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Sixth Judicial Circuit Court

The Honorable Karen Seel
Pinellas County Commissioner

VACANT
Gubernatorial Appointee

Beth A. Houghton
Chief Executive Officer

**Juvenile Welfare Board
of Pinellas County**

14155 58th St. N., Ste. 100
Clearwater, FL 33760
P: 727.453.5600
F: 727.453.5610
JWBPinellas.org
@JWBPinellas

February 8, 2021

The Honorable Dave Eggers, Chairman
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

RE: Honorary Naming of the Pinellas County Justice Center

Dear Chairman Eggers:

The Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County (JWB) supports the honorary naming of the Pinellas County Justice Center after Bernie McCabe, our long-time State Attorney and Board Member. We believe that Mr. McCabe's service to Pinellas County's children and families over the years warrants this distinct honor.

Mr. McCabe was instrumental in the addition of both the Pinellas-Pasco 6th District State Attorney and Public Defender as ex-officio members of the JWB Board in 2000. During his tenure on the JWB Board, Mr. McCabe's main concern was the well-being of children and families in Pinellas County. Mr. McCabe was not only a devoted Board Member, but also served for many years as the Chair of the JWB Finance Committee, where he made certain that JWB funded programs appropriately invested Pinellas County taxpayer dollars for the benefit of the most vulnerable children and families in our county. Mr. McCabe was laser-focused on evidence-based metrics to make certain that JWB funded programs produce positive outcomes for the children and families and always asked the question "how will it help the kids?".

Mr. McCabe's integrity, directness, and focus on problem-solving will be missed by the JWB Board. We believe the renaming of the Pinellas County Justice Center is a well-deserved honor, as it exemplifies Mr. McCabe's deep concern for our vulnerable Pinellas County children and families.

We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Susan D. Rolston, Chair

From: Robyn A. Moehring <robyn.moehring@hwhlaw.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2021 1:28 PM

To: Eggers, Dave <deggers@co.pinellas.fl.us>

Cc: Ed Armstrong <Ed.Armstrong@hwhlaw.com>

Subject: Pinellas County Criminal Court Complex

CAUTION: This message has originated from **Outside of the Organization**. **Do Not Click** on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.

Please find attached correspondence from Mr. Ed Armstrong regarding the Pinellas County Criminal Court Complex. After reviewing, if you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Mr.



HILL WARD HENDERSON
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

SENDER'S DIRECT DIAL:
(727) 259-6789

SENDER'S E-MAIL:
ed.armstrong@hwlaw.com

January 27, 2021

VIA E-MAIL (deggers@pinellascounty.org)

Honorable Dave Eggers
Chairman, Pinellas County Commission
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

RE: Pinellas County Criminal Court Complex

Dear Honorable Mr. Eggers:

I would like to join in the significant number of voices who urge the Pinellas County Commission to name the Pinellas County Criminal Court Complex after the Honorable Bernie McCabe. Mr. McCabe was a stalwart in our legal community – using his office for good throughout the community. He focused not just on arrests and bad behavior, but worked to create programs and partnerships to change behaviors through education and social programs. If ever there was a time to recognize a local legend, this is a perfect opportunity.

Thank you for your considering this great honor.

Sincerely,

HILL WARD HENDERSON

E. D. Armstrong III

EDA/ram



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Agriculture, *Chair*
Appropriations
Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and
Human Services
Banking and Insurance
Children, Families, and Elder Affairs
Judiciary
Regulated Industries

SENATOR DARRYL ERVIN ROUSON

19th District

February 1, 2021

Pinellas County Commission
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Pinellas County Commissioners,

Pinellas County has lost one of its stalwarts of public service with the passing of State Attorney Bernie McCabe. As a voice for our citizens, particularly victims of crime, in the courtroom for well over three decades, Bernie was firm but fair. I worked early in my career in the State Attorney's Office as the first African American Assistant State Attorney in the Sixth Circuit. It is my recommendation that the Pinellas County Justice Center be renamed after Bernie McCabe, Pinellas-Pasco State Attorney.

No doubt Bernie could have chosen a different career path, one that involved the allure of a productive private practice, but he chose to serve our county and its citizens in what some would call an unpopular position. Bernie shouldered the mantle of that responsibility with his characteristic decisiveness and a steadfast hold on the rule of law.

I was once prosecuted by Bernie for my protesting the sale of drug paraphernalia. Even though Bernie was firm in his prosecuting me for trespass and the jury convicted me, it was a fair prosecution and the judge imposed a fair sentence.

