

## **Gabbard Investiture**

Hillsborough County Court Judge Jennifer Gabbard's public investiture is scheduled Oct. 4 in Courtroom 1 at the Edgecomb courthouse in Tampa.

The University of Florida law school honor graduate and career prosecutor in Hillsborough County was appointed county judge by Gov. Rick Scott, succeeding Judge Nick Nazaretian, who moved to the circuit bench. Judge Gabbard was commissioned in June and presides over county civil matters and traffic infractions.

During her 15-year career with the Hillsborough State Attorney's Office, Judge Gabbard litigated more than 85 complex jury trials, including homicides, arsons, sex crimes and other high profile cases. She served as a felony division chief overseeing six lawyers, four staff members and more than 800 cases. Judge Gabbard also represented the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit in matters before the Parole Commission. She is board certified in criminal law by The Florida Bar.

Judge Gabbard has been active in the community, including with The Spring of Tampa Bay, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, DUI Counterattack Hillsborough, Inc., Tampa Arson Task Force, Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention and Meals on Wheels. She has been a frequent lecturer for the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association.