifamily housing developments involving various HUD funds (SHIP, CDBG, HOME and ESG);
- ❖ Participated in the settlement negotiations regarding wastewater treatment system located in Hollywood, Florida;
- ❖ Provided legal representation to County agency in its promotion for businesses to use reclaimed water;
- ❖ Successfully negotiated closeout of the Broward County African American Research Library and Cultural Center after the Architect of Record filed bankruptcy;
- ❖ Assisted in the multimillion dollar phased renovation of Government Center West handling issues of construction defect and delay and involving multiple guaranteed price maximums under a construction manager at risk methodology;
- ❖ Assisted in the multimillion dollar 1999 Library Bond Program to construct and renovate 23 libraries within Broward County including the joint venture with JM Family and the Broward County Library Foundation to expand the Collier City Library;
- ❖ Assisted in the successful negotiation of the Hollywood City Library expansion to accommodate additional floors for City occupancy;
- ❖ Assisted in the preparation of the Broward County Small Business Development Ordinance redefining Broward County's small disadvantaged business enterprise program and successfully obtained a limited exemption for design build and construction manager at risk construction methods;
- ❖ Assisted in the coordination and local participation of Broward County and municipalities in Broward County's public safety regional communications system;
- ❖ Successfully litigated up to summary judgment the County's ability to regulate local towing rates, which was later affirmed on appeal;
- ❖ Drafted Consumer Protection ordinances that created reciprocity for motor vehicle for hire permits within the South Florida area, increased the number of years required to participate as a taxicab driver in the

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certificate lottery, redefined limousines distinguishing sedans from luxury stretched limousines; developed a Moving Consumer Bill of Rights and Disclosure Statement for unwary consumers unfamiliar with moving regulations; and restricted title loan companies and their marketing of payday advance loans; and

- ❖ Successfully litigated the County's ability to impose a moratorium against commercial signage near the Ft. Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.

### **Assistant City Attorney**

February 1997 – October 1999

Office of the City Attorney, City of North Miami, Florida.

- ❖ Negotiated and prepared procurement, construction, utility and professional service agreements;
- ❖ Advised municipal officers and employees on labor and employment matters;
- ❖ Prepared ordinances, resolutions, and other legal instruments; and
- ❖ Rendered opinions and/or reports on legal matters affecting the City as the City Council or City management as directed.
- ❖ Successfully prosecuted the termination of the City's first nonprobationary police officer before the City's Personnel Board;
- ❖ Developed an effective and efficient methodology for prosecuting and substantiating valid code enforcement violations before the City's Code Enforcement Board and Special Master;
- ❖ Prosecuted or defended lawsuits and other controversies in which the City was a party, in state and federal bankruptcy courts and before the City of North Miami Code Enforcement Board and Special Master and the City of North Miami Personnel Board;
- ❖ Advised City Civil Service subcommittee on the year long revision of the Civil Service Personnel Rules;

### **Assistant General Counsel**

March 1992 – January 1997

Administrative Office of the 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, Miami, Florida.

- ❖ Prepared and submitted procurement and professional service agreements, resolutions, and ordinances for approval or enactment by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners on behalf of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida;
- ❖ Advised the Chief Judge, Court Administrator and other divisional personnel of new federal, state or local legislation and its impact;
- ❖ Advised and assisted Court personnel in the development and implementation of key personnel and operational policies and procedures, including pay grades;
- ❖ Reviewed all legally sensitive correspondence received by Chief Judge and Court Administration, and recommended appropriate responses, including investigation of sexual harassment complaints;
- ❖ Assisted in the management of Litigation initiated against the Administrative Office of the Court personnel;
- ❖ Drafted recommended administrative orders for consideration and issuance by the Chief Judge of the Circuit;
- ❖ Acted as liaison between the Eleventh Judicial Circuit and other local government agencies;
- ❖ Assisted in the coordination of the training and internship programs for summer law clerks and high school students; and
- ❖ Performed special projects and assignments as designated by the Chief Judge or the Court Administrator.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **Adjunct Professor**

August 2010 – May 2013

Broward College

- ❖ Instruct college students in course material involving State and Local Government and National Government.

#### **Adjunct Professor**

July 2008 – May 2009

**Keiser University**

- ❖ Instruct college students in the Law Office Management and Technology, Health Law and Business Law courses covering such topics as ethics, professional conduct, billing, contract formation, UCC, real estate, insurance, professional and corporate liability, risk management, governmental regulatory compliance and other commercial transactions.

**Adjunct Professor**

August 2000 – May 2004

Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad Law Center

- ❖ Instructed second and third year law students in the Lawyering Skills and Values course covering such topics as contract formation and negotiations.

