



BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION

JUDICIAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Full Name: **BRENDA DI IOIA (DEE OY UH)**
2. Current County of residence. **BROWARD**
3. Date and place of birth. **2/23/65 = CAPE MAY COURTHOUSE**
4. Does your campaign have a website or Facebook page? If so, please list it.

www.brendadiioia.com FB = BRENDA DI IOIA FOR COUNTY COURT JUDGE
5. List the colleges and law schools you have attended, including your dates of attendance and degrees awarded.

**JURIS DOCTORATE, CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF LAW: NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY ~
DAVIE, FL ~ 1989
BACHELOR OF ARTS (WITH HONORS) ENGLISH/PRE-MED: FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY ~
BOCA RATON, FL 1986
ASSOCIATES DEGREE (WITH HONORS): BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE ~
DAVIE, FL ~ 1983**

6. Have you ever served in the military? **NO.**
7. List where you have been employed since graduation from law school, including dates employed, your position and the nature of your employment responsibilities.

**1988-1989 LAW CLERK MINEO, BOOTH & GEORGE
1989-1991 ASSOCIATE ATTORNEY MINEO, BOOTH & GEORGE & MILCHMAN
1990-1991 MANAGING ATTORNEY MINEO, BOOTH & GEORGE & MILCHMAN
1991-PRESENT SOLE PRACTITIONER/ADR PROFESSIONAL, BRENDA DI IOIA P.A.
2007-SPECIAL MAGISTRATE COLLECTION COURT BROWARD COUNTY
1993-JUN 2016 CHIEF TRAFFIC MAGISTRATE BROWARD COUNTY**



BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION



8. Have you ever been arrested? Explain. **NO.**

9. Have you ever been convicted of a crime? Explain. **NO.**

What is the general nature of your practice? Indicate areas of practice in which you concentrate or concentrated? I AM AND HAVE BEEN FOR OVER 10 YEARS AN AV PREEMINENT RATED ATTORNEY BY OTHER LAWYERS AND JURIST. I AM RANKED AS A TOP LAWYER (IN THE TOP 1% OF THE NATION) IN APPELLATE AND FAMILY LAW. I HAVE HANDLED AND TAUGHT OTHERS LOCALLY AND STATEWIDE TO PRESIDE OVER CIVIL TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS. I HAVE RULED ON PRODUCTS LIABILITY, EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION, CONSUMER PROTECTION CASES HOA FORECLOSURES, COLLECTION CASES, PIP CASES AND MUCH MORE. I HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO REPRESENT LITIGANTS IN FAMILY LAW MATTERS, LANDLORD/TENANT DISPUTES, FEDERAL MONEY LAUNDERING ACCUSATIONS, FDCPA CONSUMER PROTECTION CASES, BANKRUPTCY AND REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS. I HAVE ALSO REPRESENTED CLIENTS BEFORE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND RULED ON FEDERAL LEMON LAW CASES.

10. If you are currently a judge, what type of cases do you typically preside over in your court? MY CURRENT PRACTICE THROUGH JUNE OF THIS YEAR, CONSISTS OF MY TRAFFIC COURT DUTIES, MY ADR PRACTICE AND MY TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES. I HAVE ENHANCED MY COUNTY COURT MEDIATION PRACTICE HANDLING THOUSANDS OF HOA FORECLOSURES. I HAVE ALSO COMPLETED NUMEROUS COUNTY COURT PIP MEDIATIONS AND ARBITRATIONS. THE PURPOSE OF THESE ENHANCEMENTS WAS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DIRECT EXPERIENCE IN THE TYPE OF CASES THAT ARE MOST PREVALENT IN CIVIL COUNTY COURT AND TO RESOLVE A GREATER VARIETY OF COUNTY COURT MATTERS. MOST RECENTLY MY TEACHING RESPONSIBILITIES HAVE INCREASED WITH AN INVITATION TO BE AN INSTRUCTOR AT THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE IN RENO, NV AND TO TEACH AT THE 2017 STATE CONFERENCE OF COUNTY JUDGES.

