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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the practice of law;
amending s. 454.18, F.S.; prohibiting deputy
clerks of the court or deputy sheriffs who are
employed full time from practicing law;
providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 454.18, Florida Statutes, is
amended to read:

454.18 Officers not allowed to practice.--No sheriff
or clerk of any court, or full-time deputy thereof, shall
practice in this state, nor shall any person not of good moral
character, or who has been convicted of an infamous crime be
entitled to practice. ~~A But no~~ person may not ~~shall~~ be denied
the right to practice on account of sex, race, or color. And
any person, whether an attorney or not, or whether within the
exceptions mentioned above or not, may conduct his or her own
cause in any court of this state, or before any public board,
committee, or officer, subject to the lawful rules and
discipline of such court, board, committee, or officer. The
provisions of this section restricting the practice of law by
a sheriff or clerk, or full-time deputy thereof, do ~~shall~~ not
apply in a case where such person is representing the office
or agency in the course of his or her duties as an attorney.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.