

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: Edward Newman

Date Disclosure Statement Completed: June 4, 2010

Judicial Position Sought: County Court Judge

Jurisdiction: 11th Judicial Circuit in and for Miami Dade County

Jurisdiction(s) in which admitted to practice law:

Jurisdiction	Date Admitted
State of Florida	10/1987

Florida Bar No. 0705802

Years admitted to practice law: 23

Years in the legal profession: 23

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
County Court	January 1995	Judge
County Court	January 1999	Judge

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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
County Court	January 1995 to present	Judge

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: 15+ years as sitting trial judge in County Court. Domestic Violence, Civil, and Criminal divisions.

Please identify the number of jury trials 1000's and the number of bench trials 1000's 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 Worker's Compensation, Bankruptcy, Juvenile, Probate, Transactional.

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

60% of the time, I practiced before the Civil Court. Most of that was in the Family Court. The remainder was spread over the other areas of practice indicated above.

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: Seven years as a practicing attorney.

Please identify the number of jury trials 2 and the number of bench trials 75 in which you have participated.

Additional comments: _____

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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: Worker's Comp. Social Security Claims.

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

25+ cases went to Family Court Mediation. 5+ cases where I served as the mediator. There were a few civil claim mediations.

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

The Area(s) of Practice: Family Court Mediator

When you were certified in each Area of Practice: Yes

No. Certification lapsed. There is an annual license fee, and continuing education, and there was no point, because as a sitting judge I cannot put myself out as a mediator, but I employ mediation techniques all the time.

Whether you are currently certified in those areas:

Please provide the percentage of your practice that has involved representing plaintiffs 50% and the percentage that has involved representing defendants 50%.

Undergraduate Education:

Name of Institution: Duke University

Degree received/Major: B.S. Psychology

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

Law School Education:

Name of Institution: Univ. of Miami School of Law

Degree received: Juris Doctor

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

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My partner and I won the 2nd place prize in the Annual Moot Court competition. I wrote, "A Player's View of the NFL Reserve System," found in Vol 4, No. 1, Spring 1987 edition of the Entertainment & Sports Law Journal for the Univ. of Miami School of Law. I interned for the State Attorney, and later at a private firm.

Number of hours devoted to public work while in undergraduate 10 or law school 100+.

Additional Educational History (if applicable):

Name of Institution	Degree Received	Special awards, recognitions, honors, or leadership roles (if any)
Additional education at FIU but not toward a degree		
Continuing education as a lawyer and as a Judge		
Classes associated with Real Estate Saleman and Broker license		

Employment:

Present employer: State of Florida

Number of years with present employer: 15+

Present position: Judge

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

Life experience carries onto the bench. For example, structure, discipline and preparation practiced as a Professional Football Player modifies my behavior as a sitting Judge. Similarly, my experience as a practicing attorney modifies my behavior as a sitting Judge. I know that for lawyers time is precious. The lawyers that come before me wait but a minimum time. I quickly frame the issue, become informed in the law, take argument of counsel, and I rule. 15 + years of judicial experience has transformed abstract knowledge into practical wisdom. I know the law and the procedures and I summon this knowledge for quick disposition of contention. I am a good communicator (particularly appreciated by the pro se litigant) in a court that must process a large number of people. I am an effective administrator -- discerning and decisive, and everyone knows that what they said was considered. I am neutral during the dispute. However, after the ruling, I sometimes change hats and serve young lawyers as a constructive teacher so that they may improve and grow in the profession. I am principled. My values guide me. I compare the job of County Judge to a doctor of social ills. There is a time to be firm, and a time to be therapeutic. I understand that my actions can deter others, but I have a heart and a good mind, so sometimes a softer touch has greater benefit. I get "the big picture" and work for the greater good. I am always fair, and I am committed to equal justice.

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

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Employer: Only the State of Florida for the last 10 years.

Number of years employed with this employer: 15+

Position/specialty: County Court Judge

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

Please refer to the bottom of page four, above. I am now 59 years old. With age comes perspective. Rulings are never about me, but rather about the community and a just society. Diverse interest tug for my favor, but I maintain integrity. My ambition is always to achieve the greater good. I look forward to every opportunity.

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:

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)
Univ. of Miami Law Alumni	10+ years	Director
Dade County Bar Association	15 +	
South Miami/Kendall Bar Association	4 +	

Honors and Publications:

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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
A Player's View of the NFL Reserve System	Spring 1987	Vol. 4, No. 1, Univ. of Miami Entertainment & Sports Law Journal

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:

Ed Newman twice earned All Conference honors in football (1972 & 1973) and twice as a heavyweight wrestler (1969 & 1970) out of Duke University. The Miami Dolphins took Newman in the sixth round of the 1973 NFL Draft. A former Offensive Guard, Newman played 12 seasons (1973 to 1984). In that time, the Dolphins went to three Super Bowls: Minnesota Vikings (1973 win), Washington Redskins (1982 loss), and San Francisco 49'ers (1984 loss); and Newman was selected by his peers to the Pro Bowl four times (1981, 1982, 1983, and 1984). During his NFL career, Newman spearheaded a community drive for blood donations on behalf of the South Florida Blood Service. This and other charitable efforts resulted in the renaming of Northwest 17th Street (Miami, Florida) to "Ed Newman Street." He continues to support and participate in many charitable events to this date. In 1984, while playing pro football by day, Newman enrolled in the night division of the law school at the University of Miami. After graduation in 1987, Newman practiced law as a litigating attorney for seven years. In 1994, Newman was elected County Court Judge in Miami, Florida, and began his first term in January, 1995. Newman remains heavily involved with the Miami Dolphins Alumni and makes several charity appearances each year. He does seminars for NFL rookies on legal consequences of bad behavior. He makes legal presentations for children and bar associations on a regular basis. He frequently presides over mock trials for the University of Miami School of Law, and other universities.

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: n/a

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):

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

 n/a

For current or former judges:

Has the Florida Supreme Court, or a similar body in another state, ever rules 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:

 n/a

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:

 n/a

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: n/a

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

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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:

n/a

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:

Criminal Judges selected Judge Newman to preside over the last two “en masse” hearings. “En masse” hearings concern the most complicated issues that Judges ever see. In 2006, DUI attorneys sought disclosure of source code, which drives breath-testing devices, and in 2008, a prohibition against sex offenders taking residence near schools came for constitutional review. The Judges selected Ed to represent the court because they know and trust his skills. Ed proved this trust by processing everything from framing of the issues to authoring the final orders. With 15+ years judicial experience, Ed has proven ability and should be retained.