As president of the St. Petersburg Branch of the NAACP, I recognized two Assistant State Attorneys, Richard Riplinger and Magda McSwain and honored them for their work in ridding the black community of serious crimes. They were our partners in Justice, in fighting the spike of black on black murders at the time. Being a prosecutor is among the noblest of professional endeavors.

He was a mentor to many inside and outside the practice of law, with accountability being the hallmark of his tutoring. Nothing was spared when it came to assisting the homeless, children-at-risk, veterans, or protecting law enforcement. Our legal and nonprofit community will be impacted by his mentoring and guidance for decades to come.

REPLY TO:

- ☐ 535 Central Avenue, Suite 302, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701 (727) 822-6828
- ☐ 212 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5019

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

WILTON SIMPSON
President of the Senate

AARON BEAN
President Pro Tempore

February 1, 2021

Page 2

While reasonable men may disagree on the perception of his record, we cannot disagree on his fight for victims and justice. Therefore, I ask that you give consideration to renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center after Bernie McCabe, Pinellas-Pasco State Attorney.

Sincerely,



Darryl E. Rouson
State Senator, District 19

CC:

Florida Speaker Chris Sprowls

Carpenter, Katherine

From: Jason Mathis <Jason@stpetpartnership.org>
Sent: Friday, January 22, 2021 9:57 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Cc: Derek Houston
Subject: Bernie McCabe Letter of Support
Attachments: Bernie McCabe Letter.pdf; ATT00001.htm

CAUTION:

This message has originated from **Outside of the Organization**. Do Not Click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Eggers,

The St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership supports renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center as the McCabe County Justice Center in honor of Bernie McCabe. A formal letter to that effect is attached.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jason

Jason Mathis
CEO
St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership
727-220-6920 (cell)
jason@stpetpartnership.org



January 22, 2021

The Honorable Dave Eggers
Chair
Pinellas Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL. 33756

Dear Chair Eggers,

The St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership supports renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center as the McCabe County Justice Center in honor of Bernie McCabe.

Bernie McCabe was a dedicated public servant who made significant contributions to justice in our community. As the Pinellas Pasco State Attorney, he committed his life to protecting the people of our county and our region. He left a lasting legacy of fairness, professionalism and a commitment to the constituents he served. His extraordinary career is commendable, and we are grateful for his service.

Thank you for considering this request. It is an important honor for a man who devoted decades of his life to the cause of justice for the people of this community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derek Houston'. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a prominent loop at the end.

Derek Houston
Houston Taylor Law
Chair, St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jason Mathis'. The signature is very stylized and cursive, with several loops and flourishes.

Jason Mathis
CEO, St. Petersburg Downtown Partnership

Carpenter, Katherine

From: SPC President Tonjua Williams <President@SPCollege.edu>
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 12:34 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Cc: Greenleaf, Kim
Subject: Letter of Support for Naming Pinellas County Justice Center

CAUTION:

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Office of the President
727-341-3241

Board of Trustees

Chair Katherine E. Cole, Vice Chair Bridgette Bello, Trustee Deveron M. Gibbons,
Trustee Thomas Kidwell, Trustee Nathan Stonecipher, President Tonjua Williams

January 28, 2021

Mr. Dave Eggers

Chairman

Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

315 Court St., #501

Clearwater FL 33756

Dear Chair Eggers:

I am writing to add my endorsement on behalf of St. Petersburg College to the growing list of advocates who to honor former State Attorney Bernie McCabe by naming the Pinellas County Justice Center for him. A tribu such as this seems fitting for a charismatic leader who devotedly served our community for nearly 30 years w dignity, compassion, determination and wisdom.

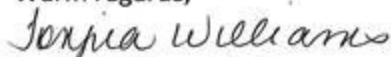
Mr. McCabe impacted the lives of many in Pinellas and Pasco counties, and St. Petersburg College was the grateful beneficiary of his time and talents on numerous occasions.

His was a strong voice of support when we established our highly acclaimed College of Public Safety and offic training program at the Allstate Center in St. Petersburg. He continued to stand by us throughout his lifetime, serving as a member or chairman of numerous advisory boards. In addition, he advocated on our behalf, alor with former U.S. Rep. C. w. Bill Young, when we successfully secured millions of dollars in federal grants to develop and expand training programs for local law enforcement agencies as well as agencies across the stati nation and in Puerto Rico.

Mr. McCabe was the initiator of many progressive changes to the court system in our counties including divei programs for juveniles and the establishment of treatment centers for veterans and non-violent drug offende He served for 20 years on the Juvenile Welfare Board. He was admired and respected by those who worked v him as well as those who opposed him in court. It is telling that the district's public defender was a close pers friend.

I can think of no better way to honor this man who devoted his life to the public safety of us all than to place name on the building that was truly his home away from home. His legacy deserves to live forever.