AS A TRAFFIC MAGISTRATE AND AS THE CHIEF TRAFFIC MAGISTRATE FOR THE PAST 23 YEARS I HAVE HEARD AND RULED ON THOUSANDS OF CIVIL TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS (SPEEDING, RED LIGHT, DEFECTIVE EQUIPMENT, BIKING, HOV LANE, STOP SIGNS, ETC.) INCLUDING ACCIDENTS WITHOUT INJURIES, MUNICIPAL PARKING VIOLATIONS, SUNPASS, AND RED LIGHT CAMERA CASES. THE MOST RECENT ADDITION TO OUR DIVISION IS JUVENILE TRAFFIC COURT WHICH IS ESSENTIALLY A ONE TIME DIVERSION PROGRAM FOR DRIVERS UNDER THE AGE OF 17 AT THE TIME OF THE INFRACTION WHO RECEIVE A DISMISSAL OF THEIR CASE UPON COMPLETION OF THE MONITORED SANCTIONS.

11. If you are currently a judge, have any of your decisions ever been appealed and overturned? How many times in the last two (2) years? When and what case? IN THE PAST 23 YEARS, I BELIEVE I HAVE BEEN APPEALED 17 TIMES AND NEVER OVERTURNED.



BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION



12. What percentage of your litigation or trial experience was related to:
- Civil? 97%
 - Criminal? 3%
13. How many cases have you tried to verdict? AS AN ATTORNEY = 2
14. Describe three of the most significant litigated matters, which you personally handled and give the citations thereto, if the cases were reported. RESPONSIBLE FOR TWO PUBLISHED APPELLATE OPINIONS: ALON V. ALON (JAN 1996) AND PRICE V. PRICE (DEC. 1990), BOTH OF WHICH CONTINUE TO BE CITED IN SUBSEQUENT COURT RULINGS. BOTH ARE FAMILY LAW CASES. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT IS PRICE V. PRICE AS IT RECEIVED NATIONAL ATTENTION AND FORMED THE BASIS FOR THE REQUIREMENT FOR JUDGES TO HAVE GENDER BIAS TRAINING IN ALL STATES.
15. Why do you want to be a judge (circuit or county)? TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE JUDGES IN THE 2ND BUSIEST COURT SYSTEM IN OUR STATE BY OFFERING VOTERS AN ACTUAL CHOICE IN THIS ELECTION: POLITICS OR PREPARATION & ACTUAL EXPERIENCE, TO CONTINUE TO INSPIRE CONFIDENCE IN THE COURT PROCESS AND TO BRING BACK INTEGRITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY TO THIS POSITION.
16. What qualities do you believe are most important in a judge? Explain how you have demonstrated that you possess those qualities. IN COUNTY COURT, I BELIEVE THAT A JUDGE HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO DO MORE THAN MAKE A FINAL DECISION ON A DISPUTE. MY JUDICIAL PHILOSOPHY THROUGHOUT MY 23 YEARS OF HEARING THOUSANDS OF CIVIL TRAFFIC INFRACTIONS AS A TRAFFIC MAGISTRATE IN COUNTY COURT HAS BEEN AND IS 1) THAT A JUDGE MUST EDUCATE COURT PARTICIPANTS ON COURT PROCEDURES AND PROCESS IN A COMMON SENSE, COMPASSIONATE MANNER 2) THAT A JUDGE MUST BE INDEPENDENT OF ANY INFLUENCE OR INTERFERENCE FROM ANY PERSON, POLITICAL PARTY OR BUSINESS.
18. Why do you believe that you are the best candidate for the seat you are running for? OBTAINING A JUDICIAL POSITION IS NORMALLY A PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL PROCESS WHERE ONE COMES TO THE BENCH AFTER MAKING SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION & TO THE COMMUNITY. I AM THE ONLY CANDIDATE IN GROUP 7 WHOSE HISTORY DEMONSTRATES THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THAT PROGRESSION. I HAVE THE HIGHEST RATING POSSIBLE IN LEGAL ABILITY & ETHICAL STANDARDS & HAVE MAINTAINED THAT RATING FOR A DECADE. I AM RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST HONORED PROFESSIONALS, TOP 1% IN THE NATION.
19. Describe your civic activities and community involvement for the past five (5) years, listing what years you participated in each activity or were involved. SEE ATTACHED RESUME AND BIOGRAPHY.



BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION



20. Please list noteworthy professional or personal accomplishments. **CERTIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY (2006), QUALIFIED SUPREME COURT ARBITRATOR (2003), CERTIFIED BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU FED ARBITRATOR (2000), FLORIDA SUPREME COURT FAMILY AND COUNTY MEDIATOR (1992).**
21. Please list the federal and state courts where you are admitted to practice. **I AM LICENSED TO PRACTICE BEFORE FLORIDA STATE AND SOUTHERN DISTRICT FEDERAL COURTS, AS WELL AS THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.**
22. How many times did you take the Florida Bar Exam? **ONCE.**
23. Have you ever failed Bar exams in any state? If so, when and where? **NO.**
24. Have you ever been investigated by a State Bar grievance committee or by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct? **IN 27 YEARS, THERE HAVE BEEN 3 BAR COMPLAINTS FILED NONE WERE FOUND TO HAVE PROBABLE CAUSE AND ALL WERE CLOSED UPON REVIEW OF MY RESPONSE.**
25. Have you ever been disciplined or reprimanded for your conduct as a lawyer or judge? If the answer is yes, please explain? **NO.**
26. Have you or your law firm ever been sued by a client? If so, please explain. **NO.**

Please discuss your view/opinion of proper judicial temperament. **IN MY COURTROOM TEMPERAMENT HAS AS MUCH TO DO WITH HOW A JUDGE ACTS OFF THE BENCH AS ON THE BENCH. YOU NEED TO NOT JUST SAY IT BUT SHOW THAT YOU ARE WORTHY OF THE POSITION OF TRUST THAT A JUDGESHIP IS AT ITS CORE. THAT MEANS YOU WILL BE LAUDED AND LAMBASTED. ALL ASPECTS OF WHAT YOU DO, WHO YOU ARE INVOLVED WITH, WILL BE WATCHED AND THAT SCRUTINY WILL EXTEND TO YOUR FAMILY. APPEARANCES ARE JUST AS CRITICAL AS ACTIONS. THE WAY THAT YOU REACT TO CRITICISM OR ACCOLADES IS THE HEART OF YOUR TEMPERAMENT. IT DETERMINES WHETHER YOU ARE PERCEIVED AS AN 800 LB GORILLA OR MEAGER AND UNSURE. I HAVE LEARNED THAT NO ONE REACTION WORKS FOR EVERY SITUATION. HOWEVER, IN THE END IF THE YEAS AND NAYS ARE BALANCED I HAVE DONE MY JOB WELL THAT DAY AND LOOK FORWARD TO DOING IT ALL OVER AGAIN TOMORROW.**

27. If you are seeking election or re-election to a criminal court, discuss your view of plea bargains and when they should and should not be accepted. **NOT APPLICABLE, ALTHOUGH IN CIVIL TRAFFIC COURT I DO ACCEPT PLEAS. I FIND THEM TO BE AN EFFICIENT METHOD OF RESOLVING CASES WERE THE MATERIAL FACTS ARE NOT IN DISPUTE.**
28. Tell us about any plans you have to improve the administration of the court or make it more efficient. **THE JOB OF JUDGING INVOLVES A MYRIAD OF SKILLS AND THEY ARE QUITE DIFFERENT THAN THE SKILLS THAT A TOP TRIAL LAWYER USES. A STELLAR ADVOCATE PERSUADES WITH PASSION AND ARTICULATES THROUGH WORDS AND ACTIONS FOR HIS OR**



BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION



HER CLIENT'S PLIGHT. A GOOD JUDGE CAN DO NONE OF THAT. AS A JUDGE I DISREGARD PERSONALITIES, EMOTIONS, OR ANY OTHER INFLUENCES AN BASE MY RULING SOLELY ON THE FACTS PRESENTED AND THE LAW AS IT IS. I HAVE LISTENED TO CASES CERTIFIED BY THE SUPREME COURT EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO TEACH THIS PROGRAM TO POTENTIAL TRAFFIC MAGISTRATES. I TAUGHT IT MOST RECENTLY IN ORLANDO IN 2014. I AM ALSO PERMITTED TO TEACH JUDGES AND WILL DO SO AT THE 2017 CONFERENCE OF COUNTY COURT JUDGES. TRAFFIC MAGISTRATE CERTIFICATION TRAINING: I HAVE TAUGHT 6 OF THE 7 TRAFFIC HEARING OFFICER TRAINING CLASSES, INCLUDING THE MOST RECENT 2013 CLASS WHICH INCLUDED STUDENTS FROM WEST PALM BEACH.

CLE COURSE INSTRUCTOR: I HAVE TAUGHT COURSES, LECTURED, PARTICIPATED IN FORUMS AND CLE'S IN THE AREAS OF: FAMILY LAW, TRAFFIC LAW, MEDIATIONS, DEBTOR/CREDITOR LAW, BANKRUPTCY LAW, INTRO TO LAW AND ELDER LAW.

MENTORING: THROUGHOUT MY TENURE AS A CERTIFIED MEDIATOR I HAVE ACTED AS A MENTOR FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF NEW MEDIATORS IN THE FAMILY DISPUTE AREA. POTENTIAL MEDIATORS ARE REQUIRED TO OBSERVE AND CO-MEDIATE A CERTAIN NUMBER OF DISPUTES WITH A CERTIFIED MEDIATOR IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THEIR QUALIFICATION. IN ADDITION, I HAVE SERVED AS A MENTOR FOR SEVERAL NEW TRAFFIC HEARING OFFICERS.

29. Have you ever taught any law school courses or any continuing legal education courses? If so, describe the extent and nature of those teaching experiences.

COLLEGE COURSES:

AS AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR AT NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY I TEACH: DEBTOR/CREDITOR LAW, PLEADINGS & THE COURTS, ADVANCED LITIGATION CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE, CRIMINAL LAW, BANKRUPTCY BUSINESS LAW, TRAFFIC LAW, FAMILY LAW, ELDER LAW, AND INTRO TO LAW. AS AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR AT BROWARD COLLEGE I TEACH: DEBTOR/CREDITOR-BANKRUPTCY-LANDLORD/TENANT LAW, LAW LIBRARY, INTRO TO LAW, AND FAMILY LAW.

LAW COURSES FOR LAWYERS AND JUDGES:

NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE: IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING AN INSTRUCTOR AT THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE IN RENO, NV. I WILL INITIALLY TEACH TRAFFIC LAW.

STATEWIDE TRAFFIC HEARING OFFICER TRAINING: I AM ONE OF ONLY TWO INSTRUCTORS CERTIFIED BY THE SUPREME COURT EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO TEACH THIS PROGRAM TO POTENTIAL TRAFFIC MAGISTRATES. I TAUGHT IT MOST RECENTLY IN ORLANDO IN 2014. I AM ALSO PERMITTED TO TEACH JUDGES AND WILL DO SO AT THE 2017 CONFERENCE OF COUNTY COURT JUDGES.

