



BROWARD COUNTY HISPANIC BAR ASSOCIATION

JUDICIAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Full Name: Rhoda Sokoloff
2. Current County of residence. Broward County
3. Date and place of birth. February 18, 1953 – Toronto, Ontario
4. Does your campaign have a website or Facebook page? If so, please list it.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/RhodaSokoloffForCountyCourtJudge/>
5. List the colleges and law schools you have attended, including your dates of attendance and degrees awarded.

Broward Community College, now Broward College July 1990 – 1994

The Union Institute & University 1992 - 1994

Nova Southeastern Shepard Broad Law School 1996 - 199

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.

See attached resume
8. Have you ever been arrested? Explain. No
9. Have you ever been convicted of a crime? Explain. No
10. What is the general nature of your practice? Indicate areas of practice in which you concentrate or concentrated?

Family law, domestic violence, dependency law, civil and county litigation and appellate.



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11. If you are currently a judge, what type of cases do you typically preside over in your court?

N/A

**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?**

N/A

13. What percentage of your litigation or trial experience was related to:

- a. Civil? 100%
- b. Criminal?

14. How many cases have you tried to verdict?

More than 100

15. Describe three of the most significant litigated matters, which you personally handled and give the citations thereto, if the cases were reported.

1. I represented the wife in a highly contested divorce. The issues were equitable distribution, valuation dates, commingling of monies, loss of career opportunity, alimony for a short term marriage where the wife was disabled, ownerships to property, domestic violence, wife removing substantial monies from the husband's bank account, and attorney's fees.

2. I was involved in a very disturbing child abuse case in dependency court. The father was sexually abusing the minor child for some time. The father's parental rights were ultimately terminated.

3. I represented a father in a relocation case where the mother wanted to move out of the State of Florida with the children. At that time, the mother had sole custody of the children and the father had limited access to them. We were successful in preventing the mother from taking the children and the father ultimately got custody of the children.

16. Why do you want to be a judge (circuit or county)?

I want to be a Judge because that would be the pinnacle of my career. I have wanted to be a lawyer and ultimately a Judge since the age of 16. I am so involved in the community and offer community service that by being a Judge, it would be an extension of my community and public service to all of Broward County.



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17. What qualities do you believe are most important in a judge? Explain how you have demonstrated that you possess those qualities.

Fairness, Integrity and Respect to name a few. Based on my life experience, work experience and community involvement, I have learned all of these traits. One thing a Judge should never do is prejudice any case or litigant. I know that based on the above, that will never happen.

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

Life experience, legal experience and community involvement. I am an AV rated attorney. I am the only candidate in my race that is involved in the community.

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.

Guardian ad Litem

President of Kiwanis of Deerfield Beach West

Vice-President of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

Member of the Dania Lions Club

Instructor for Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Police Officers regarding mental health

Judge for the African American Research Library Poetry Slam

Judge for the American Legion Oratorical Content

20. Please list noteworthy professional or personal accomplishments.

See answer 19 above. I have also received certificates of appreciation and Volunteer of the Year.

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

State of Florida courts

22. How many times did you take the Florida Bar Exam? N/A

23. Have you ever failed Bar exams in any state? If so, when and where? N/A

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



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27. Please discuss your view/opinion of proper judicial temperament.

A Judge should have the proper demeanor and proper judicial temperament in their courtroom. A Judge should listen to all the facts and apply the law according to the facts and evidence presented. A Judge must always be respectful to any litigant, lawyer, witness or other that come before them.

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.

Unable to respond to this question based on the Canons.

29. Tell us about any plans you have to improve the administration of the court or make it more efficient.

I plan on being on time for work and staying late if necessary, including working through lunch if appropriate.

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.

No – I do teach a class on mental illness.

31. List any significant pro bono work completed since graduating from law school.

I offer pro bono work through Mission United – the Veterans Program, as well as through Legal Aid. I have also represented many clients pro bono.

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.).

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.

See answer 19 above.

34. What is your judicial philosophy?

See answer 17 above.

35. Describe what contributions you have made to the Hispanic community in the past five (5) years.



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I have been involved with the CABF and Hispanic Vote for the past five years. I have also been endorsed by the Hispanic Vote recently.

36. Are you a Member of the Broward County Hispanic Bar Association?

Yes.

37. As a prospective judge, or as a current Judge, what do you consider your greatest strengths and weaknesses?

My greatest strengths are my compassion and knowledge of the law.

38. Why are you the best candidate for the position you are seeking?

Please see answer 18 above.

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

<i>Position</i>	<i>Name of Firm</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Sole Practitioner	Rhoda Sokoloff, P.A.	600 S.W. 4 th Court Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315	9/1/08 - present
Sole Practitioner	Rhoda Sokoloff, P.A.	111 Davie Boulevard Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315	4/1/07-8/31/08
Sole Practitioner	Rhoda Sokoloff, P.A.	521 S. Andrews Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301	5/1/01-3/31/07
Associate Attorney	Braverman & Rossi	625 N.E. 3 rd Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304	9/14/00-4/30/01
Law Clerk	Braverman & Rossi	625 N.E. 3 rd Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304	1/00-9/13/00
Law Clerk	Zimmerman, Joseph & Bayne	7727 N. University Drive, #108, Tamarac, FL 33321	4/99-7/99
Law Clerk	Andrew L. Salvage, P.A.	100 S.E. 3 rd Avenue, #2700 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394	1/99-4/99 appr.
Law Clerk	Dell & Schaefer	2404 Hollywood Boulevard Hollywood, Florida 33020	1/98-1/99 appr
Law Clerk	Legal Aid Service of Broward County	491 N. State Road 7, Plantation, FL 33317	8/97-11/97 appr.
Law Clerk	Judge Alfred Horowitz	Broward County Courthouse 201 S.E. 6 th Street, Fort Lauderdale FL 33301	11/97-1/98 appr
Legal Secretary	Barry I. Finkel, P.A.	12 S.E. 7 th Street, #602 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301	94-8/96 appr
Legal Secretary	Jeffrey Sarrow	300 S. Pine Island Road, #304 Plantation, FL 33324	5/92-94 appr
Legal Secretary	Stracher & Harmon (Leslie Stracher) The firm has since dissolved and Mr. Stracher now works at Rothstein, Rosenfeldt, Adler	401 E. Las Olas Boulevard, #1650 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301	do not recall the start date-5/92
Legal Secretary	Robert Sidweber, P.A.	3020 N.E. 32 nd Avenue, #301 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308	11/90 -do not recall the end date

Continuation of Question #21

Legal Secretary	Mitch Lubert, Esquire	Deceased	9/90-11/90
Legal Secretary	William I. Zimmerman, Esquire	P.O. Box 1503, Deerfield Beach, FL 33443	1/86-8/90
Legal Secretary	Employed in Canada - I do not remember the names of the law firms 2/74-5/77		