



**Broward County Court
2020 Judicial Candidates**

Inside Cover

Broward County Presidents' Council of Democratic Clubs and Caucuses

Forty-three clubs and caucuses make up the membership of the Council, representing over 3000 Democrats in Broward County. Each organization recognizes the importance of educating its members, as well as the community at large, to learn about issues, elections, and the candidates who compete for elected office. Our members are the grassroots workers who educate and encourage their community to vote.

Judicial Candidates Forum

Learning about candidates who seek a seat on the County or Circuit Court is especially challenging for voters. Creating a forum where our community hears from the candidates is critical. The Judicial Candidates Forum this year is divided into two presentations: County Court races and 17th Circuit Court races and are presented virtually due to the COVID-19. They have been recorded and are available on line.

Judicial Candidate Questionnaire

A questionnaire was created whereby a candidate provided responses in their own words, and is made available to our members on line. It is especially helpful to download the questionnaire as the presentations are viewed.

Addendum

Notes about questionnaire responses:

Request for clarification from certain judicial candidates regarding areas of the questionnaire where responses were not fully answered or not answered at all.

Have you ever been disciplined by a state or local Bar? Y N If so, explain briefly.

Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a crime? Y N If so, explain briefly.

Each candidate was sent a personal email with the following request:

What year was the arrest?

What were you specifically charged with?

What was the disposition of the case?

Casey Mills, County Court Group 22

Question: Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a crime? Y N If so, explain briefly.

Response: I was arrested in college for a minor traffic accident and charged with driving under the influence.

Clarification: *While in college, I was arrested for a minor traffic incident that occurred in a parking lot. The police officer who arrived wrote the ticket that including driving while intoxicated. The charged was reduced to reckless driving, adjudication was withheld.*

Jacob Segal, County Court Group 27

Question: Have you ever been arrested? Y N If so, explain briefly.

No response.

Clarification: *I was arrested but case was dropped. With an apology.*

**Broward County Presidents' Council of Democratic Clubs and Caucuses
2020 Broward County Court Judicial Candidates Questionnaire**



Candidate's name:

Allison Gilman

Office Seeking: **Broward County Court Judge**

Group #: **22**

Incumbent: **No**

Education

List the colleges and law schools you have attended, dates, and degrees awarded.

- Florida State University, Bachelor of Arts Criminology, 1989
- St. Thomas University, Juris Doctorate, 1992

Legal Experience

How long have you been a member of the Florida Bar? 1992 Broward Bar? 1992

Other states? List your legal employment experience since graduating from law school, including dates employed, your position, and the nature of your employment responsibilities.

- Broward County Public Defender's Office 1991 – 1996
 - Handling all types of criminal cases from misdemeanor to felonies representing indigent clients.
- Gilman and Associates 1996 – Present
 - Running a law firm with multiple attorneys and staff. Practicing various types of civil and criminal matters. Appearing in a Courtroom almost every day for the last 30 years. My time was spent primarily in trial in addition to filing motions, briefs, attending depositions, mediations and running a business with at times more than 20 employees.

Percentage of litigation as an attorney related to: **Civil** 15% **Criminal** 85%

How many cases have you tried to verdict? Approximately 200

Judicial Experience

Do you have any experience as a judge or conducting alternative dispute resolution? **No**

If so, what type of cases have you presided over?

Specify court(s) or forums, number of years.

Percentage of trial experience as a judge related to: **Civil** **Criminal**

Judicial Goals

Briefly describe what you hope to accomplish as a judge.

As a County Court Judge I hope to truly make a difference in our community. County Court is comprised of primarily hardworking people that need the Court's help to guide them in a direction that can truly change the course of their life. From a person who is driving on a suspended license all the way to someone who is facing an eviction the correct guidance can drastically change how this one incident may impact their future. As a Judge I want to make sure the people that appear in front of me understand exactly what is going on in the Courtroom, what options are actually available to them, and that every single person is treated equally. I want to make a difference in our community by thinking out of the box and coming up with resolutions in cases that will actually make a difference not just for today but for years to come.

Briefly describe the greatest strengths you bring to the judicial role.

I believe the greatest strengths I bring to a Judicial role is who I am as a person and would always be as a Judge. I pride myself on treating everyone with respect no matter who they are, the color of their skin or the amount of money they have. I am a people person I have the ability to deal with different people from different backgrounds and actually reach them. I am extremely passionate about what I believe in and my passion tends to spill over to those around me. I also strongly believe the Judge is not the person in the Courtroom who makes it run efficiently, it is the people who work in that Courtroom that accomplish that. My ability to motivate and encourage those that work around me is one of my greatest strengths that has come from years of running a law practice. Lastly my experience as a trial attorney and representing thousands of clients in County Court gives me the knowledge to deal with all parties involved and help them reach a resolution.