Warm regards,



Tonjua Williams, Ph.D.

President

Carpenter, Katherine

From: Mike Waters <waters.mike@spcollege.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 1:11 PM
To: Eggers, Dave
Cc: williamslu@pcsb.org
Subject: PPSC Supports the Renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center Honoring the Memory of State Attorney Bernie McCabe
Attachments: Resolution 2021-2 SIGNED Support for Renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center Honoring the Memory of State Attorney Bernie McCabe.pdf

CAUTION:

This message has originated from **Outside of the Organization**. **Do Not Click** on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Commission Chair Eggers,

The Pinellas Police Standards Council met this morning and approved the attached resolution supporting renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center honoring the memory of State Attorney Bernie McCabe. I was asked to forward the resolution directly to your office. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need further information regarding this resolution or any aspect that may further the Council's support of this measure.

Sincerely,

Mike

Mike Waters
Executive Director
Pinellas Police Standards Council
SPC Allstate Center – Suite 135
3200-34th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33711
727-864-3822 Ext. 12
FBINAA #225

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Resolution 2021-2
Support for Renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center
Honoring the Memory of State Attorney Bernie McCabe

At the regular meeting of January 13, 2021, the Pinellas Police Standards Council resolved that:

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe served as the State Attorney for the 6th Judicial Circuit for almost thirty years, and;

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe implemented many community welfare initiatives to include creation of a Misdemeanor Domestic Violence Division, an Elderly Abuse Division, expansion of the Juvenile Division creating emphasis on juvenile diversion programs for minor offenses geared toward community service and away from the criminal justice system, supporting a similar diversion program for adults committing minor offenses, and;

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe was deeply involved in leadership roles within numerous professional organizations and government entities toward safeguarding and enhancing the quality of life within the community, and;

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe was well respected and admired by the community, and;

WHEREAS, the naming of a facility is an appropriate recognition for such a distinguished person, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Pinellas Police Standards Council hereby supports the renaming of the Pinellas County Justice Center in memory of former State Attorney Bernie McCabe.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Williams", is written over a horizontal line.

Chief Luke Williams (Chair)

Carpenter, Katherine

From: Imhof, Lynn <Lynn.Imhof@myfloridahouse.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 7, 2021 11:25 AM
To: Eggers, Dave; Bartlett, Bruce; 'sjohnson@pcsonet.com'; Burke, Ken; 'Herrington, Cindy'
Cc: Long, Janet C; Gerard, Pat; Justice, Charlie; Seel, Karen; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene; Burton, Barry
Subject: RE: Bernie McCabe Justice Center Nomination Letter
Attachments: Bernie McCabe Justice Center Nomination.pdf

CAUTION:

This message has originated from **Outside of the Organization**. **Do Not Click** on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.

Please find attached a corrected copy of the letter changing the date from January 6, 2012 to January 6, 2021.

My apologies,

Lynn



The Florida House of Representatives

Office of the Speaker

Chris Sprowls
Speaker

January 6, 2021

The Honorable Dave Eggers
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Chairman Eggers,

We write you today to formally request, pursuant to the County's building naming policy, that the *Pinellas County Justice Center* on 49th Street in Clearwater, often referred to as "the CJC," be renamed after our late State Attorney Bernie McCabe.

As you know, last week Mr. McCabe passed away after 48 years of service to the people of Pinellas and Pasco County. His passing marks the end of an illustrious career of service that dates back to 1972. In those 48 years, including 28 years as State Attorney, he left an unrivaled legacy in the pantheon of Florida justice seekers.

As a boss, friend, and mentor to thousands of lawyers over the years; a zealous advocate on behalf of victims and their families; and a warrior for the families of slain police officers, Bernie McCabe has left an indelible mark on the lives of so many.

Mr. McCabe's pursuit of justice in the halls of criminal courthouses in Pinellas and Pasco County would be enough to fill the volumes of libraries, but it was not enough to satisfy his desire to serve. He cared deeply for children and families. It is why for years, he served faithfully as a member of the Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board, as a board member for the YMCA of the Suncoast, and was the only State Attorney in Florida to seek to advocate on behalf of children in dependency cases.

That yearning to serve in new and innovative ways never dimmed, which is why he was one of the first State Attorney's in Florida to start a Drug Treatment Court to better serve the addicted and downtrodden, and why he was the first to create a Veterans Treatment Court. He could be fierce when he needed to be, but his heart was one in constant search of truth and righteousness.

Over the years, many people sought him out. Some came seeking justice, others mercy. Many came to seek his counsel on their careers or public policy. His advice was thoughtful, forward thinking, with a deep understanding of the past and an eye to the future. The loss of that counsel will leave a hole in our community and our state that will be tough to fill.

