



November 27, 2023

Janis Susalla Foley

Retired Attorney
CASA/GAL Volunteer

Q: When were you at Shumaker and what was your position/practice area?

A: From 2014 through 2021, I was a partner in the Litigation and Labor and Employment practice groups.

Q: What is your current position and company?

A: I am retired. I volunteer as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)/Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) with Lucas County Juvenile Court in Toledo, Ohio.

Q: What do you enjoy most about your career?

A: When I worked as an attorney, what I enjoyed most was the flexibility and intellectual challenge. Now, by volunteering as a CASA/GAL, I am able to use my skills to serve the best interests of abused and neglected children.

Q: What is one thing you learned at Shumaker that has benefitted you ever since?

A: At Shumaker, I continued to learn how to solve problems.

Q: What is your favorite memory of your time working at Shumaker?

A: My favorite memory is the people. There are so many talented folks who never hesitated to pitch in. Whether it was scanning or hauling documents, reviewing records, searching databases, returning emails and calls, or advising clients, Shumaker staff and colleagues helped me do my job.

Q: What is the best advice you can give a new attorney?

A: Be early to everything. Accept criticism gracefully—lawyering is a lifelong learning experience. And always treat staff, colleagues, clients, and opposing counsel with respect.

Q: What news would you like to share about your personal or professional life?

A: I travel, volunteer, read, create photoalbum scrapbooks, exercise, and spend time with my husband, family, friends, and two grandbabies. But most importantly, I enjoy Saturdays. A good friend told me that once you retire, EVERY DAY is a Saturday.

shumaker.com/alumni