

Florida Bar
Judicial Candidate Voluntary Self-Disclosure Statement
Overview

Through the Judicial Candidate Voluntary Self-Disclosure Statement, The Florida Bar provides judicial candidates, both sitting judges and others, with the opportunity to provide information about themselves and their backgrounds to the public in preparation and anticipation of an election. **The Florida Bar does not attest to the accuracy of the content of the voluntary self-disclosure statements, although each candidate must execute the statement under oath, nor should the disclosures be viewed as endorsements by The Florida Bar.** The self-disclosure statement is intended to give all candidates the opportunity to share information about their history, credentials, and other relevant information, with the voting public.

The self-disclosure statement was developed to provide a means by which the public could gather information about their judicial candidates. It came to the attention of the Bar that voters felt they did not have sufficient information to make educated decisions on judicial candidates.

In the self-disclosure statement, judicial candidates can provide biographical information including education, work history, special honors or awards, community involvement, public service, and other historical data. The candidate is also allowed to provide a brief statement about why a voter should support that individual and why he or she would make a good judge.

Candidates' statements are governed by Canon 7 of the Code of Judicial Conduct. The code bars judicial candidates from making statements that appear to commit them on legal issues likely to come before them in court. The Canons also specify that a candidate may not knowingly make misleading or untruthful statements and require that each candidate execute a statement that the candidate has read and understands the obligations of the Florida Code of Judicial Conduct. Candidates who violate Canon 7 are subject to discipline.

The information collected from candidates in the voluntary self-disclosure statement will be made available to the press. The information about local candidates may also be made available to the public, provided to local bar organizations, and may be made available at courthouses, post offices, and voting stations throughout the state. The information will also be available online at The Florida Bar's Web site and can be obtained upon request to the Bar.

FLORIDA BAR
JUDICIAL CANDIDATE
VOLUNTARY SELF-DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

***PLEASE BEAR IN MIND YOUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER JUDICIAL CANON NO. 7
IN PROVIDING ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.***

***THE FLORIDA BAR DOES NOT ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR ANSWERS NOR WILL THE
BAR MAKE EDITS TO YOUR ANSWERS TO COMPORT WITH THE CANONS. THE BAR DOES RESERVE
THE RIGHT TO REDACT OBSCENE LANGUAGE BEFORE DISSEMINATION.***

Name: _____

Date Disclosure Statement Completed: _____

Judicial Position Sought: _____

Jurisdiction: _____

Jurisdiction(s) in which admitted to practice law:

Jurisdiction	Date Admitted

Florida Bar No. _____

Years admitted to practice law: _____

Years in the legal profession: _____

Personal Statement:

In 100 words or less, without discussing any particular issue which may come before you if you become a judge, explain why you believe you would be a good judge:

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Prior Candidacy in Judicial Election(s):

If you have run in an election for judicial office before, please list the position, court, and relevant date(s):

Court	Relevant Dates	Position

Prior and/or Current Judicial Experience:

If you have held judicial office, please state the Courts involved, the dates of service, and the Court:

Court	Relevant Dates	Office

Number of evidentiary hearings, trials and/or oral arguments over which you have presided:

0-5 6-15 16-30 31-50 51-100 101-200 201+

Additional comments:

Please identify the number of jury trials _____ and the number of bench trials _____ over which you have presided.

Additional comments:

Current judges may respond to the following questions regarding legal practice only with reference to pre-judicial legal experience.

Area(s) of Practice:

Civil Criminal Government Other _____

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Please list the primary areas in which you have specialized or have legal expertise and allocate a percentage of your practice to each area.

Number of evidentiary hearings, trials and/or oral arguments in which you have participated as legal counsel:

0-5 6-15 16-30 31-50 51-100 101-200 201+

Additional comments:

Please identify the number of jury trials _____ and the number of bench trials _____ in which you have participated.

Additional comments:

Number of arbitration hearings in which you have participated as legal counsel or hearing officer:

0-5 6-15 16-30 31-50 51-100 101-200 201+

Additional comments:

Number of administrative hearings in which you have participated as legal counsel or hearing officer:

0-5 6-15 16-30 31-50 51-100 101-200 201+

Additional comments:

To the extent applicable, please quantify any additional alternative dispute resolution/negotiation experience:

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Have you ever been Board Certified in any area(s) of practice, if yes please identify:

The Area(s) of Practice:

When you were certified in each Area of Practice:

Whether you are currently certified in those areas:

Please provide the percentage of your practice that has involved representing plaintiffs _____% and the percentage that has involved representing defendants _____%.

Undergraduate Education:

Name of Institution:

Degree received/Major:

Academic awards, recognitions, honors, leadership roles and participation in academic organizations:

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Law School Education:

Name of Institution: _____

Degree received: _____

Internships/in-school clerkships, academic awards, recognitions, honors, leadership roles and participation in academic organizations (e.g., law review, moot court, legal clinics):

Number of hours devoted to public work while in undergraduate _____ or law school _____.

Additional Educational History (if applicable):

Name of Institution	Degree Received	Special awards, recognitions, honors, or leadership roles (if any)

Employment:

Present employer: _____

Number of years with present employer: _____

Present position: _____

Explain relevant experience or skills gained that you will bring to the bench:

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List All Prior Employers and Occupations, Legal or Non-legal, for the Last Ten Years:

Employer: _____

Number of years employed with this employer: _____

Position/specialty: _____

Explain relevant experience or skills gained that you will bring to the bench:

Employer: _____

Number of years employed with this employer: _____

Position/specialty: _____

Explain relevant experience or skills gained that you will bring to the bench:

Employer: _____

Number of years employed with this employer: _____

Position/specialty: _____

Explain relevant experience or skills gained that you will bring to the bench:

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Law Organizations:

Please list legal organizations in which you have been an active member for more than two (2) years and all legal organizations in which you hold a leadership position or which required nomination to join:

Organization Name	Dates of Participation	Office Held (If applicable)

Honors and Publications:

Please list any published articles or books that you have authored, any speeches or lectures you have given, and any honors, prizes or awards you have received:

Title	Date	Additional Information

Public Service – Pro Bono, Volunteer Work or Military Service:

Please provide the dates, activities and any special accomplishments, honors or leadership roles you have played in volunteer, public or military service organizations or in providing pro bono, volunteer, public or military service:

Health:

Do you currently suffer from or have you suffered from any of the following ailments in the last three years:

- Dependence on narcotics, drugs or intoxicating beverages
- Pathological or compulsive behavior
- Memory loss or impaired judgment

Yes No

If yes, please identify the ailment and provide full details, including the relevant dates, including dates of diagnosis, if applicable, the treatment received and any additional relevant information:

Discipline:

If you have ever been found, either involuntarily or by consent, to have committed a violation of The Florida Bar Disciplinary Rules, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration or the Florida Code of Judicial Conduct for which the discipline imposed was one of the following: (a) public reprimand; (b) suspension; or (c) disbarment, please provide the following information:

Date of charge: _____

Date of Disposition: _____

Rule(s) found to have violated: _____

Discipline imposed for rule violation(s): _____

Date reinstated to the Bar or bench: _____

Any conditions imposed for reinstatement (e.g., disgorgement, probation or public service):

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If you have been found to have committed a violation of the ethical or discipline rules, please explain the circumstances surrounding your discipline:

For current or former judges:

Has the Florida Supreme Court, or a similar body in another state, ever ruled against you on a Notice of Formal Charges by the Judicial Qualifications Commission? If so, please explain the circumstances surrounding the charges and include a description of any discipline imposed:

Military Discharge:

If you served in the military and your discharge was anything other than honorable or you received a court martial, please provide that information here:

Criminal Convictions:

Have you ever been convicted or pled no contest to a crime involving dishonesty or moral turpitude? If so, provide the following information:

Date of Conviction or Plea of No Contest: _____

Crime for which you were convicted or Pled No Contest: _____

Sentence: _____

Any additional conditions imposed: _____

If you have been convicted or pled no contest to a crime involving dishonesty or moral turpitude and would like to explain the circumstances surrounding your criminal conviction, you may do so here:

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information given on The Florida Bar Judicial Candidate Voluntary Self-Disclosure Statement is complete, true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Name _____

Certification Confirmation (**must be checked prior to submission**):