Whether it was as our elected State Attorney, through his service on boards including a lengthy term as Chairman of Florida's Violent Crime and Drug Control Council, as past president of the Florida Prosecutor's Association, and on the transition team of numerous Florida Attorney Generals, Mr. McCabe's legacy extends far beyond the borders of the Sixth Circuit. But we get to claim him as our own, and that is our unique distinction.

Mr. McCabe was fond of asking his young prosecutors when they asked him what they should do on a case, "What is the right thing to do?" He had a way of making complex decisions easy with keen moral clarity.

It is hard to honor the legacy of someone who has done so much for so long. The naming of a building does not do that, only the good deeds of those whose lives he impacted can truly steward his legacy. But naming the building that he walked into everyday to serve as a minister of justice, well...it's the right thing to do. We hope you will.

Sincerely,



Chris Sprowls, Speaker, Florida House of Representatives



Bruce L. Bartlett, Acting State Attorney, Sixth Judicial Circuit



Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas County Sheriff



Ken Burke, Pinellas County Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller



Anthony Rondolino, Chief Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit

cc: Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
Barry A. Burton, Pinellas County Administrator

Carpenter, Katherine

From: Matt Lettelleir <mlettelleir@stpete.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2021 11:10 AM
To: Eggers, Dave
Cc: Burton, Barry; Long, Janet C; Gerard, Pat; Justice, Charlie; Seel, Karen; Peters, Kathleen; Robinson-Flowers, Rene
Subject: Renaming Pinellas County Justice Center in Honor of Bernie McCabe
Attachments: RG Bernie McCabe Letter.pdf

CAUTION: This message has originated from **Outside of the Organization**. **Do Not Click** on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.

Chairman Eggers,

Please see the attached letter from the Ryan Griffin, Chair of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Governors, expressing our support for the efforts to rename the 49th Street Pinellas County Justice Center in honor of the late State Attorney Bernie McCabe.

If you, or your colleagues have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

Thank you,
Matt



Matt Lettelleir
Advocacy Manager
St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce
Innovation. Excellence. Inclusivity. Accountability. Integrity.
The Chamber Building
100 Second Avenue North, Suite 150
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
O: (727) 388-0682 C: (727) 643-0200





The Chamber Building
100 Second Ave. N., Suite 150
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727) 821-4069
stpete.com

January 11, 2021

The Honorable Dave Eggers
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Chairman Eggers,

As Chair of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Governors, I write you today to join Speaker Chris Sprowls, Sheriff Bob Gualtieri, Acting State Attorney Bruce Bartlett, Pinellas Clerk of Court Ken Burke, and Chief Judge Anthony Rondolino in requesting that the Pinellas County Justice Center on 49th Street in Clearwater be renamed after our late State Attorney Bernie McCabe.

We echo Speaker Sprowls' sentiments in wishing to honor a man who gave his life to public service and upholding the rule of law. It is true his over 48 years of service has left an "indelible mark" on many in our community.

Mr. McCabe's service as State Attorney can only be overshadowed by his service to our youngest citizens on the Juvenile Welfare Board. He consistently ensured that the policies and actions taken by that board were in the best interests of the children first and foremost.

In closing, I can think of no finer way Pinellas County can pay tribute to Bernie McCabe than to rename the building he walked into for decades, to do the peoples' work, in his honor.

Sincerely,

Ryan Griffin
Chairman

St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Governors



City of Tarpon Springs, Florida

324 EAST PINE STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 5004
TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA 34688-5004
(727) 938-3711
FAX (727) 937-8199

OFFICE OF
MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS

January 25, 2021

Commissioner Dave Eggers, Chair
Pinellas Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Commissioner Eggers:

I am writing to you in support of the proposal to rename the Pinellas County Justice Center in honor of the late Bernie McCabe, who provided years of exceptional service to the citizens of Pinellas and Pasco Counties as the State Attorney for this region. The renaming of the building will commemorate his many years of dedication and preserve his legacy.

Mr. McCabe provided valuable leadership for the State Attorney's Office and was an inspiration to his colleagues, law enforcement, family and friends. He was a true public servant who committed his life to justice and the truth.

One of the cases most important to us in Tarpon Springs was the prosecution for the murder of Tarpon Springs Police Officer, Charles Kondek. We are forever grateful for his participation in seeking justice for the Kondek family, the Tarpon Springs Police Department and law enforcement officers everywhere.

Commissioner Eggers, Attorney McCabe's legacy will be difficult to surpass. I believe renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center will honor and commemorate the long and successful career of a great leader and public servant.

Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Alahouzos
Mayor

Cc: Florida House Speaker Rep. Chris Sprowls

CA/th

Robert H. Dillinger, Esquire

P.O. Box 48533

St. Petersburg, FL 33743

RECEIVED

JAN 22 2021

**DAVE EGGERS
COMMISSIONER**

January 20th, 2021

The Honorable Dave Eggers
Chairman
Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756

Re: Renaming of the Pinellas County Justice Center

Dear Chairman Eggers,

It is with a heavy heart I am corresponding with you and the other County Commissioners on behalf of the late Bernie McCabe.

It has been a privilege to have known Bernie for over 40 years both professionally and as a personal friend. His word was his bond and as Public Defender for 24 years our offices have had mutual respect and worked together for the good of the community to uphold the Constitution and the rights of our citizens. Bernie was a State Attorney respected in Pinellas and Pasco Counties as well as around the state of Florida.

I would respectfully join in the request to rename the Pinellas County Justice Center to the McCabe County Justice Center in honor of the integrity and work ethic of a man much admired by those who knew him and, also, the citizens of Pinellas and Pasco County who elected him over the years.

Thank you for all you and the other County Commissioners do to make our community a better place.

Sincerely,



Bob Dillinger



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JAN 11 2021

The Florida House of Representatives
Office of the Speaker

DAVE EGGERS
COMMISSIONER

Chris Sprowls
Speaker

January 6, 2021

The Honorable Dave Eggers
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Chairman Eggers,

We write you today to formally request, pursuant to the County's building naming policy, that the *Pinellas County Justice Center* on 49th Street in Clearwater, often referred to as "the CJC," be renamed after our late State Attorney Bernie McCabe.

As you know, last week Mr. McCabe passed away after 48 years of service to the people of Pinellas and Pasco County. His passing marks the end of an illustrious career of service that dates back to 1972. In those 48 years, including 28 years as State Attorney, he left an unrivaled legacy in the pantheon of Florida justice seekers.

As a boss, friend, and mentor to thousands of lawyers over the years; a zealous advocate on behalf of victims and their families; and a warrior for the families of slain police officers, Bernie McCabe has left an indelible mark on the lives of so many.

Mr. McCabe's pursuit of justice in the halls of criminal courthouses in Pinellas and Pasco County would be enough to fill the volumes of libraries, but it was not enough to satisfy his desire to serve. He cared deeply for children and families. It is why for years, he served faithfully as a member of the Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board, as a board member for the YMCA of the Suncoast, and was the only State Attorney in Florida to seek to advocate on behalf of children in dependency cases.

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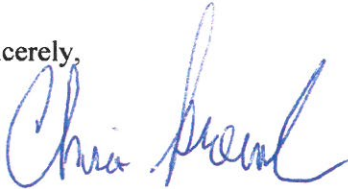
Over the years, many people sought him out. Some came seeking justice, others mercy. Many came to seek his counsel on their careers or public policy. His advice was thoughtful, forward thinking, with a deep understanding of the past and an eye to the future. The loss of that counsel will leave a hole in our community and our state that will be tough to fill.

Whether it was as our elected State Attorney, through his service on boards including a lengthy term as Chairman of Florida's Violent Crime and Drug Control Council, as past president of the Florida Prosecutor's Association, and on the transition team of numerous Florida Attorney Generals, Mr. McCabe's legacy extends far beyond the borders of the Sixth Circuit. But we get to claim him as our own, and that is our unique distinction.

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It is hard to honor the legacy of someone who has done so much for so long. The naming of a building does not do that, only the good deeds of those whose lives he impacted can truly steward his legacy. But naming the building that he walked into everyday to serve as a minister of justice, well...it's the right thing to do. We hope you will.

Sincerely,



Chris Sprowls, Speaker, Florida House of Representatives



Bruce L. Bartlett, Acting State Attorney, Sixth Judicial Circuit



Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas County Sheriff



Ken Burke, Pinellas County Clerk of Circuit Court and Comptroller



Anthony Rondolino, Chief Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit

cc: Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
Barry A. Burton, Pinellas County Administrator



CITY OF CLEARWATER

POST OFFICE BOX 4748, CLEARWATER, FLORIDA 33758-4748
600 CLEVELAND STREET, SUITE 600, CLEARWATER, FL 33755
TELEPHONE (727) 562-4050 FAX (727) 562-4052

CITY COUNCIL

January 25, 2021

Chairman Dave Eggers
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Chairman Eggers,

I am writing to support the renaming of our legal complex on 49th street to become the Bernie McCabe Center. Mr. McCabe, as you well know, was a legal pillar in our community for decades and with his sudden passing this is a fitting tribute. Bernie may have been a prosecutor during his entire career, but he did it in a way that respected both the victim and the perpetrator, he desired justice but also understood fairness.