**PUBLISHED WRITINGS**

- ❖ *"ENIE, MENIE, MINEY, MO....WHO'S TO REGULATE THIS TOW?"*, 79 Florida Bar Journal, 30 (January, 2005).
- ❖ *"A Survey of State Practices for Protecting Transportation Agencies Against Construction and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Fraud Including Use of Contractor Suspension and Debarment Procedures"*, <http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs> (Web Only) (October 2005)

**EDUCATION**

University of Miami School of Law, Coral Gables, Florida., J.D., May 1991

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>Honors</b>     | James Weldon Johnson Academic Scholarship (3 year full tuition merit)<br>Earl Warren Academic Scholarship   |
| <b>Activities</b> | University of Miami Business Law Journal<br>Clerk, Burger King Corporation<br>Law Intern, Judge Wilkie Ferguson, Florida 3 <sup>rd</sup> District Court of Appeal<br>Certified Legal Intern, Dade County State Attorney's Office-Felony Division<br>NAACP Law Clerk<br>Miami-Dade County School Board Law Clerk<br>Research Assistant, UM Summer Honors Program |

University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, B.B.A., Politics/Public Affairs, Economics, May 1988.

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS**

- United States District Court, Southern District of Florida (Trial and Bankruptcy Bar) and Middle District Florida Bar (City, County, Local Government Section)
- Broward County Bar Association
- T.J. Reddick Voluntary Bar Association
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity

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*Candidate Introduction*

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**James E. Saunders III**

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**EDUCATION**

- Doctorate of Jurisprudence  
University of Miami School of Law, Coral Gables, Florida, May 1991
- Bachelors of Business Administration (Dual Majors: Politics/Public Affairs & Economics) University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, May 1988.

**FLORIDA BAR NUMBER:**            **913375**

**EXPERIENCE**

- Assistant City Attorney            March 2018 - Present  
Office of the City Attorney, City of Pompano Beach, Florida.
- Shareholder                            January 2008 - Present  
Saunders Legal Strategies and Solutions, P.L., Pembroke Pines, Florida.
- Senior Associate                    September 2004 – December 2007  
Williams Wilson & Sexton, P.A., Fort Lauderdale, Florida
- Assistant County Attorney        October 1999 - August 2004  
Office of the County Attorney, Broward County, Florida.
- Assistant City Attorney            February 1997 – October 1999  
Office of the City Attorney, City of North Miami, Florida.
- Assistant General Counsel        March 1992 – January 1997  
Administrative Office of the 11th Judicial Circuit, Miami, Florida.
- Adjunct Professor                    August 2010 – May 2013  
Broward College (Davie and Pines campuses)
- Adjunct Professor                    July 2008 – May 2009  
Keiser University, Pembroke Pines, Florida
- Adjunct Professor                    August 2000 – May 2004  
Nova Southeastern University Shephard Broad Law Center

**BACKGROUND –MOST RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

The City of Pompano Beach, named for the inshore tropical game fish that swims in the Atlantic Ocean, is a burgeoning coastal community that has experienced a major renaissance. A once sleepy town of a few hundred neighbors has now grown to approx. 112,000 residents, with a three mile stretch of pristine shoreline up to the Hillsboro Inlet and citywide redevelopment that has generated nearly \$80 million dollars in construction costs and resulted in an influx of multi-storied, innovative and quality residential developments containing affordable and market rate units, exciting cultural venues and preserved historical sites, inviting parks and other green space, and expanding retail, commercial and industrial footprint positioned along major corridors

**James E. Saunders III**

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within the City, as evident the more than \$80 million dollars generated monthly in construction costs.

Pompano Beach is the 6th largest city in Broward County, and is traversed by local and state roads and highways including north-south routes: I-95, Powerline Road, the Florida Turnpike, Federal Highway and A1A; and east-west routes: McNab Road, Atlantic Boulevard, Copans Road and Sample Road. The City has a total area of 25.4 sq. miles. Some of its largest employers include LIVE! Resorts Pompano, City of Pompano Beach, Broward County Sheriff's Office, Walmart, Publix, Aetna Rx Home Delivery, Point Blank Solutions, Associated Grocers of Florida, Pompano Masonry, and Fresh Point.

Pompano Beach holds several annual cultural events including the Pompano Beach Seafood Festival, the Pompano Beach Holiday Boat Parade, The Brazilian Festival, The Annual Nautical Flea Market at Pompano Community Park & Amphitheater, and The Annual Blues and Sweet Potato Pie "Juneteenth" Festival. There are also various cultural venues including The Kester Cottages (the Pompano Beach Historical Museum), Blanche Ely House Museum, The Historic Ali Cultural Arts Center, Bailey Contemporary Arts, and Pompano Beach Art Gallery. There are two malls in Pompano Beach: Festival Flea Market Mall, which houses booths and kiosks selling jewelry, electronics, and clothing; and Pompano Citi Centre, is an open-air recently renovated and expanded mall. In addition, the City has fifty-two (52) beautiful parks, each offering its own specific amenities and various activities including pools, playgrounds, athletic fields and courts, pavilions, and are dog friendly. The City also operates the Pompano Beach Municipal Golf Course, two 18-hole courses.

