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## **BIOGRAPHY OF SPEAKER** **STEPHANIE R. BERGEN**

Stephanie Bergen is Special Counsel for the Office of Statewide Prosecution. With over thirty (30) years of prosecution experience, she is currently the Statewide Coordinator for the Attorney General's Senior Protection Team. Additionally, since 2021, Mrs. Bergen has also handled large scale aggravated white collar fraud, elderly exploitation and human trafficking prosecutions.

Prior to her current role she was selected by the Attorney General as the Bureau Chief for Children's Legal Services in July 2011 where she remained until 2021. In this capacity Mrs. Bergen's managed 54 employees litigating child abuse, abandonment and neglect cases for the Department of Children and Families.

Between September 2008 through July 2011, Mrs. Bergen was the section chief as well as earning the title of acting director for the Attorney General's Child Predator CyberCrime Unit (CPCU). In this role she assisted in the investigations and the prosecutions of child predators and crimes involving the online sexual exploitation of children.

Mrs. Bergen was an Assistant State Attorney for the Pinellas County State Attorney's Office for 15 years. During that time, she specialized in the prosecutions of high profile and complex child abuse cases, including homicides of infants and toddlers, capital sexual battery and various types of sex crimes and abuse against children.

Mrs. Bergen had provided her expertise in the community on the topic of cyber safety to adults and children in both public and private schools. Mrs. Bergen additionally has conducted specialized training sessions for prosecutors and Judges.

Mrs. Bergen has been recognized and awarded for her outstanding commitment to crime victims and victim services. She has lectured and taught locally at the Criminal Justice Institute and for other organizations.