TRAFFIC MAGISTRATE CERTIFICATION TRAINING: I HAVE TAUGHT 6 OF THE 7 TRAFFIC HEARING OFFICER TRAINING CLASSES, INCLUDING THE MOST RECENT 2013 CLASS WHICH INCLUDED STUDENTS FROM WEST PALM BEACH.

CLE COURSE INSTRUCTOR: I HAVE TAUGHT COURSES, LECTURED, PARTICIPATED IN FORUMS AND CLE'S IN THE AREAS OF: FAMILY LAW, TRAFFIC LAW, MEDIATIONS, DEBTOR/CREDITOR LAW, BANKRUPTCY LAW, INTRO TO LAW AND ELDER LAW.

MENTORING: THROUGHOUT MY TENURE AS A CERTIFIED MEDIATOR I HAVE ACTED AS



BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION



MENTOR FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF NEW MEDIATORS IN THE FAMILY DISPUTE AREA. POTENTIAL MEDIATORS ARE REQUIRED TO OBSERVE AND CO-MEDIATE A CERTAIN NUMBER OF DISPUTES WITH A CERTIFIED MEDIATOR IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THEIR QUALIFICATION. IN ADDITION, I HAVE SERVED AS A MENTOR FOR SEVERAL NEW TRAFFIC HEARING OFFICERS.

30. List any significant pro bono work completed since graduating from law school. A LITTLE KNOWN FACT ABOUT TRAFFIC MAGISTRATES/HEARING OFFICERS IS THAT THEY ARE ARTICLE V JUDICIAL OFFICERS. THAT MEANS THEY HAVE CONCURRENT JURISDICTION WITH THEIR COUNTY COURT COLLEAGUES IN CIVIL TRAFFIC CASES. I MAKE ACTUAL, FINAL, APPEALABLE RULINGS, NOT RECOMMENDATIONS. AS SUCH, PRO BONO WORK IS LIMITED AS IT MUST COMPLY WITH THE JUDICIAL CANONS. I BELIEVE IN GIVING BACK TO MY COMMUNITY SO I FIND FORUMS THAT DO NOT CONFLICT WITH THE REGULATIONS, POLICIES & RESTRICTIONS THAT GOVERN MY POSITION. I HAVE CHAIRED EVENTS FOR EQUINE ASSISTED THERAPY (FORMERLY KNOWN AS HORSES FOR THE HANDICAPPED). I PARTICIPATE ON THE ADVISORY BOARD OF THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY WHICH IS MEANINGFUL TO ME THIS YEAR, SINCE I COME BACK TO THE BOARD AS A CANCER SURVIVOR. I ALSO SPEAK AT SCHOOLS, OFTEN HOLDING MOCK TRIALS, TO GIVE THE KIDS THE COURT EXPERIENCE. I SPEAK TO LEGAL GROUPS LAWYERS, PARALEGALS AND JUDGES ON TOPICS THAT FULFILL THEIR CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS.
31. List any leadership positions, or participation in any committees in voluntary bar associations and/or professional societies, which you believe to be of particular significance (e.g. judicial selection committees, disciplinary committees, grievance committees, etc.). SEE ATTACHED RESUME AND BIOGRAPHY.
32. List all organizations and associations, or professional societies, other than bar associations, of which you are or have been a member, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social, and fraternal organizations. SEE ATTACHED RESUME AND BIOGRAPHY.
33. What is your judicial philosophy? I BELIEVE MY EDUCATION AND TRAINING AS AN ARBITRATOR, MEDIATOR, ADULT EDUCATOR, TRAFFIC AND SPECIAL MAGISTRATE WILL ASSIST ME IN PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF A JUDGE. I HAVE OVER 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN MAKING JUDGMENTS ON VARIOUS TYPES OF CASES (BOTH COUNTY AND CIRCUIT). I HAVE EXPERIENCE BALANCING ISSUES AND IN DEVELOPING FAIR SOLUTIONS. I HAVE COMPLETED AND TAUGHT THE MAGISTRATE TRAINING PROGRAM WHICH INCLUDED COURT ADMINISTRATION, DOCKET MANAGEMENT, JUDICIAL ETHICS AND TEMPERAMENT TRAINING. AS A MAGISTRATE, I HAVE THE UNIQUE EXPERIENCE OF HANDLING CASES WHERE THE MAJORITY OF LITIGANTS ARE NOT REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL. THIS REQUIRES A MANNER THAT CONVEYS ORDER, AUTHORITY, SENSITIVITY AND AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE LITIGANT'S PERSPECTIVE. I ALSO FEEL THAT MY PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY AND LEGAL ORGANIZATIONS WILL BENEFIT ME ON THE BENCH AS IT PROVIDES INSIGHT AND KNOWLEDGE



BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION



THAT I MAY NOT HAVE GAINED OTHERWISE. FOR EXAMPLE, I RECENTLY SPOKE ON TRAFFIC COURT TO THE YOUNG LAWYERS. I TOLD A STORY WHERE A DEFENDANT WAS CHARGED WITH RUNNING A RED LIGHT AND STATED THAT IN PUERTO RICO THEY DON'T STOP FOR RED LIGHTS AND THAT AFTER THREE (3) YEARS IN THIS COUNTRY SHE STILL FORGETS. A WOMAN CAME UP TO ME AFTER THE SPEECH AND SAID HER HUSBAND LIVED IN PUERTO RICO AND THAT THE DEFENDANT'S CLAIM IS TRUE; AS THEY ARE ENCOURAGED TO LOOK QUICKLY AND GO BECAUSE OF THE CRIME PROBLEM. SHE AGREED THAT IN FLORIDA EVERYONE SHOULD COME TO A COMPLETE STOP. ONCE AGAIN, I LEARNED SOMETHING ABOUT A CULTURAL PRACTICE THAT I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN AWARE OF OTHERWISE. IT WOULD NOT HAVE CHANGED MY GUILTY RULING FOR THE DEFENDANT BUT IT DOES GIVE ME AN UNDERSTANDING AS TO WHY SHE FELT IT IMPORTANT TO TAKE HER CASE TO TRIAL.

18. Describe what contributions you have made to the Hispanic community in the past five (5) years. I HAVE NOT CONTRIBUTED TO ANY SPECIFIC ETHNIC COMMUNITY BUT HAVE PARTICIPATED IN MANY COMMUNITY EVENTS THAT REFLECT ALL CULTURES AND THE DIVERSE CITIZENS OF THIS COUNTY.
19. Are you a Member of the Broward County Hispanic Bar Association? NO.
20. As a prospective judge, or as a current Judge, what do you consider your greatest strengths and weaknesses? MY STRENGTH IS THAT I HAVE WORKED HARD AND ACCOMPLISHED EVERY GOAL I HAVE SET FOR MYSELF AND I AM UNDAUNTED BY SETBACKS. MY PERSONAL STRENGTH IS AS A SINGLE MOTHER TO ENSURE THAT MY SONS EXPERIENCE AND UNDERSTAND CULTURES BEYOND THE FLORIDA AND THE UNITED STATES. MY WEAKNESS IS ALTHOUGH I HAVE A PASSION TO TRAVEL I HAVE HAD VERY LITTLE OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL.
21. Why are you the best candidate for the position you are seeking? I HAVE A LOT TO OFFER IN COMPETENCE, INTEGRITY AND CONFIDENCE. I HAVE THE ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM TO MAKE THIS POSITION PRODUCTIVE. I HAVE EXPERIENCE IN COMPLEX LEGAL AND FACTUAL ISSUES AND AN EYE FOR DETAIL. I HAVE A NATURAL ABILITY TO ORGANIZE AND ADMINSTRATE EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY. I PROMOTE RESPECT, DECORUM AND RESPONSIBILITY. MY TRAINING AS A MEDIATOR GIVES ME THE CAPABILITY TO REDUCE CONFLICTS AND ADVANCE POSITIVE OUTCOMES. I BELIEVE THAT THESE ARE NECESSARY CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD JUDGE. I KNOW AND PRACTICE THE VERY IMPORTANT DISTINCTION BETWEEN RULING OUT OF ANGER AND THE ABILITY TO RULE WHEN ANGERED IN AN EVEN HANDED MANNER. MY APPEAL RECORD AND "ON THE JOB" PERFORMANCE OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS IS THE BEST EVIDENCE OF THE TYPE OF CONTINUED CONTRIBUTION I CAN BRING TO THIS POSITION, OUR CIRCUIT AND THE CITIZENS OF BROWARD COUNTY.