The City's tax base for the upcoming fiscal year totals \$17,176,982,493. The City's recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2023 is \$360,782,892, of which \$179,788,000 is the recommended General Fund budget. The citywide capital improvement projects include road resurfacing, streetscape and city sidewalks; bridge improvements; police and fire facilities; park and golf course improvements; seawall repairs; light fixture conversion; beach renourishment; and the addition of a Senior Activity Center, Youth Sports Complex and 2nd oceanside parking garage.

The City also operates an airport that provides a multitude of general aviation services including: flight training, aircraft rental, air taxi/charter, scenic rides, air ambulance, aerial photography, mapping and surveying, search & rescue, storage hangers, aircraft sales, maintenance, avionics repairs and ramp services (aircraft fueling, tie-downs, catering) and serves as the home base for the Goodyear Blimp.

I supervise all employees within the City Attorney's Office are supervised by the City Attorney. There are currently four (4) attorneys, including the City Attorney, a Deputy City Attorney and two Assistant City Attorneys, with one paralegal and legal assistant to provide support.

The City Attorney's Office performs all legal services to the City and its various departments, excluding representation to its CRA and pension boards and the litigation involving the

### **James E. Saunders III**

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following subject: eminent domain, workers compensation, and certain complex commercial litigation.

The most significant issues in Pompano Beach are:

- Economic Development along the Beach and major transportation corridors, with limited right of way and other land restrictions, while maintaining or developing smart growth and land use standards
- Improvement or replacement of deteriorated infrastructure assets and the construction and maintenance of other infrastructure assets including, but not limited to: roads, sidewalks, bridges, fire stations, parks and recreation facilities, water, wastewater and reuse systems, utilizing creative and alternative financing and available federal, state and local grant funding
- Assessment of City's infrastructure and the vulnerability of such infrastructure to climate change and sea level rise, developing a sustainability strategy, and implementation of sustainability goals through seawall replacement, stormwater management and enhanced land development regulations

### **GENERAL, MANAGEMENT STYLE AND EXPERIENCE**

I was born and raised in Miami, the "305", as the eldest of 3 boys, by a loving mother who taught me to love God, love my fellow man and to be a contributing member of society. I have always dreamed of being a lawyer. So, after attending UM, I went to law school, passed the bar, and so began my long legal career. I met my wife, Kim, while we attended middle school. We attended high school and college together, but it was not until after law school that I popped the question. We have been married 28 years and are the proud parents of 3 adult children: Joshua, Kaleb and Jairus. We have lived in South Florida, surrounded by our parents and some immediate and extended family members. Two of my sons are college graduates and the youngest attends UCF. After 30 years of practice, and more than half of those in public service, I desire to sit in the first chair as City Attorney. The City of Ocala is reportedly one of the fastest growing cities in the country and appears to be a great place to live, play and prosper. The City's current legal matters, while challenging, offer significant opportunities to provide extensive and intriguing legal counsel to city officials, management and staff regarding the City's community redevelopment areas, fiber optic network, electric utility, airport, police and fire services, infrastructure replacement and improvements, and a myriad of private and public development projects.

The most important attributes of a successful City Attorney are: Competent, Humble, Affable, Thoughtful, Concise, Responsive, Collaborative, Contemplative, Resourceful, and Resolved.

My philosophy to utilizing outside counsel, is that outside counsel provides legal expertise for subject matters not found in the CAO and for special high profile matters that require extensive

**James E. Saunders III**

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time and resources.

Similar to corporate counsel, I believe in a team concept in managing employees. With the use of electronic resources, matters are documented, organized and monitored. There will be ongoing communications among all stakeholders to ensure project management and feedback. Within the CAO, my role will involve administrative and legal tasks and require daily and weekly meetings with CAO staff regarding outstanding legal assignments. With respect to the City Manager, I maintain an open door policy to discuss matters of concern.

I believe elected officials are entitled to have access to all information necessary to make an intelligent decision impacting City assets, operations, employees and residents. If an individual official, in their official capacity, seeks my counsel on a legal matter, as with any client, I would maintain confidentiality. If the inquiry involved another official, and some affirmative action the inquiring commissioner desired to take, I would advise the inquiring official about the legal parameters and implications of such action and ensure compliance with all ethical regulations. I have an open door policy and would make myself reasonably available during and outside of office hours.

I believe every elected official that I have worked with would say that I promptly addressed or provided competent legal advice, sought to achieve realistic expectations in every situation and worked with all stakeholders in a professional and courteous manner. What the City/County Manager says about you? Greg Harrison and his staff would say that I am a team player that tries to assess the legal implications of the proposed City action or involvement/matter, research or investigate the appropriate solution and attempt to amicably conclude with a “win-win”, where possible; otherwise, resolutely state the City position.

