



## BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION

### JUDICIAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Full Name: Kal Le Var Evans.
2. Current County of residence. Broward.
3. Date and place of birth. January 27, 1977. West Palm Beach.
4. Does your campaign have a website or Facebook page? If so, please list it. My website is [www.kalevans4judge.com](http://www.kalevans4judge.com) and it links to the campaign Facebook.
5. List the colleges and law schools you have attended, including your dates of attendance and degrees awarded. I graduated from the University of Michigan in 2000 and obtained my Juris Doctorate from Nova Southeastern University.
6. Have you ever served in the military? No, although many family members and close friends served and continue to serve.
7. List where you have been employed since graduation from law school, including dates employed, your position and the nature of your employment responsibilities. I was hired as an Assistant State Attorney in November of 2003 and worked there until I took the bench on September 2, 2014.

I began my career in the Juvenile Unit handling caseloads that exceeded 700. I appeared in court daily, litigated motions, managed dockets, handled non-jury trials and competency hearings. I was promoted to the Felony Trial Unit after 17 months and every trial from that point forward was before a jury comprised of members of our community. My work in the Felony trial unit was similar to my previous work, although the consequences were greater. I appeared in court daily. My cases began with drugs and theft, but quickly progressed to cases involving violence and minimum mandatory sentences.

Two years of my work as a litigator involved the time spent in the Sexual Battery/Child Abuse Unit. The bulk of my jury trial experience was in that unit. This was particularly significant



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because these cases involved victims that no amount of restitution would make whole. Again, I appeared in court daily and was tasked with an entire caseload of individuals who had been accused of serious crimes, but had been found incompetent to proceed in a court of law.

My experience in the Sexual Battery Unit included specialized training in competency, various types of DNA, population genetics, forensics, Williams Rule Evidence, and Child Hearsay motions. My litigation experience ranged from misdemeanors to capital felonies.

I later served as the Senior Supervising Assistant State Attorney of the Juvenile Unit. I assumed that position in 2010. In that capacity I trained young attorneys, filed cases, maintained a full caseload of serious cases of offenders that had been charged as adults, and I oversaw thousands of cases. I was the youngest member of the administration of the office and always made sure that my voice was heard. Significantly, my duties included Executive Assignment cases in the Tri-County area. Additionally I reviewed seal/expunge requests and served in community relations.

I interacted directly with various police agencies and community organizations. I spoke at several government meetings and helped young lawyers see past the files in front of them to the people involved.

On September 2, 2014, I achieved my childhood dream and took my oath of office. I have served in the criminal division of County Court since that time. I served on the Canvassing board for one election cycle and was appointed to the Judicial Needs Assessment Committee. I have served two terms as a judicial liaison for the TJ Reddick Bar Association and am currently in my first with the Young Lawyers Section of the Broward Bar. This is important because many of the attorneys assigned to work with me have been recently appointed to the Florida Bar. I conduct hundreds of hearings per week, preside over misdemeanor and felony trials (pursuant to the Administrative Order cross designating me), and rule upon countless motions on a daily basis.

The people who appear before me range from self represented litigants, Public Defender Clients, and those represented by private counsel. Although the assignment is unintentional, I have a high number of sovereign citizens as well.

My life experience gives me a unique perspective, and my work training young attorneys gives me the patience required of the position.

8. Have you ever been arrested? Explain. No
9. Have you ever been convicted of a crime? Explain.No



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- 10. What is the general nature of your practice? Indicate areas of practice in which you concentrate or concentrated? Criminal, although restitution and civil commitment have been part of my work.**
- 11. If you are currently a judge, what type of cases do you typically preside over in your court?**  
I preside over traffic criminal, misdemeanor, and ordinance violations.
- 12. 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? None of my rulings have been reversed.**
- 13. What percentage of your litigation or trial experience was related to:**
- Civil? Only that which was related to an attached criminal case.**
  - Criminal? Nearly all of my experience has been criminal, but I am a quick study and I love to learn. I did not ask to be assigned here. I asked to be placed where the greatest need was.**
- 14. How many cases have you tried to verdict? I never focused on statistics as a litigator. I was able to confirm a minimum of 43 jury trials litigated alone. I litigated an additional 7 with the assistance of a second chair. I served as a second chair only once, when a young man was set on fire by his peers. I litigated 6 trials as a CLI and served 3 additional internships.**  
I have lost count over the number of cases I have presided over.
- 15. Describe three of the most significant litigated matters, which you personally handled and give the citations thereto, if the cases were reported. Several of my cases received media coverage. Most involved violence or rape. The last media cases as a litigator involved the young man who had been set on fire, at 14 year old girl who had been shot in Dade County, and an Armed Kidnapping, Armed Sexual Battery in Coral Springs.**
- 16. Why do you want to be a judge (circuit or county)? Public service is in my family. My parents were educators. My wife is a social worker. At the age of 9 I could not sway my childhood friends away from paths toward prison and death. The did not believe in the justice system. I continue to believe that my service sets an example to everyone who has goals and obstacles. I was homeless for two years after making that decision. I have chosen to serve the public.**
- 17. What qualities do you believe are most important in a judge? Explain how you have demonstrated that you possess those qualities. A judge must be even tempered,**



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knowledgeable, and able to refrain from advocating from the bench. We must preserve justice. My work speaks for itself. I was also chosen as the 2016 recipient of the TJ Reddick Judicial Award. The award was open to any of the 90 judges, but I was honored to receive the award.

**18. Why do you believe that you are the best candidate for the seat you are running for?**

My decision was made over 30 years ago and I have worked toward it since I was a child. I have a passion for the law and the respect of my colleagues. I have received every endorsement given in my race. I believe that speaks volumes. I have been your judge for nearly two years. I do not need to be trained or learn how to stop being an advocate. My life and body of work gives me a broad perspective.

**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.**

There are too many to list, but a sample includes speaking to our youth at schools, bar organizations, and religious institutions. I have participated in several community panels, donated time and money, personally fed homeless individuals, taught a CLE course, sworn in new attorneys, and much more. I am a public servant.

**20. Please list noteworthy professional or personal accomplishments.**

I have previously mentioned most, but I have also received an award for speaking about civil rights. I am also a proud husband and the father of a 10 month old baby girl.

**21. Please list the federal and state courts where you are admitted to practice.**

Florida.

**22. How many times did you take the Florida Bar Exam? 1**

**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? No.**

**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.**

**27. Please discuss your view/opinion of proper judicial temperament. The answer is reflected above.**



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- 28. 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. This is the People's Court. I ask attorneys whether I should inquire if an offer seems unreasonable. I typically inquire if the offer seems different for an unrepresented individual. I always ask if they qualify for diversion.**
- 29. Tell us about any plans you have to improve the administration of the court or make it more efficient. I believe it is a fluid process. I regularly have division meetings and encourage input from my courtroom staff and assigned attorneys.**
- 30. 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. I was asked to teach a course on Professional Conduct. I must have made an impression because I was asked to teach another. Both are for CLE credit.**
- 31. List any significant pro bono work completed since graduating from law school.**

I have answered above.
- 32. 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.). Answered above.**
- 33. 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. I am also a member of the Broward Bar and NAACP.**
- 34. What is your judicial philosophy? Be respectful. Follow the law.**
- 35. Describe what contributions you have made to the Hispanic community in the past five (5) years. I have worked with the Hispanic Bar, I mentored a young attorney who recently became a part of Hispanic Vote, I constantly mentor my Godson, and I make sure everyone is treated fairly before me.**
- 36. Are you a Member of the Broward County Hispanic Bar Association? No, but I am a regular Gala attendee.**
- 37. As a prospective judge, or as a current Judge, what do you consider your greatest strengths and weaknesses? My life experience and judicial experience is my biggest attribute. I open to improving any perceived weaknesses.**



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**38. Why are you the best candidate for the position you are seeking? The legal community can answer that**

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