Briefly describe your view/opinion of proper judicial temperament.

A Judges Judicial temperament in my opinion is the most important part of being a Judge especially in County Court. Most people that come to County Court do not have an attorney and are both afraid and unaware of what is going to happen in their case. The Judge needs to actually explain what they are there for and what their options may be. A Judges role is to invoke confidence in our legal system by actually listening to the people who appear before them. A Judge should be timely and always prepared and compliment others for doing the same. A Judge should treat all parties equal and once a ruling has been made explain why they reached that ruling. A Judge should set the example of someone who gives respect and deserves the same respect in return.

Political Experience

Have you ever held any non-judicial elected or appointed public offices? No
If so, list office(s) and years served.

Community Experience

Please list professional, community, religious organizations, and social clubs of which you are now or have been a member in the past ten years.

- National Association of Trial Lawyers
- Association of Women Trial Lawyers
- Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Coral Ridge Country Club
- Temple Bet Yam
- Jewish Association for Foster Care
- Guardian Ad Litem
- Animal Aide
- Broward County Humane Society
- Association of Trial Lawyers
- Parents Association

Personal

List any awards/honors received relevant to the position you seek.

- Public Defender of the Year
- Hat trick Award for winning the most trials

List any awards/honors received for community service.

- Silver Knight Award
- I have the honor of playing Mrs. Clause every year for Kids outreach in Deerfield
- Women helping Women community award

Have you ever been disciplined by a state or local Bar? No

If so, explain briefly.

Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a crime? No

If so, explain briefly.

SUMMARY: Briefly explain why voters should support your candidacy.

I don't want to just be a good Judge I want to be a great Judge. We need more great Judges in Broward County because our community deserves it. I hope to bring my passion and experience into the Courtroom and truly make a difference in our community. I want people that come to my Courtroom to feel that they received justice and their voices were heard, even if we see things differently. I will never forget my role is to be a public servant and strive to live up to receiving that honor, both in and out of the Courtroom. I will draw on my experiences both personally and professionally to make fair and just decisions not just for today but for Broward County's tomorrow as well.

Judicial Goals

Briefly describe what you hope to accomplish as a judge.

I hope to bring my 36 years of extensive experience to the bench. I want to continue my long multigenerational family history of public service in Broward County by serving as County Court Judge. I will be fair and impartial and I very much want to help those in our community who may be less fortunate than others when they find themselves in the court system for whatever reason.

Briefly describe the greatest strengths you bring to the judicial role.

I believe I have the qualities of a good judge. I am genuine, fair, honest and compassionate. I also have 36 years of extensive experience, including serving as an Arbitrator and Traffic Court Magistrate. Since 1999 I have maintained an AV Preeminent rating by Martindale Hubbell in both legal ability and ethical standards which is the highest possible per review rating. I was also a legislative intern in the Florida Attorney General's Office while in college and an intern in the Broward County State Attorney's Office while in law school.

Briefly describe your view/opinion of proper judicial temperament.

A good judge should be fair, honest, impartial, courteous and compassionate. A good judge should also listen to both sides of an issue, consider the facts and apply the law in rendering a decision and must have the courage to make difficult decisions.

Political Experience

Have you ever held any non-judicial elected or appointed public offices?

If so, list office(s) and years served. No

Community Experience

Please list professional, community, religious organizations, and social clubs of which you are now or have been a member in the past ten years.

- Rotary Club,
- Trustee of First Presbyterian Church,
- Little League Baseball coach,
- Florida Bar,
- Broward County Bar, Real Property, Probate and Trust Section,
- Florida Bar.

Personal

List any awards/honors received relevant to the position you seek.

AV Preeminent rating by Martindale Hubbell continuously since 1999 in both legal ability and ethical standards. This is the highest possible peer review rating.

List any awards/honors received for community service.

None

Have you ever been disciplined by a state or local Bar?

If so, explain briefly. No

Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a crime? Yes

If so, explain briefly.

I was arrested in college for a minor traffic accident and charged with driving under the influence.

SUMMARY: Briefly explain why voters should support your candidacy.

I have the qualities of a good judge. I am a genuine person and I am fair, honest and I have zealously represented my clients for 36 years and have fought hard in their best interests. Extensive experience operating a small law firm and practicing law, while also serving as an Arbitrator with the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. and Traffic Court Magistrate in Broward County uniquely qualify me to serve as County Court Judge.