I have extensive experience in matters involving local government, having served as an Assistant City Attorney and Assistant County Attorney. As Assistant City Attorney for Pompano Beach, I serve as counsel to the City’s Planning and Zoning Board and Zoning Board of Appeal, which reviews and issues development orders involving variances, special exceptions, site plans, comp plan amendments, text and map amendments, where compliant with the City’s comp plan or review standards as expressed in the zoning code. I also review and advise the Development Services Department, providing forms, agreements, restrictive covenant, declarations, and other land regulating documents or agreements required to secure regulatory compliance and, generally, advise the Department on matters of concern. Throughout my legal practice, I have litigated matters in state and federal courts and maintain membership in the federal bar located in the Southern and Middle Districts. Over the years, I have handled foreclosure and probate matters, quiet title actions and title insurance coverage, commercial contractual disputes, landlord-tenant disputes, inverse condemnation, copyright challenge, negligence, federal false claims, wage and hour, and even appeared pro hac vice in a California collections case along with outside counsel. My litigation experience also involved working with outside counsel, assembling and reviewing corporate records and redacting were legally permissible and also monitoring outside counsel billing.

### **James E. Saunders III**

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My strengths are being attentive, affable, collaborative, charitable, generally resolved.

In terms of weaknesses, occasionally I “place too many oars in the water”.

My marriage and sons are my greatest achievement in my life.

The greatest mistake in my career occurred a little over 7 years ago, in a Ninth Judicial Circuit case involving lien foreclosure against multimillion dollar properties, where the court utilized special complex litigation rules, more restrictive than the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, and I failed to timely respond to Plaintiff’s Motion for Summary Judgment. After the Judgment was entered, I became keenly aware of my predicament and the rather large potential legal liability against my firm. In a frightful panic, I immediately advised my client, profusely apologizing for the error, assuring him of my urgent efforts to resolve the matter and to file a Motion to Vacate the Order with substantive supporting caselaw. After what seemed like 2 weeks, the Judge vacated the Summary Judgment. I vowed to always read the rules and never assume.

While I have participating in several evaluations of support staff members with a supervising attorney, I have never terminated anyone’s employment. Notwithstanding, I believe there must be clear written expectations, measurable goals, and ongoing open communication and feedback. Termination should be the tool of last resort.

The first six months of the job I plan to:

- Meet with the elected officials, City management and, to an extent, other city/county attorneys to assess city operations, concerns, positions, and the interplay between various stakeholders.
- Coordinate the successful and seamless transition of legal files from the former City Attorney/Firm
- Maintain level of legal services sufficient to address the needs of the City’s officials, management, staff and various boards and committees
- Continue familiarizing myself with the City Charter and Code of Ordinances
- Assessing current performance of legal services including available resources and staffing and endeavor to institute improvements where necessary

I leave media responses to the elected officials and the manager, unless assistance is requested to prepare a written statement.

In my leisure time I am very active in my local church, and love to read, play billiards and cards with my family, and to take long walks.

I am not aware of anything in my past or background that would embarrass an employer.

I am not aware of anyone that is likely to contact your client if I am announced as a finalist.

**James E. Saunders III**

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**REASON FOR WANTING TO LEAVE CURRENT OR MOST RECENT JOB?**

While I enjoy my current position, I desire to become a City Attorney, to assemble or organize a team of lawyers and support staff, responsive to the needs of a City that is growing, vibrant and diverse in its residents, venues and goals.

**SIX ADJECTIVES OR PHRASES I WOULD USE TO DESCRIBE MYSELF**

- Competent
- Collaborative
- Charitable
- Conscientious
- Contemplative
- Contrite

**CURRENT / MOST RECENT SALARY**

My current salary is \$165,617.02, inclusive of a \$400/month vehicle allowance.

### **Section 3**

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*CB&A Background Checks*

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**Background Check Summary for  
JAMES "JIM" EDWARD SAUNDERS III**

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**Criminal Records Checks:**

Nationwide Criminal Records Search	No Records Found
County Broward County, FL	No Records Found
State Florida	No Records Found

**Civil Records Checks:**

County Broward County, FL	No Records Found
Federal Florida	No Records Found

**Motor Vehicle**

Florida	No Records Found
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**Credit**

Talk to Consultant

**Personal Bankruptcy**

No Records Found

**Sex Offender Registry**

Not Listed

**Education**

Confirmed

**Employment**

Confirmed

**Social Media**

Nothing of Concern Found

**Bar Certification/License**

Member in Good Standing  
Eligible to Practice Law in Florida  
Florida Bar # 913375  
Admitted 12/1991 and has no record  
of any discipline history.

**Background Check Summary for  
JAMES "JIM" EDWARD SAUNDERS III**

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Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. 1681-1681Y, credit and bankruptcy information are very sensitive and should not be used in the consideration of hiring. The information is included for each candidate because we do not want you to be surprised if third parties raise what they consider to be a concern. Also, some states have limited the reporting to seven years, so any records older than that will not be available in those states. In addition, motor vehicle reports are limited to three to seven years, depending on the state.

**Background Check Summary for  
JAMES "JIM" EDWARD SAUNDERS III  
Personal Disclosure**

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**Personal Disclosure Questionnaire**

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Name of Applicant: James E. Saunders III

The following questions are designed so that we will be able to make full disclosure to our client concerning your background. Please answer them honestly. Cutting corners or misrepresenting your past will result in you being eliminated from all further searches conducted by this firm. We understand that frivolous charges are sometimes made and that charges do not mean you were guilty. We also understand that you may have been wronged and needed to seek compensation. The bottom line is that we want to be certain that our client is fully informed. If you have any questions, please contact us for clarification.

**Please explain any yes answers on a separate sheet of paper.**

1. Have you ever been charged or convicted of a felony?  
Yes  No
2. Have you ever been accused of or have been involved in a domestic violence or abuse incident?  
Yes  No
3. Have you ever declared bankruptcy or been an owner in a business that did so?  
Yes  No
4. Have you ever been the subject of a civil rights violation complaint that was investigated or resulted in a lawsuit?  
Yes  No
5. Have you ever been the subject of a sexual harassment complaint that was investigated or resulted in a lawsuit?  
Yes  No
6. Have you ever been charged with driving while intoxicated?  
Yes  No
7. Have you ever sued a current or former employer?  
Yes  No
8. Please list all your social media accounts (Facebook / Instagram / LinkedIn / Twitter, etc.) and your personal web page if you have one. I have a Facebook account under the name of "James Saunders". I am unaware of any other identifying account information.
9. Is there anything else in your background that, if made public, would cause you, our client or our firm embarrassment if it came to light through the press or any other mechanism?  
Yes  No
10. Please provide a list of any lawsuits in which you are or have been a party either as plaintiff or defendant.  
See attached page.

Attested to:

  
Signature of Applicant

Please email this form via PDF DOCUMENT to [Lynelle@cb-asso.com](mailto:Lynelle@cb-asso.com) or via fax to (561) 621-5965 no later than 5:00 PM MST 08/01/2022.

(Note: Please be sure to sign the form with your actual signature if you are sending Fax or PDF Document)

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*CB&A Reference Notes*

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**Reference Notes  
James Saunders**

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**Suzette Sible – Assistant City Manager, Pompano Beach, FL 954-786-4606**

Ms. Sible has worked with Mr. Saunders in Pompano Beach since 2018. They have worked on several projects. Mr. Saunders helped draft parking license agreements and is very intuitive not just to legal terms and conditions but also from a business sense. He ensures that the license agreements are in the best interests of the City. The City can always decide to go in another direction, but he is always willing to find a solution to achieve the best outcome.

Another project Mr. Saunders worked on was related to surplus tax. The City must go through Broward County for approval. The projects were stuck until Mr. Saunders became involved and he untied all the knots to get them moving. Mr. Saunders has been very instrumental in negotiating interlocal agreements as they relate to each project. He worked with the County on how to spend the funds, as well as leading the contract and design of each project. The City is leaps and bounds ahead of where they expected to be. He achieved more in 6 months than they were able to achieve in 18 months without him.

Mr. Saunders is very detailed and stays on top of everything. He goes above and beyond. He has been instrumental in moving projects through the red tape regarding the surplus tax. He sits on the Planning and Zoning Board to help review projects. He has inherited matters and ensures that the rules are followed. When assigned a task, he researched the subject and saw it through to completion. In addition to his work with Ms. Sible, he works with the other Managers and Department Heads on projects.

A very large \$46 million dollar project related to the surplus tax involved an interlocal agreement with the County and they were facing some difficulties. The contract was for a guaranteed maximum price and the contractors were pushing back. Mr. Saunders broke it down and explained why it was important and why the City could not budge. He immediately began communicating with them once the issue occurred and he did not back down.

Mr. Saunders can start a new in-house City Attorney's Office from scratch. He is very good about keeping others informed. He has not been involved in anything embarrassing from a personal or professional standpoint.

Ms. Sible would absolutely hire Mr. Saunders and she does not want him to leave Pompano Beach. He would be a great City Attorney. Everyone in Pompano Beach wants to work with him. They are happy with the quality of his work and how he carries himself.

**Words or phrases used to describe James Saunders:**

- Knowledgeable,
- Committed,
- Organized,
- Open minded,

Reference Notes  
James Saunders

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- Does not back down but speaks very eloquently,
- Efficient, and
- Expedient.

**Strengths:** Knowledgeable, intuitive, catches on quickly and asks the right questions, understands business terms and conditions, fully vets the legal parameters, very detailed, very organized, follows through.

**Weaknesses:** None identified.

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**Daniel Keester – Principal Planner, City of Pompano Beach, FL 954-786-5541**

Mr. Keester has known Mr. Saunders since 2018. Mr. Saunders is very thoughtful, and he takes all the relevant information into consideration. Mr. Keester works in development services and everything they do has to go through the legal office. Mr. Saunders represents their department to the Board. He does a great job.