MY DECISION MAKING AND COURTROOM MANAGEMENT SKILLS ARE ESSENTIAL TO BEGIN THIS POSITION IN AN EFFECTIVE, READY TO WORK MANNER ARE WELL KNOWN. MY COURTROOM RUNS ON TIME AND IF A DELAY OCCURS ALL AFFECTED ARE PROMPTLY NOTIFIED. I WORK WELL WITH THE JUDGES IN "SHARING" WITNESSES AND LAWYERS SO THAT



BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION



ALL OUR COURTROOMS RUN PROFESSIONALLY. I RECOGNIZE THAT MY COURT STAFF AND THE ATTORNEYS MAKE UP A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE. I EXPECT FROM THEM THE SAME PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS THAT I ADHERE TO. I DO MY BEST WITH EVERY CASE, EVERY DAY, TO MAKE OUR ROADWAYS SAFER, SHOW RESPECT FOR ALL WHO COME BEFORE THE COURT, AND DEMONSTRATE THE WISDOM AND COMPASSION NEEDED TO RULE FAIRLY. I STRIVE TO ALWAYS BE PREPARED SO THAT THE LITIGANTS, THE ATTORNEYS AND MY COURT STAFF ARE SHOWN AND NOT JUST TOLD THAT THEIR TIME IS VALUABLE. I BRING CLARITY AND SINCERITY TO WHAT MANY PEOPLE FEEL IS A MURKY, UNTRUSTWORTHY SYSTEM.

BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT A JUDGE HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY TO DO MORE THAN JUST MAKE DECISIONS, I HAVE PARTICIPATED AND PROMOTED PUBLIC AWARENESS AND SAFETY BY WORKING WITH LOCAL AND STATE AGENCIES, LEGISLATORS AND OTHERS TO IMPROVE DRIVER BEHAVIOR, PROMOTE SAFETY INITIATIVES LIKE "CLICK IT OR TICKET IT" AND TO RETURN DRIVER'S EDUCATION TO OUR HIGH SCHOOLS. I HAVE WORKED ON AND WRITTEN LEGISLATION TO MAKE OUR TRAFFIC LAWS MORE EASILY APPLIED. THE CHANGES WE ADVOCATED WOULD HAVE GENERATED AT LEAST 8 MILLION DOLLARS FOR PUBLIC PROGRAMS AND MADE OUR ROADS SAFER. UNFORTUNATELY, THE BILL DID NOT GET OUT OF THE FINAL COMMITTEE IN THE LAST SESSION.

I HAVE WORKED TO IMPROVE THE PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF OUR JUDICIARY IS TO HAVE THE TRAFFIC HEARING OFFICERS, INCLUDING MYSELF BECOME CERTIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONALS AS PART OF THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY WATCH PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM TRAINS PARTICIPANTS TO ASSIST IN THE SECURITY OF THE NATION AGAINST THE THREAT TERRORISM BY EFFECTIVELY OBSERVING, ASSESSING AND REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES. IT IS DESIGNED TO ENSURE THAT OUR TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IS NOT TARGETED OR USED AS WEAPON BY TERRORISTS.

ON BEHALF OF THE BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION, THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND COOPERATION!