I had reason to call Bernie just a week and a half before his passing. He told me that he had some health issues but played them down. We discussed several matters that day like he had no other concerns, I understand he was working almost to the end. He was an incredible public servant who will be impossible to replace, but that does not mean we should forget him! I ask you for your support.

Warm Regards,

Frank V. Hibbard
Mayor

cc: Representative Chris Sprowls

Frank V. Hibbard, Mayor

Mark Bunker, Councilmember
Kathleen Beckman, Councilmember



David Allbritton, Councilmember
Hoyt Hamilton, Councilmember



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JAN 27 2021

DAVE EGGERS
COMMISSIONER

THE FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE REPRESENTATIVE NICK DICEGLIE
District 66

Jose R. Oliva
Speaker of the House

MaryLynn Magar
Speaker pro tempore

January 21, 2021

Board of County Commissioners
Chairman Dave Eggers
315 Court Street 5th Floor
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Chairman Eggers,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to formally request that the Pinellas County Justice Center, located on 49th Street in Clearwater, be renamed in honor of the late Bernie McCabe.

Mr. McCabe was dedicated to justice and honorably served the 6th Circuit for 48 years. Mr. McCabe's positive impact, as a mentor, guarantees that his legacy will live on for generations. Naming the Criminal Justice Center in Mr. McCabe's honor will serve as a reminder of his unmatched dedication to public service.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nick DiCeglie
State Representative, District 66

Proudly Serving Pinellas County

Chair, Insurance & Banking Subcommittee ~ Commerce Committee~
Ways & Means Committee~ Justice Appropriations Subcommittee ~
~Local Administration & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee ~

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JAN 27 2021

**DAVE EGGERS
COMMISSIONER**

January 26, 2021

Honorable Commissioner Dave Eggers, Chair
Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Commissioner Eggers:

We were so sorry to hear of Bernie McCabe's passing. I was fortunate to have the pleasure of working with him throughout my career with the Tax Collector's office. He has done so much for the citizens of Pinellas and for the good of the community. He will truly be missed.

I would like to add my name to the list of individuals requesting that we rename the Pinellas County Justice Center, located at 14250 49th Street North, after Bernie McCabe. It would be a great way to honor someone who had devoted over 30 years of his life to protecting and defending the citizens of Pinellas and Pasco counties.

I appreciate your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Thomas, CFC
Pinellas County Tax Collector

CWT/tlm

CUSTOMER-FOCUSED EXCELLENCE

CITRUS COUNTY
CHRONICLE
www.chronicleonline.com

January 29, 2021

RECEIVED

FEB 01 2021

**DAVE EGGERS
COMMISSIONER**

Dave Eggers, Chairman
Pinellas Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, Fl. 33756

Dear Chairman Eggers:

I had the pleasure of serving with the late State Attorney Bernie McCabe on the Suncoast YMCA board for many years.

For the last four decades I have operated a group of newspapers in central and north Florida crossing the boundaries of many judicial circuits. I got to know the state attorneys serving those parts of Florida and every one of them spoke of Bernie McCabe with a sense of awe. He is a legend in his profession and spent a lifetime serving the citizens of our great state.

I join with Speaker Chris Sprowls and urge you to support renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center in his honor. Bernie McCabe was a great lawyer, but more importantly, he was a great man. While serving on the Suncoast YMCA board, he would get passionate about creating programs that would help the children and teenagers of Pinellas County stay on the straight and narrow path.

He had great compassion and used his volunteer service to help people avoid coming in contact with the judicial system he administered.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Gerard Mulligan
Publisher/VP
Landmark Communications
Crystal River, Florida



January 26, 2021

The Honorable Dave Eggers
Chair
Pinellas Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

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FEB 01 2021

DAVE EGGERS
COMMISSIONER

Dear Chair Eggers,

On behalf of AMPLIFY Clearwater's Board of Directors, we write today to join Speaker Chris Sprowls, Sheriff Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas Clerk of the Court Ken Burke, The St. Peterburg Chamber of Commerce, and other community leaders in requesting that the Pinellas County Justice Center be renamed after our late State Attorney Bernie McCabe.

We echo Speaker Sprowls sentiments. Bernie McCabe's life was dedicated to upholding the rule of law. He was a statesman and a protector of people. He left a legacy of fairness, professionalism, and dedication to the communities he served. He will be missed greatly.

We appreciate your consideration of this request to honor Bernie McCabe's extraordinary efforts on behalf our citizens.