Mr. Saunders is very responsive to phone calls and emails, and he is always timely. If he cannot get back to you when expected, he lets you know when he will have the information for you. He is great with communication.

Being so experienced Mr. Saunders makes good decisions, and he researches to ensure he safeguards the City from legal challenges as much as he can. He compromises when staff proposes ideas for consideration on topics involving regulations, zoning ordinances, or updating procedures. He evaluates the concept to ensure it will stand the test of time, and he always listens to the staff and takes their perspective into account. He is flexible in finding solutions and he wants to be helpful.

The Planning and Zoning Board is appointed by the Commission and Mr. Saunders makes recommendations to them. The Board does not always listen to him, and the recourse is to present the project to the Commission who has the authority to reassess, and course correct. The Commission can overturn a project when the Board is not following Mr. Saunders' legal advice.

Mr. Keester's interactions with Mr. Saunders involve entirely around land use. Mr. Keester cannot speak to Mr. Saunders' expertise in other areas, but he is very experienced in land use. He can start a new in-house City Attorney's office from scratch.

Mr. Saunders keeps others informed. He is great to work with and has a temperament that does not alienate people. He treats everyone with respect. In public hearings he does a great job of being respectful of the public's viewpoints. He listens and delicately provides advice and opinions. He recognizes that some opinions, while valid, should not impact decisions but he is always respectful to every individual involved in the matter.

**Reference Notes  
James Saunders**

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One controversial project was a sensitive issue dealing with land use. An unused portion of a cemetery in a historically African American area was being repurposed for industrial purposes. The project was highly contentious, and Mr. Saunders attended public hearings to guide the Chairman through the process. Mr. Saunders is very sensitive, and he negotiates difficult topics well. Nothing related to him personally is controversial.

Mr. Keester would hire Mr. Saunders. Any community would be fortunate to have his education, background and temperament, all important qualities in a leader. He is a good person and a great attorney. He is helpful to staff and works well with everyone. It will be a loss to Pompano Beach when he leaves.

**Words or phrases used to describe James Saunders:**

- Patient,
- Understanding,
- Thoughtful,
- Polite,
- Respectful, and
- Well dressed.

**Strengths:** Patience, even tempered, very calm demeanor, maintains a cool and collected composure.

**Weaknesses:** He overthinks in some instances and deliberates a little longer than he could, but the positive is that he is not too quick to reach a conclusion.

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**JoAnn Zeno – Paralegal, City of Pompano Beach, FL 954-842-9338**

*CB&A Note: Ms. Zeno has laryngitis and will call to provide a full reference once her voice returns. However, she sent the following email, and we'd like to include it until we can complete the full reference:*

In the meantime, I would like to state a few things about Mr. Saunders. I have been in the legal field for over 26 plus years and can honestly state I consider Mr. Saunders to be a true gem in the legal field. He is genuinely honest and conscientious. He has shown he is capable of handling the best situations as well as deescalating any issues that may arise in the professional atmosphere. Honesty and integrity are what I look for in any attorney I work with, and Mr. Saunders has surpassed my expectations to the fullest.

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**Prepared by:** Lynelle Klein  
Colin Baenziger & Associates

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*CB&A Internet Research*

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**Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches**  
**James E. Saunders III**  
*(Articles are in reverse chronological order)*

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New Pelican (FL)  
October 6, 2021

**Planning and Zoning Board Postpones Vote on Controversial Cemetery Rezoning; Oct. 12 Commission Vote also Delayed**

Author: *Michael d'Oliveira*

Outrage over the partial sale of Westview Community Cemetery carried over to the Sept. 22 Planning and Zoning Board meeting. Just like the two previous public meetings where the sale was discussed, angry residents lined up to express their objection to the sale and possible rezoning of the property. “In 40 more years we’re going to need some more ground. So all of this needs to be forgotten about,” said Ula Foster. Foster was responding to cemetery representatives and the representatives of KZ Copans, LLC, the developer that wants to buy 4.5 acres of Westview, who say there will still be plenty of land left to bury people in the future.

The response by the Planning and Zoning Board was to postpone a decision on the rezoning and land use change to its Nov. 17 meeting. Chair Fred Stacer was the only one to vote against postponement. Stacer said the application meets the requirements from a “land use and zoning standpoint” and that final approval is ultimately a matter for the city commission. The item was scheduled to be on the Oct. 12 city commission agenda but the postponement will delay that. “It’s really about what they’re planning to do . . . not about the cemetery,” said Assistant City Attorney **James Saunders III**.

Heidi Davis, an attorney representing the developer, said her client would most likely build a warehouse or another light industrial use structure. The developer wants to change the zoning from public utility to general industrial and alter the land use to allow industrial. Jean Dolan, Pompano Beach principal planner, said that an industrial use of the property would fit in with the surrounding industrial area. “It appears compatible with the surrounding area,” said Dolan.