Candidate's name:

Phoebee Rebecca Francois

Office Seeking: County Court Judge

Group #: 27

Incumbent: Yes

Education

List the colleges and law schools you have attended, dates, and degrees awarded.

1986-1990 Temple University Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Minor in French
1991-1994 St. Thomas University School of Law, Juris Doctorate Degree

Legal Experience

How long have you been a member of the Florida Bar? 26 years. Broward Bar? 25 yrs.
Other states? N/A

List your legal employment experience since graduating from law school, including dates employed, your position, and the nature of your employment responsibilities.

- 17th Judicial Circuit in Broward County, FL, **County Court Judge**, 6/2018 to present. Presiding over civil, small claims, condo foreclosures, landlord tenant evictions, and criminal cases.
- 17th Judicial Circuit in Broward County, Florida, **Supervisor and Chairperson for Magistrate/Hearing Officers**, 2017 to 2018. Supervisor of the General Magistrates and Hearing Officers which included administrative tasks, such as preparing periodic employee performance evaluations, case managing, timesheets, travel expense reports and benefit forms.
- 17th Judicial Circuit in Broward County, Florida, **Hearing Officer/Magistrate**, 10/09 to 6/2018. Presided over child support cases in the Family Law Division.
- City of Miami Gardens, **Special Master**, 1/08 to 11/09. Presided over code enforcement cases and ruled pursuant to municipal orders and Florida statutes.
- Law Offices of Phoebee R. Francois, PA, **Owner of Law Firm**, 7/04 to 10/09. Represented clients charged with criminal offenses, family law matters, immigration law, civil litigation, employment law and performed over 1000 hours of pro-bono work
- The Cochran Firm/Imhoff and Associates, **Associate/ Contract Attorney**, 12/04 to 10/09. Represented clients charged with criminal offenses from arraignment to trial. These ranged from capital felonies to misdemeanors offenses. (Continued next page)

- Office of the Broward County Public Defender, **Assistant Public Defender**, 2/95 to 7/04. Represented clients charged with criminal offenses, which ranged from capital felonies to misdemeanor offenses, conducted over 100 jury trials and 1500 depositions.
- Office of the Seminole County State Attorney, **Assistant State Attorney/Certified Legal Intern**, 8/94 to 2/95. Prosecuted juvenile delinquency cases which ranged from capital felonies to misdemeanor offenses
- Professor Sandra Ruffin, **Legal Assistant**, 6/93 to 5/94. Drafted legal memorandum, edited legal articles and conducted legal research.
- Third District Court of Appeal, Honorable Judge Jorgenson, **Assistant Legal Clerk**, 6/93 to 8/93. Drafted and edited legal opinions, conducted manual and computerized research, drafted memorandum of law.
- Legal Services of Greater Miami, American Immigration Association, **Immigration Fellow**, 8/92 to 5/93. Represented clients at immigration proceedings, conducted interviews, and filed immigration applications.

Percentage of litigation as an attorney related to: 40% Civil 60% Criminal

How many cases have you tried to verdict? Over 100 jury trials and 250 non-jury trials.

Judicial Experience

Do you have any experience as a judge or conducting alternative dispute resolution? Yes
If so, what type of cases have you presided over? Specify court(s) or forums, number of years.

- County Court Judge - I currently preside over civil, small claims, condo foreclosures, landlord tenant evictions, and criminal cases.
- Hearing Officer/General Magistrate – I presided over child support cases in the Family Law Division, including but not limited to conducting hearings, making determinations on cases, and preparing reports and recommendations with accompanying orders for the referring Judge’s signature in establishment, enforcement and modification of child support.
- Special Master – I presided over code enforcement hearings and ruled pursuant to municipal orders and Florida statutes.

Percentage of trial experience as a judge related to: 55% Civil 45% Criminal

Judicial Goals

Briefly describe what you hope to accomplish as a judge.

I became a Judge because I want to serve the people of Broward. I have a diverse background and legal experience that allows me to bring a unique perspective to the bench. I hope to continue to improve the image of the Broward Judiciary by presiding in a way that fosters trust and faith as well as the prestige of our profession.

Briefly describe the greatest strengths you bring to the judicial role.

My road to obtaining my appointment was not an easy one. I applied 15 times before finally being appointed by Governor Scott. I learned through that process that hard work and perseverance really pays off, so my biggest strength is my willingness to work hard and persevere through difficult situations.

Briefly describe your view/opinion of proper judicial temperament.

As a County Court Judge, I am compassionate, fair and experienced. I treat each litigant with dignity and respect. I am patient, professional and ethical at all times, inside and outside of the Courtroom. I also have a positive attitude and believe that being kind and considerate, while still being firm is important.