Sincerely,

G. Scott Goyer
Chairman, AMPLIFY Clearwater

Amanda Payne
President & CEO, AMPLIFY Clearwater

ESTABLISHED 2019



January 28, 2021

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
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FEB 01 2021

The Honorable Dave Eggers
Chair, Pinellas Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

**DAVE EGGERS
COMMISSIONER**

Dear Chair Eggers:

On behalf of the YMCA of the Suncoast Board of Directors, we write today to join Speaker Chris Sprowls, Sheriff Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas Clerk of the Court Ken Burke, Retired Public Defender Bob Dillinger and other community leaders in requesting that the Pinellas County Justice Center be renamed after our late State Attorney Bernie McCabe.

We echo Speaker Sprowls' sentiments. Bernie McCabe's life was dedicated to upholding the rule of law. He was a statesman and a protector of people. He left a legacy of fairness, professionalism and dedication to the communities he served. He will be missed greatly.

We appreciate your consideration of this request to honor Bernie McCabe's extraordinary efforts on behalf of our citizens.

Sincerely,

Matt Crum
Chairman, Board of Directors
YMCA of the Suncoast

G. Scott Goyer
President/CEO
YMCA of the Suncoast

Bernie McCabe

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe served with the Sixth Judicial Circuit State Attorney's Office for 48 years, spending 28 years as the State Attorney of Pinellas and Pasco Counties, and

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe was a faithful and dedicated board member of the YMCA of the Suncoast, and

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe had a heart for young people, leading him to serve as Chair of the YMCA's Youth Development Committee, and

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe served as a member of the Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board, and

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe supported juvenile diversion programs to give youth a second chance and tools to succeed in life, and

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe sought to innovate in order to 'do what was right' by introducing Drug Treatment Courts and Veterans Treatment Courts, and

WHEREAS, people throughout the criminal justice community considered him a trusted friend and colleague, and

WHEREAS, Bernie McCabe was a lifelong Floridian who devoted his life to serving the people of this state, NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESPECTFULLY PROCLAIMED that Bernie McCabe is honored and remembered as a devoted State Attorney, a relentless seeker of justice, and a passionate advocate for youth in our community.



Matt Crum

YMCA of the Suncoast Board Chair



G. Scott Goyer

YMCA of the Suncoast President/CEO

February 2, 2021

The Honorable Dave Eggers
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756

RECEIVED

FEB 04 2021

**DAVE EGGERS
COMMISSIONER**

Dear Chairman Eggers,

I write to add my name to the chorus of people asking that the Pinellas County Criminal Justice Center be renamed in the honor of Bernie McCabe.

I count myself among the lucky to have gotten to know and work with Bernie. In 1991, he spearheaded a program at the Pinellas State Attorney's Office to increase the minority representation in the office. His efforts included appointing two attorneys to lead the program. Those attorneys traveled to Atlanta to attend the Southeastern Minority Job Fair, a job fair that brings law firms from all over the country to meet and interview law students for the purpose of employment. By the fall of 1991, five African American lawyers and one Asian American lawyer were hired as Assistant State Attorneys. Two of those lawyers became judges, one became an Assistant United States Attorney and two others work in very successful private civil litigation firms. His efforts did not stop there. Each year for the next 10 or so years, he sent representatives to the jobs fair to find other qualified minority attorneys. For three years, he assigned me to serve as one of the recruiters. It was a very serious and deliberate effort at fostering diversity. Numerous African American and other minority lawyers in Pinellas County and around the state of Florida owe their start in the practice of law to the efforts of Bernie McCabe.

In 1993, Bernie McCabe collaborated with Vyrle Davis of Pinellas County Schools to encourage the black males working at the State Attorney's office to serve as mentors. The School Board was in the throes of implementing the 500 Role Models of Excellence Project in Pinellas County Schools. The design of the project was to get African American male professionals to go into the Pinellas County Schools and serve as mentors and role models. Bernie approached each of the African American male attorneys in the office and asked us to participate in the project. Participation in the program took place during work hours. Bernie understood that and felt it was a worthy cause. For the next 17 years, I continued to serve as a mentor. I believe I made a difference and Bernie deserves credit for getting me involved.

In 2001 Bernie was awarded the "Pursuit of Excellence" award by the Fred G. Minnis Bar Association for his commitment to diversity and his efforts making sure that qualified African American lawyers were hired into the Sixth Circuit State Attorney Office. The Fred G. Minnis Bar Association is a voluntary bar association named in honor of the first African American Lawyer in Pinellas County. In presenting the award, the presenter also recognized Bernie for encouraging members of his staff to serve in the community.