Board Member Maria McLamore was more concerned with the intended use of the 4.5 acres being eyed by the developer. And she agreed with Foster that the land being sold would eventually be needed for more graves. “If the land was dedicated to be a cemetery then it should be a cemetery.” Former city commissioner Ed Phillips urged the board to think about the future. “Westview is one of the few black cemeteries in this area. And once this is gone, there’s no more. That’s it.”

Created in 1952 after city officials decided they would no longer allow black residents to be buried at the municipal cemetery on Federal Highway, Westview is 14.5 acres. The parcel in question does not have any known graves. Representatives for the cemetery and the developer say no existing graves will be moved or disturbed.

Davis said her client has verified the lack of graves. If the city approves a redevelopment of the 4.5 acres, the developer will be required to survey the land once more and ensure no graves exist.

**Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches**

**James E. Saunders III**

*(Articles are in reverse chronological order)*

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Those against the sale said there were questions as to whether the cemetery board can sell to the developer. They also asked the board to delay a decision to give them time to investigate. Davis rejected questions about ownership, saying it's clear the board has the right to sell. "Putting the land sale aside, the Westview Community cemetery, as the legal owner of the property, has a right to pursue these land use and zoning changes on the property." She also rejected comments that the sale is not needed for improvements, saying that the terrible conditions have persisted for decades. "These conditions have lasted for over 30 years," she said, citing a 1994 Sun Sentinel article about the cemetery being in disrepair. "People were complaining back then about the conditions, but nothing has been done in 30 years."

Walter Hunter, Westview's business manager and board president, says the sale is necessary to generate the funding needed to improve and maintain the cemetery. "For 20 years we've been trying to fix Westview. We went to the city, state, county, nobody would give us funds because it was privately owned," he said. "What we're trying to do is beautify Westview . . . We're not going to make it better if we don't have the funds to do it. When it's done, all of these people are going to be happy whether or not they're happy now."

**Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches**  
**James E. Saunders III**  
*(Articles are in reverse chronological order)*

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*[CB&A Note: We asked Mr. Saunders about this case and this was his response: “Yes. Ms. Wang was a tenant in my main client's building and he ask me to represent her.”]*

Sun Sentinel (FL)  
March 31, 2014

**Massage Parlor Closes – Undercover Vice Detective Say Women Offered Sexual Favors at Hallandale Business**

Author: *Susannah Bryan*

The customers at Healing Massage Therapy were getting more than regular rubdowns, police say. The city says that's why it yanked the company's business license in February, forcing the establishment to close its doors. Hoping to get the business license reinstated, owner Marc Siegel and manager Li Wang appeared before the commission recently along with attorney **James Saunders**. Undercover officers arrested Yueping Xue and Zhanping Zhang on Jan. 21, saying the women offered a so-called happy ending in the middle of \$70-an-hour massages given the week before. **Saunders** argued that his clients had no idea the two women had offered sexual favors to customers. "I think you're a fine attorney," Commissioner Bill Julian told **Saunders**. "You put on a good pitch. It wasn't good enough for me."

Before rejecting the request, commissioners heard testimony from two undercover officers, both wearing hoods over their heads to conceal their identities. "As I was laying on my back, she was massaging my chest and lower legs and worked her way up ... ," said one undercover officer. "She asked me if I enjoyed it. I said yes and asked how much it was for her to continue. She said, 'Just a nice tip.' " The detective, a longtime Davie officer assisting Hallandale with the undercover sting, said he asked the woman if \$40 would do. She said yes. He told her he was running late, but would return the following week. He did return, but not for a massage. This time, he was making arrests.

Xue, 40, and Zhang, 45, were charged with prostitution and await their day in court. Yan Lin Chen, 50, was also arrested and charged with working without a massage license. Undercover officers made another arrest at the shuttered business on Wednesday. Wang, the manager who testified before the commission a week before, had offered to meet a customer there to give him a massage, Maj. Thomas Honan said. The customer, an undercover cop, was offered a happy ending for \$69 during the massage, a police report shows. **Saunders** could not be reached for comment Thursday despite two calls to his office. The owner of Healing Massage Therapy, at 1105 East Hallandale Beach Blvd., can appeal the commission's March 19 decision in circuit court, a city official said. The appeal must be made within 30 days.

Julian praised the officers. "They had no reason to lie about any of this," he said. "They could have put their lives in danger never knowing who might come out of that door while they're laying on that towel." Commissioner Michele Lazarow says she asked for a moratorium on massage parlors more than a year ago, but was told federal laws prevented such a ban. "I haven't heard one resident say that those places were good," Lazarow said. "They have an unsavory

**Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches**

**James E. Saunders III**

*(Articles are in reverse chronological order)*

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reputation." Healing Massage Therapy is the third Hallandale Beach massage parlor to close in the past few years over allegations of prostitution, city records show. MemeX Oriental Massage closed in April and Eastern Massage in December 2010 after city officials revoked their licenses.

**Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches**  
**James E. Saunders III**  
*(Articles are in reverse chronological order)*

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South Florida Business Journal (FL)  
January 17, 2012

**Islamic Foundation of South Florida Hit with Foreclosure**

Author: *Brian Bandell*

The Sunrise religious school campus of the organization that runs one of the largest Islamic schools in the region has been targeted for foreclosure. Pembroke Pines resident E.M. “Pat” Segall filed a foreclosure lawsuit Jan. 5 against the nonprofit Islamic Foundation of South Florida, formerly known as the School of Islamic Studies of Broward, Regions Bank and Sunrise Four Industrial. The latter party holds a \$760,000 second mortgage on the property. The lawsuit targets the 18,831-square-foot religious school on 11.5 acres at 5455 N.W. 108th Ave. The Islamic Foundation has owned it since 1999, and it operates the Salah Tawfik Elementary and Middle School there. Officials at the Islamic Foundation were not able to comment.

Segall’s lawsuit concerns a construction mortgage last modified at \$10 million in 2008. Pembroke Pines attorney **James Saunders III** said the entire amount was outstanding and the Islamic Foundation is in default. He referred questions about negotiations with the Islamic Foundation to Segall, who could not immediately be reached for comment. It has been a difficult time for religious organizations in central Broward. The United Pentecostal Church is set to lose its sanctuary to a foreclosure auction in March.

**Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches**  
**James E. Saunders III**  
*(Articles are in reverse chronological order)*

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Sun Sentinel (FL)  
October 25, 2002

**Court Order Curbs Towing Fees – Company Violated Ruses, Prosecutors Say**

Author: *Lisa J. Huriash*

Agreeing that a towing service regularly gouged consumers with prices often double what county law allows, a Broward Circuit Court judge issued an emergency order Thursday that prevents HTS and All Points Towing from charging inflated fees.

Consumers around the county, particularly in Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood and Wilton Manors, have complained to the Broward County Consumer Protection Board about fees they had to pay to retrieve their vehicles from storage yards -- 142 complaints this year alone. County officials said the law allows towing charges of \$78, and the storage fee after six hours is \$22. An administrative fee of \$33 is permissible only if the vehicle has been left with the towing company for more than 24 hours.

But Assistant County Attorney **James Saunders** said the towing company, which operates under both names, tacked on extra fees for administration, opening the yard's gate and storage. He said the county ordinance was meant to restrain "unscrupulous tow companies who hold captive individuals who need their vehicles." In some cases, residents have been charged more than \$200 to get their cars back. "If you want to play in the ballpark, you've got to play by the rules," Broward Circuit Judge Herbert Moriarty declared when he issued the injunction. Towing company officials said they would appeal the ruling.

In July, the county's Consumer Protection Board found the towing company guilty of charging inflated rates and ordered refunds for 24 people. That money was paid, but HTS and All Points are appealing the decision to Broward Circuit Judge J. Leonard Fleet. Fleet's decision, expected early next year, likely will determine whether Moriarty's order remains in effect long-term. The county law also states consumers should be given the choice of paying cash, or with a credit card or check, but the towing company allows only cash payments, saying people bounce checks and stop payment on their credit cards.

Richard Casale, the towing company's manager, said the Fort Lauderdale police have been harassing his drivers for things like running stop signs and failing to use direction lights. He said he was passing on the cost of that stack of tickets and attorney's fees to consumers. "Somebody's got to pay for it," he said. His attorney, Scott Rothstein, argued that the county could regulate towing but not storage. He also argued municipalities and police have been uncooperative with HTS and All Points because of favoritism to Mac's Towing, which is owned by longtime Dania Beach Commissioner Charles "Mac" McElyea. "The point is to force the company out of Fort Lauderdale and out of the county because they compete against Mac's," Rothstein said.

Joel Cantor, the Hollywood police department's legal adviser, said his city received more than 100 complaints this year. "Look at the resources we're dedicating, an inordinate amount of

**Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches**

**James E. Saunders III**

*(Articles are in reverse chronological order)*

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resources," he said. Hollywood resident Ollie Kilpatrick was charged \$169 in July for parking illegally while she bought groceries. She said she was pleased with the court's decision Thursday. "It's just too expensive. They took advantage of me. They're thieves. They're pirates on land; they charge you an arm and leg to get it back."

**Internet – Newspaper Archives Searches**  
**James E. Saunders III**  
*(Articles are in reverse chronological order)*

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The Miami Herald (FL)  
March 6, 1988

**Carol City Teen Will Sing Arias at Vizcaya Fair (Excerpt on Candidate)**

Author: *Lydia Martin*

He's a who's who

University of Miami student **James Saunders III**, of Carol City, was recently named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. **Saunders** is president of UM's United Black Students, president of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, chaplain of the Inspirational Concert Choir and vice chairman of the Federation of Black Greeks. Criteria for selection includes scholastic achievement, participation and leadership in extracurricular activities, citizenship, service to the community, distinction and honor to the university and potential for future achievement.

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Research Compiled by:      Amanda Dillabough  
   Colin Baenziger & Associates