Political Experience

Have you ever held any non-judicial elected or appointed public offices? No
If so, list office(s) and years served.

Community Experience

Please list professional, community, religious organizations, and social clubs of which you are now or have been a member in the past ten years.

- Make A Wish Foundation (wish granter 2010 to present)
- Broward Meals on Wheels, Board Member, (Treasurer 2007-2008)
- Minority Development & Empowerment, Inc., Board Member, (1/08 to 5/14)
- Community Action Agency Advisory Board, (Chair 2015 to 2018)
- Diversity Committee Member, Broward County School Board (2006-2009)
- Community Access Center (2016-present)
- Mentor to Middle School, High School, College, and Law School students
- Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (member since 2004)
- United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida
- Keynote speaker at the Kiwanis Club Martin Luther King Day Luncheon
- Judge for the Fort Lauderdale High Schools Mock Trial Competition
- Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity, inducted in 1992
- T.J. Reddick Bar Association, Co-chair of FOCUS Mentor Program (2004-2005) and Banquet committee member (2005), Board member (2007-2011), President elect (2008-2009)
- National Bar Association
- Haitian Lawyers Association
- Caribbean Bar Association
- Broward Bar Association
- Gwen Cherry Black Women's Lawyers Association
- Broward County Women's Lawyers Association

Personal

List any awards/honors received relevant to the position you seek.

- The Lauderhill Regional Chamber of Commerce (LRCC), Women of Distinction Award Recipient; 2015.
- Broward County Public Defender's Office, Intern of the Year, 1994
- Most Improved Trial Advocacy Student, Criminal Law Section, 1995
- St. Thomas University, Book Award, 1993
- Trailblazers Award from T.J. Reddick Bar Association, 2018

List any awards/honors received for community service.

- Community Pillar Award from the Gwen Cherry Black Women's Lawyers Association
- Community Service Award from Haitian Pharmacist Association

Have you ever been disciplined by a state or local Bar? No **If so, explain briefly.**

Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a crime? No **If so, explain briefly.**

SUMMARY: Briefly explain why voters should support your candidacy.

As a County Court Judge, I have demonstrated that I know and will implement the law. My work ethic serves as a symbol of my commitment to the profession. Moreover, as a woman of Haitian descent, I am sensitive to the multicultural and diverse issues litigants face when seeking their day in court. I protect the entire community by administering justice in a fair and impartial manner, and will continue to serve as a beacon of light to the tens of thousands of citizens in Broward County. Additionally, the fact that I am fluent in three different languages brings a unique perspective to the bench.



Candidate's name:

Jacob E Segal

Office Seeking: Broward County Court Judge

Group #: 27 Incumbent: No

Education

List the colleges and law schools you have attended, dates, and degrees awarded.

University of Hawaii, B.A. Major in Journalism, Minor in American History

Nova Southeastern College of Law, 1996-1997, (Top 1 Percent after first year and transferred)

University of Florida College of Law, 1997-1999 J.D.

Legal Experience

How long have you been a member of the Florida Bar? 20 years Broward Bar? No

Other states? No

List your legal employment experience since graduating from law school, including dates employed, your position, and the nature of your employment responsibilities.

- Rodriguez and Angelo From graduation in 1999 until roughly November, 1999. Commercial Litigation Firm in downtown Miami. Research and writing. Attending trial with the partners. First year Associate.
- Monroe County Public Defender's Office: Late 1999 through 2002.
 - First two years I worked in the Marathon Office. Misdemeanor/Juvenile/Baker Act attorney. Everything from start to Jury Trial or Plea with the Misdemeanors. I handled all the Juvenile cases and Baker Act cases. Baker Act cases are held in front of a magistrate in a mental institution.
 - Next year I worked in the Plantation Key office handling mainly
- Broward County Public Defender's Office, approx. 2002 through 2003.
- Landau & Segal, P.A. 2003-2007. Started in private practice.
 - We began doing everything we could. We got court-appointed criminal and foreclosure cases, one divorce that went to trial, criminal cases, and personal injury cases. After the first two years we became a very high volume personal injury firm. Over 1000 cases.
- Present: Segal Law Firm – 2007 to Present
 - Personal injury law and Federal Civil Rights Cases.

Percentage of litigation as an attorney related to: Civil Currently 100% **Criminal**

How many cases have you tried to verdict? Roughly 25%, but I don't have an exact figure. That would be on the low end.

Judicial Experience

Do you have any experience as a judge or conducting alternative dispute resolution? No
If so, what type of cases have you presided over? Specify court(s) or forums, number of years.
Percentage of trial experience as a judge related to: Civil Criminal

Judicial Goals

Briefly describe what you hope to accomplish as a judge.

As a County Court judge I want to allow everyone to have a voice and be heard. I want to make everyone who appears in front of me have pride and faith in the judicial system. I would like to elevate the reputation of Broward, which has the most problems with judges. Thus, I am conducting myself in the campaign and will as a judge with the very highest ethics.

Briefly describe the greatest strengths you bring to the judicial role.

I think I am a very good listener and I am extremely impartial to race, color, creed, and I have no agenda and I will not favor any one lawyer over another regardless of donations.

My father who died four months ago was handicapped his entire life, which is why I got involved in some Civil Rights Cases. So, I've seen a lot of discrimination up close. Right now, I am engaged to a lady from Korea and her children are getting bullied because of this Coronavirus, and their Asian look. I will never be anything but impartial. And I will never discriminate.

I am also a very hard worker and have a lot of energy. My mix of private and government practice will allow me to know and understand not only the litigants and the court system, but the various lawyers, Prosecutor and Defense.

Because of my work ethic and private practice, I know what it means to work 20 hour days. I hope to bring that spirit to the bench. Especially in this time of crisis.

There are over 2,200 people incarcerated and the right to speedy trial has been lifted. And due process is lacking. I will work to help this situation in any way I can. These are natural human rights.

Briefly describe your view/opinion of proper judicial temperament.

A judge should have a sense of humor where proper. But should keep 100 percent control over his or her courtroom so public perception is that of fairness. I do not think a judge should act aloof. A judge should act professionally and ethically at all times.

Political Experience

Have you ever held any non-judicial elected or appointed public offices? No
If so, list office(s) and years served.

Community Experience

Please list professional, community, religious organizations, and social clubs of which you are now or have been a member in the past ten years.

I have volunteered with Save our Seas. An environmental group. I'm a single father of two boys since 2012, so most of my free time has been being involved in their lives and other parents.

Personal

List any awards/honors received relevant to the position you seek.

Corpus Juris Secundum Award for Excellence in Torts.

List any awards/honors received for community service.

Have you ever been disciplined by a state or local Bar? No

If so, explain briefly.

Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a crime? Y N

If so, explain briefly.

SUMMARY: Briefly explain why voters should support your candidacy.

I am absolutely the best candidate for the job, from knowledge of the law, my ethics, and my experience described above and below in summary. As to why I want your vote.

I have worked with the indigent and the wealthy; and I am impartial and neutral and have no agenda other than to help the community. I worked extremely hard to get into University of Florida, putting in 20-hour days. Then I did the same in private practice. My knowledge of the law and my work ethic make me the best choice for the job. If you are looking for merit, ethics and a hard worker for a judge then you should vote for me.

Florida is one of 39 states where judges are voted in. That is an attempt to make it a fair process. I believe in this system as it attempts to stop any kind of favoritism. To get rid of any agendas that may come up as a result to fan appointment. I will not change my ethics or my beliefs to get elected or appointed.

My opponent was recently appointed by Governor Rick Scott as a result of a vacant seat.



Candidate's name:

Roseanna Bronhard

Office Seeking: Broward County Court Judge

Group #: 31 Incumbent: No

Education

List the colleges and law schools you have attended, dates, and degrees awarded.

- SUNY Buffalo Law School, J.D., 1990
- N.Y.U Law School, LL.M., 1992

Legal Experience

How long have you been a member of the Florida Bar? 28 years Broward Bar? Other states?

List your legal employment experience since graduating from law school, including dates employed, your position, and the nature of your employment responsibilities.

- Deloitte & Touche, Tax Consultant (Fort Lauderdale) 1990-1991. Tax Law
- Judicial Staff Attorney (17th Judicial Circuit in Fort Lauderdale) 1993-1997
- Court Probate Counsel (17th Judicial Circuit in Fort Lauderdale) 1997-2002
- Private Practice
- Senior Attorney- Florida Business & Professional Regulation in Tallahassee
- Attorney-Florida Commission on Human Relations in Tallahassee

Judicial Experience

Do you have any experience as a judge or conducting alternative dispute resolution? No

If so, what type of cases have you presided over? Specify court(s) or forums, number of years.

While, I do not have direct Judicial experience, I do have experience in making Judicial recommendations while serving as a Judicial Staff Attorney and Court Probate Counsel on behalf of Circuit Court Judges. Presently, I make legal determinations on behalf of the Florida Commission on Human Relations.

Judicial Goals

Briefly describe what you hope to accomplish as a judge.

I believe I will be an impartial decision maker as a Judge. I will make sound decisions based on the law with integrity and not be influenced by the "who is who" and "who makes contributions, nor is connected..." I will treat litigants equally with respect and dignity. I will treat litigants equally and understand that at the County Court level there will be litigants appearing Pro Se (without legal representation). The Pro Se litigants will have the same equal opportunities to present their arguments, evidence and cases as do the litigants represented by attorneys.

Briefly describe the greatest strengths you bring to the judicial role.

I will be impartial, treat litigants equally, allow access to the courts, and not be influenced by contributions, nor connections while serving in a Judicial role. Litigants expect and deserve competent Judges that are impartial and not biased.

Briefly describe your view/opinion of proper judicial temperament.

A Judge should be calm, organized and level-headed while making rational decisions based on the relevant law despite what challenges may present itself on any cases. A Judge should treat litigants with respect realizing that each side is entitled to due process regardless of legal representation or appearing without counsel on their own behalf as Pro Se litigants.

Political Experience

Have you ever held any non-judicial elected or appointed public offices? No
If so, list office(s) and years served.

Community Experience

Please list professional, community, religious organizations, and social clubs of which you are now or have been a member in the past ten years.

Florida Bar member since 1991

Personal

List any awards/honors received relevant to the position you seek.

List any awards/honors received for community service.

Have you ever been disciplined by a state or local Bar? No If so, explain briefly.

Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a crime? No If so, explain briefly.

SUMMARY: Briefly explain why voters should support your candidacy.

I resided in Broward County for over 12 years. I have only resided in Wakulla and Gadsden County, mainly based on State employment in Tallahassee. I have elderly parents that reside in Hallandale Beach (Broward County). Mom is Olga Bronhard (89) and dad is Henry Bronhard (83), both residents of Broward County. I decided on running in Broward County based on proximity to my parents and a large voting population that will be hopefully less likely to discriminate against me being originally from and raised in New York.

Overall, I believe I am providing the voters an opportunity to make a decision on who should be their Judge, rather than Judge Deprimo, a Rick Scott former Governor's appointment, running unopposed. I don't believe that the voters in Broward County really want lawyers not to challenge recent appointments and take away their chance in deciding. Based on a recent Rick Scott appointment, the sitting Judge does not have a long-term track record as a Judge, nor has ever been on the ballot for the voters to decide on. Broward voters now have a chance on

deciding for themselves on who should serve as a Judge, instead of a select few privileged political insiders. Voters of Broward County now have a chance to decide on voting for a candidate that is someone less financially and politically privileged. Voters in Broward County should have a choice of who they vote for beyond the insider privileged or financially privileged and make their decision.

I presently serve as an Attorney with the Florida Commission on Human Relations making determinations regarding discrimination law. I previously served as a Senior Attorney, Administrative Prosecutor for the Department of Business and Professional Regulations in Tallahassee, prosecuting cases against license violations involving Certified Public Accountants. I prior worked as an attorney in the Florida Court System nearly a decade. I served as a Judicial Staff Attorney/ Trial Court Law Clerk from 1993-1997. In addition, I served as Court Probate Counsel from 1997-2002. As a Judicial Staff Attorney, I served under the direction and supervision of certain Circuit Court Judges. I assisted the Judiciary with case management, pending litigation and issues including appellate cases (from County to Circuit). I was responsible for drafting memos, opinions, orders supported by legal research, reviewed briefs, case files and made recommendations, advised Judges on litigation and legal issues. I rotated and worked for several Judges within criminal, family, civil and probate divisions. I made recommendations under the direction and supervision of the Judiciary assigned based on case file reviews, legal research and attendance during court hearings or proceedings. As Court Probate Counsel, I served the Judiciary within the Probate division. I reviewed and examined files at the direction and supervision of the Probate Judges. Attendance was required by judges at hearings or trials for the purpose of legal research on intricate issues of law and assisting judges in preparation of judgments and orders. As a private attorney, I litigated cases on a variety of cases.



Candidate's name:

Sean William Conway

Office Seeking: Broward County Court Judge

Group #: 31 Incumbent: No

Education

List the colleges and law schools you have attended, dates, and degrees awarded.

- University of Florida 1989-1993, BSBA Business Administration, Minor in Economics
- Florida State University 1993-1995, Juris Doctorate

Legal Experience

How long have you been a member of the Florida Bar? 24 years Broward Bar? Other states?

List your legal employment experience since graduating from law school, including dates employed, your position, and the nature of your employment responsibilities.

- Assistant Public Defender 7.5 years (trial attorney)
- Private Practice 15 years (civil and criminal and family law practice)

Percentage of litigation as an attorney related to: 30% Civil 70% Criminal

How many cases have you tried to verdict? Over 80+ Jury Trials, also hundreds of non-jury trials

Judicial Experience

Do you have any experience as a judge or conducting alternative dispute resolution? No

If so, what type of cases have you presided over? Specify court(s) or forums, number of years.

Percentage of trial experience as a judge related to: Civil Criminal

Judicial Goals

Briefly describe what you hope to accomplish as a judge.

_As a County Court Judge, I would hope to make better use of technology - for example we have courtrooms with costly TV screens, but few courtrooms use them. There should be less requiring people's physical presence in the courtroom if it isn't absolutely necessary. The litigants involved in the cases are busy & could greatly benefit from an increased use of the technology our courtrooms already have.

Briefly describe the greatest strengths you bring to the judicial role.

My diverse legal experience ranging from not only years as a criminal defense attorney, but also with landlord/tenant trials, family law cases and small claims cases, makes me ideally suited to be a County Court Judge.

Briefly describe your view/opinion of proper judicial temperament.

Treat all who appear in the Court with respect and dignity. Take the time to listen to everyone, to take the time to understand each side's position, and to render decisions based on fair and equitable principles of the law.

Political Experience

Have you ever held any non-judicial elected or appointed public offices? No

If so, list office(s) and years served.

Community Experience

Please list professional, community, religious organizations, and social clubs of which you are now or have been a member in the past ten years.

Personal

List any awards/honors received relevant to the position you seek.

List any awards/honors received for community service.

Was given the *Pro Bono Service Award* at FSU law school graduation for having the most hours of pro bono service in my graduating class.

Have you ever been disciplined by a state or local Bar? Yes A 1st Amendment issue over comments written on a blog about a judge who was giving people a shortened time to prepare their felony cases for trial - thereby forcing people to waive their speedy trial rights by requesting a continuance. Was one of the first cases to test attorneys' free speech rights outside of court & so my case made the front page of the NY Times, Sunday ed.

Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a crime? No If so, explain briefly.

SUMMARY: Briefly explain why voters should support your candidacy.

My diverse legal experience over the past 24 years has provided me with the benefit of having practiced in most of the areas of law handled by the County Court: misdemeanor cases, landlord/tenant cases, small claims matter. traffic cases. I have been the lead counsel in hundreds of trials, including over 80 jury trials.

Having attended Pines Middle and Cooper City High schools back in the 1980's, and being a longtime resident of Broward County, I am uniquely familiar with Broward County and the challenges it faces as it grows. I know, too, the struggle many of our residents face every day.

What the people truly want in a Judge is someone who will listen carefully to both sides and make the proper legal ruling. At the same time, however, they want a Judge who can do so with respect and civility.



Candidate's name:

Natasha DePrimo

Office Seeking: Broward County Court Judge

Group #: 31 Incumbent: Yes

Education

List the colleges and law schools you have attended, dates, and degrees awarded.

- University of Florida Levin College of Law, Gainesville, FL, Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, May 2005
- University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL, Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, May 2002

Legal Experience

How long have you been a member of the Florida Bar? 2005 – Present

Broward Bar Association? 2017 – Present **Other states?** N/A

List your legal employment experience since graduating from law school, including dates employed, your position, and the nature of your employment responsibilities.

- Broward County Court Judge, Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Dec. 2018-Present
- Florida Department of Transportation, Fort Lauderdale – *Senior Attorney* – District Four (Broward County, Palm Beach County, St Lucie County, Martin County, Indian River County)
- Complex Civil Eminent Domain Litigation March 2018- Dec. 2018
- State Attorney's Office, Palm Beach and Broward County, FL – *Assistant State Attorney* – July 2015-March 2018
 - Broward State Attorney's Office – Felony Trial Unit Supervisor , Oversaw 4 Divisions and Felony PTI Program); Felony Line ASA
 - Palm Beach State Attorney's Office – Felony Division W
- DePrimo Fleites, PA, Miami, FL – General Civil Litigation - *Attorney* 2008- 2015
- Brigham Moore, LLP, Miami, FL –Representing Property Owners in Eminent Domain/Inverse Condemnation Litigation – *Associate Attorney* 2005-2008

Percentage of litigation as an attorney related to: Civil 60% Criminal 40%

How many cases have you tried to verdict? Over 75 as an attorney and in excess of 100 as a Judge.

Judicial Experience

Do you have any experience as a judge or conducting alternative dispute resolution? YES
If so, what type of cases have you presided over? Specify court(s) or forums, number of years.

As a sitting County Court Judge at the West Satellite Courthouse, I preside over both civil cases and criminal cases including traffic infractions. More specifically, civil cases involving disputes up to \$30,000.00, including but not limited to landlord/tenant disputes, unlawful detainers, small claims, credit card debt, and insurance matters. My criminal docket includes misdemeanor cases punishable by less than one (1) year, such as Petit Theft, Battery, Trespass, Criminal Mischief, Possession of Paraphernalia, Driving While License Suspended, and municipal ordinances.

Percentage of trial experience as a judge related to: Civil 60% Criminal 40%

Judicial Goals

Briefly describe what you hope to accomplish as a judge.

My overall hope is to give the community confidence in the judiciary by showing the litigants, lawyers, and the members of the non-legal community that a Judge is approachable, fair, thoughtful, hardworking, and follows the law. As a Judge, I accomplish this hope by encouraging students from elementary school to post graduate degrees that a future career in the law is worthwhile and rewarding. It is important that our community is able to look to the judiciary and know that their judges embody fairness, equality, and knowledge of the law. I strive to accomplish this every day.

Briefly describe the greatest strengths you bring to the judicial role.

As a young Korean Jewish girl, being raised by my single mother with the help of my grandparents, I would have never thought that I would be the first Asian American female Judge in Broward County and the only current Asian American Judge in the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit. I believe that some of my greatest strengths, as a Judge, are those characteristics that I have developed throughout my life as a mother, a wife, a student, a lawyer, and a person who has overcome hardships and obstacles. The strengths I bring to my courtroom everyday as a Judge are that I am a good listener and patient. I am organized, innovative, and excited to utilize new technology. I am dedicated, work hard, and treat people with compassion and respect.

Briefly describe your view/opinion of proper judicial temperament.

Judicial temperament is a balance of calmness, kindness, humility, and patience with also being reasonable, ethical, and decisive. As a County Court Judge, I have realized that often the people that enter my courtroom everyday may be entering a courtroom for the first time, so my temperament may be the only thing they remember. It is important that as a Judge you listen attentively and treat the parties with respect, whether they are represented by attorneys or not. Also, as a Judge, you must remember that you are always a judge and maintain your integrity and temperament in all aspects of your life in and out of courtroom.

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There is a quote by Maya Angelou that I believe embodies what true judicial temperament should be. "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Political Experience

Have you ever held any non-judicial elected or appointed public offices? NO
If so, list office(s) and years served.

Community Experience

Please list professional, community, religious organizations, and social clubs of which you are now or have been a member in the past ten years.

- Judicial Liaison - West Broward Section of Broward County Bar Association
- Judicial Liaison- Insurance Section of Broward County Bar Association
- LifeNet for Families – Advisory Committee Board Member
- PTO - Board Member and Past President
- Member of Temple Kol Ami Emanu-El
- Soref Jewish Community Center – Board Member
- Broward County Bnai Brith Justice Unit – Board Member
- Broward County Women Lawyers’ Association – Member
- FEDSOC member
- APABA – Former Board Member, Member
- Broward County Bar Association
- Broward County Inns of Court
- It should be noted that under Florida law and pursuant to the Canons of Judicial Ethics, I am limited in my response to this question.

Personal

List any awards/honors received relevant to the position you seek.

I was selected by my colleagues to be the County Court Circuit Representative for all of the County Court Judges in the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit

I am a Certified “Faculty Trained” Judicial Teaching Instructor

List any awards/honors received for community service.

Have you ever been disciplined by a state or local Bar? No If so, explain briefly.

Have you ever been arrested or convicted of a crime? No If so, explain briefly.

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SUMMARY: Briefly explain why voters should support your candidacy.

Throughout my life, like so many of the people of Broward County, I have been confronted with obstacles and hardships. I, like many of you, have been told all the things I cannot do because I am a woman, because I am a minority, because I come from a modest background. And yet with persistent hard work and unwavering integrity, I have been able to overcome those obstacles and prove those naysayers wrong to achieve my goals. Since taking the bench, I have strived to embody what being a Judge should be. I listen to every word said in my courtroom, I read everything presented to me for review, and I treat everyone inside and outside of the courtroom with dignity and respect. I volunteer in my community to teach and motivate students, professionals, and even my own judicial colleagues. I have a well-balanced and diverse legal background which provides me with the experience that is necessary to run a courtroom efficiently and fairly. All I have ever wanted was to help make our community better. When I was a little girl, I had a simple sentiment that I told my grandfather, “someday I want to have a voice, I want to help people, and I want to make things better,” and my grandfather told me “well maybe someday you will become a lawyer or even a Judge.” Now more than ever, during this challenging time, proven experience, service, and integrity is what we need and deserve on the Broward County Bench. I am confident that the informed voters of Broward County will support me because I am dedicated to making our community better.