Bernie McCabe's North Star has always been doing the right thing. It is what he told his lawyers, and it is the way he reviewed cases brought before him. On three occasions that I am familiar with, a former defendant who had been convicted once in their lifetime many years earlier petitioned the State Attorney's Office to have the conviction removed from their record. In each occasion, a person had been convicted of a crime that was clearly out of character. Otherwise, that person led an exemplary life. For whatever reason, he or she wanted that charge and conviction removed from their record. In each occasion, recognizing that the conviction had been an anomaly, Bernie had his lawyers approach the court and asked the court to set aside the conviction. After the conviction was removed, the state then dismissed the charges and the arrest and conviction were expunged from the record. On one occasion in particular, a single mother had been convicted of misdemeanor child neglect some twenty years earlier. It was the only criminal history she had in all her years. By the time she petitioned Mr. McCabe to set aside the charge, both of her children were college graduates. The petitioner wanted people to know she was a good mother and did not want this stain on her record. Bernie McCabe agreed that it was the right thing to do.

I have had the pleasure of serving as a member of the judiciary since 1997. At the time of my appointment to the bench there was only one other African American member of the judiciary in all of the Sixth Circuit. It was Bernie McCabe who suggested that I submit my name for this post as soon as I became eligible. It was Bernie McCabe who lobbied for my appointment to the bench. It is to Bernie McCabe that many of us owe a debt of gratitude for all that he did to affect the lives of African American lawyers in particular and the African American community in general. His foresight and his commitment will have a lasting impact. I ask and urge you to rename the Pinellas Criminal Justice Center to honor the legacy of Bernie McCabe because it is the right thing to do.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael F. Andrews". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a long horizontal line that extends to the right.

Michael F. Andrews
Circuit Court Judge
Sixth Judicial Circuit

**DEAN
MEAD**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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FEB 04 2021

**DAVE EGGERS
COMMISSIONER**

Attorneys and Counselors at Law
Orlando
Fort Pierce
Tallahassee
Viera/Melbourne

PETER M. DUNBAR
pdunbar@deanmead.com

February 1, 2021

Commissioner Dave Eggers, Chairman
Pinellas County Commission
315 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756

Re: Bernie McCabe Criminal Justice

Dear Commissioner Eggers:

Please accept my letter in support for the naming of the Bernie McCabe Criminal Justice Center. It was my pleasure to know Bernie both personally and professionally for more than three decades, and in my opinion his commitment and service to the judicial system in both Pinellas County and the Sixth Judicial Circuit was unparalleled and worthy of permanent recognition. During his long tenure of service, his professional acumen extended beyond his local jurisdiction and he was relied upon by Florida governors who looked to the Sixth Circuit for special prosecutorial assignments; and he was recognized at all levels within the state's judicial branch as leader and mentor among all 20 of Florida's State Attorneys.

Bernie McCabe leaves a legacy to be honored and remembered, and I am humbled to join with the many who support the permanent recognition of his decades of public service. I thank you and the Commission in advance for your consideration of this recognition, and I thank you for considering my comments on behalf of Bernie's memory.

Respectfully,



Peter M. Dunbar

PMD/tmz

cc: Representative Chris Sprowls

CHARLIE CRIST
13TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA
www.crist.house.gov

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(202) 225-5961

696 1ST AVENUE NORTH, SUITE 203
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33701
(727) 318-6770

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0913

January 28, 2021

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

DEFENSE

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND
GENERAL GOVERNMENT

SCIENCE, SPACE, AND
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

SPACE AND AERONAUTICS

ENVIRONMENT

DAVE EGGERS
COMMISSIONER

FEB 05 2021

RECEIVED

The Honorable Dave Eggers
Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Chairman Eggers,

I write to you today to express my support for renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center on 49th Street in Clearwater to honor our late State Attorney Bernie McCabe for his 48 years of service to our county and state.

Mr. McCabe was a tireless advocate for victims and children throughout his life and career. He was innovative in his efforts to keep children out of jail and back in school, establishing the State Attorney Safe Schools Program and the incorporating of the Child Welfare Legal Services Division into the State Attorney's Office. He was a pioneer in Florida's diversion programs, including establishing one of the first Drug Treatment Courts and the very first Veterans Treatment Court, an issue close to my own heart. And he was a pillar of our community, serving on the board of the YMCA, the Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board, Florida's Violent Crime and Drug Control Council, and the Pinellas County Substance Abuse Advisory Board.

Mr. McCabe was a man who operated with candor and civility and always fought for what was right. Renaming the Pinellas County Justice Center would be a fitting tribute to a man who spent nearly 50 years fighting for justice. His passion for advocacy and service will be missed by all who knew him, and bestowing this honor will keep his legacy and example alive for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Charlie Crist
UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN