

UNITED STATES SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1. **Name**: State full name (include any former names used).

Anuraag Hari Singhal. Everyone knows me as Raag Singhal.

2. **Position**: State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida

3. **Address**: List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

Office:           Broward County Courthouse  
                    201 South East Sixth Street, WW15-125  
                    Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Residence:     Coconut Creek, Florida

4. **Birthplace**: State year and place of birth.

1963; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

5. **Education**: List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

1986 – 1989, Wake Forest University School of Law; J.D., 1989

1985 – 1986, University of Houston–Clear Lake; no degree conferred

1981 – 1985, Rice University; B.A., 1986

6. **Employment Record**: List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

2011 – present

Florida State Courts System  
201 South East Sixth Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
Circuit Court Judge

2008 – 2011  
Law Office of Raag Singhal, P.A.  
1323 South East Fourth Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316  
Partner/Owner

1993 – 2007  
Law Offices of Kaplan & Singhal, P.A.  
1323 South East Fourth Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316  
Partner

1990 – 1993  
Office of the State Attorney  
Broward County  
201 South East Sixth Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
Assistant State Attorney

1988 – 1990  
Fleming, O'Bryan & Fleming  
500 East Broward Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308  
Associate (1989 – 1990)  
Summer Clerk (1988)

1987  
Law Office of David B. Hough  
301 North Main Street  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101  
Summer Clerk

1988 – 1989  
Wake Forest University School of Law  
Law Library  
1834 Wake Forest Road  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27109  
Research Assistant

7. **Military Service and Draft Status**: Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social

security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I did not serve in the military. I registered for the selective service upon turning 18.

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Friend of the Bar Award, Broward County Bar Association (BCBA) (2019)

The Stephen R. Booher Award (BCBA) (2018)

Best of the Bar (2003)

Martindale Hubbell rated AV (1996 – 2019)

Winner, Craven National Moot Court Competition (1988)

Winner, Edwin Stanley Moot Court Competition (1987)

Athenian Award Winner, Rice University (1985)

Who's Who Among American College Students (1985)

Teagle Fellowship, Exxon Company USA (1981 – 1985)

Vice-President, Sid W. Richardson College (elected position, 1982 – 1984)

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

Associate Dean, College of Advanced Judicial Studies (appointed, 2018 – 2021)

Florida Supreme Court Local Rule Advisory Committee (appointed, 2018)

Florida Court Education Council (appointed, 2018)

Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Diversity Committee (appointed, 2017 – present)

Interstate Commission on Adult Offender Supervision (Gubernatorial appointment, 2014)

The Florida Bar:

Military Affairs Committee (2012 – present)

Judicial Nominating Procedures Committee (2008 – 2010)

Juvenile Rules Committee (2002 – 2003)  
Traffic Court Rules Committee (2001 – 2004)  
Criminal Law Section (1994 – present)  
Appellate Practice Section (2009 – present)

The Broward County Bar Association:

Board of Directors, Judicial Liaison (2017 – 2019)  
Criminal Law Section, Chair (2005 – 2006); Member (2003 – 2017)  
Professionalism Committee, Peer Review Council (2003 – 2008)  
Clerk-Bar Liaison Committee (2002 – 2017)

Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), President (2001)

Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (FACDL) (1995 – 2011)

National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) (1995 – 2011)

Corrections Committee, Co-Chair (2002 – 2003)

Indigent Defense Committee (2002 – 2005)

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

- a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Florida, 1989

There have been no lapses in membership.

- b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, 1990

United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, 2017

11. **Memberships:**

- a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

American Inns of Court, Stephen R. Booher Chapter (2011 – present)  
President (2016)

The Federalist Society (Member, Madison Club)  
Wake Forest University Student Chapter (1988)  
South Florida Lawyers Chapter (2011 – present)

Wake Forest University School of Law  
Law Alumni Council (appointed position) (2001 – 2004, 2008 – 2010)  
President's Club (2018 – 2022)  
Professor Charles Rose Endowment Scholarship Committee (2000 – 2005)  
Order of the Barristers (1988 – 1989)

Rice University South Florida Club (1990)

Friends of Florida Assistant State Attorneys (FFASA) (2006 – 2008)  
Board of Directors (2006 – 2008)

St. Thomas More Society of South Florida (1997 – 2019)

North Broward Preparatory School PTSA (2008 – 2018)

Association of Indians in America, South Florida Chapter (2011 – 2018)

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (2011 – 2019)

South Asian Bar Association (2011 – 2019)

- b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

To the best of my knowledge, none of the organizations listed above currently discriminates or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin, either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementations of membership policies.

12. **Published Writings and Public Statements:**

- a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor,

editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

Articles written for AVVO:

*Understanding Florida's Criminal Punishment Code Scoresheet*, Oct. 25, 2010. Copy supplied.

*Understanding Bond and Pre-trial Release*, Oct. 5, 2010. Copy supplied.

*Should I Testify in my Own Defense?*, Oct. 4, 2010. Copy supplied.

Letters to the Editor:

*Singhal: Paradise Valley home owners will suffer if Sanctuary SUP is approved*, ParadiseValleyIndependent.org, Mar. 20, 2019. Copy supplied.

*Florida Supreme Court Justice Appointment Process*, Sun-Sentinel, Nov. 29, 2016. Copy supplied.

*Sheriff's Positive Changes Regarding Videotaped Interrogations*, Sun-Sentinel, May 6, 2005. Copy supplied.

*Singhal Speaks for Hicks, 'Our Friend, Not Our Foe,'* The Rice Thresher, Feb. 11, 1983. Copy supplied.

Other published material:

*In Memoriam: Bill Laswell*, Florida Defender, Vol. 26, No. 3, Fall 2014. Copy supplied.

- b. Supply four (4) copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL), Co-Chair, Corrections Committee, *Federal System Should Follow State Example on Imprisonment*, Apr. 2002. Copy supplied.

Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), President, *Letter to Judge Philip J. Padovano, Chair Supreme Court Committee on Standard Jury Instructions in Criminal Cases*, regarding proposed amendments to reasonable

doubt jury instructions, Sept. 1999. Copy supplied.

- c. Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

On November 11, 2018, I wrote a letter regarding jury duty on behalf of a citizen sworn to serve as a juror in a civil trial pending before the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit, in Broward County, Florida. Copy supplied.

On December 30, 2016, I wrote a letter of recommendation to the District of Columbia Committee on Admissions on behalf of Kyle Singhal. Copy supplied.

As a criminal defense attorney, I was hired three times by the Office of the State Attorney, Broward County, Florida, as an expert in Criminal Law. I testified specifically as to the interpretation of *Miranda v. Arizona* and rights waiver forms. My testimony was cited by the Florida Fourth District Court of Appeal in *Anthony v. State*, 980 So. 2d 610 (Fla. 4th DCA 2008). Copy of court opinion and hearing transcript supplied.

Amicus brief in *Martin v. State*, 804 So. 2d 360 (Fla. 4th DCA 2001). This matter related to my position as President of the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and involved the issue of a criminal court judge who announced a policy of sentencing all offenders to a period of probation following prison without regard for the particular facts in each case. The amicus brief is no longer available. Copy of court opinion supplied.

- d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you, including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

August 6, 2019: Faculty, "Risk Protection Orders," Florida Conference of Circuit Judges, Naples, Florida. Presentation supplied.

June 1, 2019: Benediction, Annual Gala, Broward County Hispanic Bar Association (BCHBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Notes supplied.

May 31, 2019: Speaker, "First Party Insurance Claims—Don't Get Blown Away," Advanced Judicial Studies, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

May 30, 2019: Speaker, "Forensic Psychologists in Criminal Court," Advanced Judicial Studies, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

May 23, 2019: Panelist, "Practicing with Civility and Professionalism in the Legal Profession," Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for Broward County Bar Association is 1051 South East Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

May 6, 2019: Speaker, "Domestic Violence Injunction Compliance," Seventeenth Judicial Circuit. Video recording supplied.

May 2, 2019: Speaker, "Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society," Law Day, South Broward Bar Association (SBBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Law Day speech is always about the ABA selected topic and is held in conjunction with the middle school essay contest. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SBBA events is Tropical Acres, 2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312.

April 23, 2019: Moderator, "Felon Voting Rights in Florida: Issues in the Post-Amendment 4 Landscape," The Federalist Society, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Notes supplied.

March 29, 2019: Presenter, "Firearms and Domestic Violence Injunctions in Florida," Domestic Violence Biennial Conference, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

March 18, 2019: Speaker, Nova Law School Student Meeting, The Federalist Society, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The topic was the importance of debate in society. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for Nova Law School is 3301 College Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314.

March 14, 2019: Faculty, "Post-Conviction Proceedings (Rule 3.850)," Florida Judicial College, Phase II, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

March 13, 2019: Faculty, "Sentencing in Florida Downward Departures," Florida Judicial College, Phase II, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

March 12, 2019: Faculty, "Openings & Closings in Criminal Court," Florida Judicial College, Phase II, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

February 19, 2019: Judge, Florida Bar Oath of Admission Ceremony of Jonathan Noah Schwartz, Courtroom WW15-170, Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301. Oath supplied.



February 8, 2019: Speaker, Investiture of Circuit Judge Gina Hawkins, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Video recording supplied.

February 1, 2019: Judge, Florida Bar Oath of Admission ceremony of Brian Saenz, Courtroom WW15-170, Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301. Oath supplied.

January 29, 2019: Panelist, "Writ Large: Writs Practice in Florida," Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward County Bar Association is 1051 South East Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

January 8 – 10, 2019: Faculty, "Search Warrants," Florida Judicial College, Phase I, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

December 1, 2018: Speaker, "Addiction Proof Your Kids," House of Protection. The speakers discussed issues young adults face in today's society, with an emphasis on knowing that people fail but must be persistent. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for House of Protection is 600 South West Third Street, Pompano Beach, Florida 33060.

November 9, 2018: Speaker, Investiture of Circuit Judge N. Hunter Davis, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Video recording supplied.

November 7, 2018: Moderator, "Risk Protection Orders (RPO) Fla. Stat. 790.401—Practical Applications and Constitutional Issues," The Federalist Society, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The panel discussed issues with Florida's new law regarding confiscation of firearms via risk protection orders. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward County Lawyers Chapter is 2850 North Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33311.

October 26, 2018: Panelist, "Diversity and Bias in the Race for Office," South Asian Bar Association (SABA), Leadership Forum Kimpton Epic Hotel, Miami, Florida. Panelist discussion with Kubs Lalchandani and Judge Fred Seraphin to encourage SABA members to seek office. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SABA of South Florida is 4770 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 1000, Miami, Florida 33137.

September 21, 2018: Invocation, Investiture of County Judge Phoebe R. Francois, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Notes supplied.

September 18, 2018: Judge, Florida Bar Oath of Admission Ceremony of Daniel Halperin, Courtroom WW15-170, Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301. Oath supplied.

August 7, 2018: Faculty, "Interrogatory Verdicts: Jury Instructions and Verdict Forms," Florida Conference of Circuit Judges. Presentation supplied.

July 13, 2018: Panelist, "Mediation, Settlements and Proposals for Settlement/Malpractice Pitfalls," Legal Malpractice Summit, Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Panelist discussion with Jose Riguera and Wendy Stein, and moderated by Raymond L. Robin. Notes supplied.

June 22, 2018: Actor (Judge James Alger Fee), "The Trial of Minoru Yasui," Trial Reenactment, Asian Pacific American Bar Association (APABA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Transcript supplied.

May 30, 2018: Faculty, "Conducting Competency Hearings in Criminal Court," Advanced Judicial Studies, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

May 3, 2018: Speaker, "Separation of Powers," Law Day, South Broward Bar Association (SBBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Law Day speech is always about the ABA selected topic and is held in conjunction with the middle school essay contest. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SBBA events is Tropical Acres, 2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312.

April 26, 2018: Speaker, "Injury and Death Investigation Course," Broward County Police Academy, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This course is for homicide investigators and involves a prosecutor, defense attorney, and judge separately speaking to the students over one day to take them through a criminal case from beginning to end. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for Broward Police Academy is Broward College, Building 21, 3501 South West Davie Road, Davie, Florida 33314.

March 22, 2018: Faculty, "Stand Your Ground & Self Defense," Florida Judicial College, Phase II, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

March 21, 2018: Faculty, "Sentencing in Florida," Florida Judicial College, Phase II, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

March 21, 2018: Faculty, "Discovery," Florida Judicial College, Phase II, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

March 3, 2018: Speaker, "The Purpose of the Inns," Inns of Court, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This talk was about the Inns' commitment to the rule of law and civility. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the American Inns of Court is 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 770, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

March 1, 2018: Mentor, "Mentorship at the Movies," Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or

recordings. The address for Broward County Bar Association is 1051 South East Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316. Program supplied.

February 15, 2018: Panelist, "A View from the Bench: Professionalism and the Transition to the Civil Side," Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for Broward County Bar Association is 1051 South East Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

January 18, 2018: Host and Speaker, Joint B'Nai Brith Justice Unit (BBJU) and the South Asian Bar Association (SABA) Dinner at Indian Harbor Restaurant. Judge Lisa Porter and I conduct a yearly joint dinner typically with approximately fifty people and we each give welcome remarks as representatives of these bar groups. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SABA of South Florida is 4770 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 1000, Miami, Florida 33137.

October 4, 2017: Speaker, "The Florida Bar's Civility Oath," Inns of Court, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This talk was about the importance of the new civility paragraph in the oath of admission to the Florida Bar. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the American Inns of Court is 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 770, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

Judge, Florida Bar Oath of Admission Ceremony of Carlos Brandon Arzabe, Courtroom WW15-170, Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301. Oath supplied.

August 26, 2017: Speaker, "*Korematsu v. United States*," Annual Installation Dinner, Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Miami, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Asian Pacific American Bar Association is 200 South Andrews Avenue, #100, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301.

July 14, 2017: Proclamation, Investiture of Circuit Judge Fabienne Fahnestock, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Video recording supplied.

June 16, 2017: Speaker, Investiture of Circuit Judge Yael Gamm, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Video recording supplied.

May 30, 2017: President, "Role of the Florida Solicitor General," Inns of Court, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This introduction originally dealt with an Inns of Court annual lunch with the State Solicitor General as our keynote speaker. I have no notes, transcript or recording. The address for the American Inns of Court is 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 770, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

May 4, 2017: Speaker, "Fourteenth Amendment," Law Day, South Broward Bar Association (SBBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Law Day speech is always about the ABA selected topic and is held in conjunction with the middle school

essay contest. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SBBA events is Tropical Acres, 2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312.

May 3, 2017: Speaker, "Ethics & Entertainment," Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward County Bar Association is 1051 South East Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

April 28, 2017: Moderator, "Lessons Learned from United States v. Davis: Cell Phone Warrants and Arguing before the en banc 11th Circuit Court of Appeals," The Federalist Society, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Notes supplied.

April 11, 2017: Judge, Florida Bar Oath of Admission Ceremony of Tayron Lopez, Courtroom 4810, Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301. Oath supplied.

April 6, 2017: Speaker, "Injury and Death Investigation Course," Broward County Police Academy, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This course is for homicide investigators and involves a prosecutor, defense attorney and judge separately speaking to the students over one day to take them through a criminal case from beginning to end. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Police Academy is Broward College, Building 21, 3501 South West Davie Road, Davie, Florida 33314.

March 31, 2017: Speaker, Career Day, North Broward Preparatory School. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the North Broward Preparatory School is 7600 Lyons Road, Coconut Creek, Florida 33073.

March 23, 2017: President, "A Tribute to Fifty Year Lawyers," Inns of Court, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This introduction related to a panel I put together of three lawyers who were Inns members and had each been Florida Bar members for more than fifty years. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the American Inns of Court is 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 770, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

March 16, 2017: Faculty, "Williams Rule Evidence," Florida Judicial College, Phase II, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

January 26, 2017: Speaker, "Injury and Death Investigation Course," Broward County Police Academy, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This course is for homicide investigators and involves a prosecutor, defense attorney and judge separately speaking to the students over one day to take them through a criminal case from beginning to end. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Police Academy is Broward College, Building 21, 3501 South West Davie Road, Davie, Florida 33314.

January 25, 2017: President, “Civility and Professionalism in Practice,” Inns of Court, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Presentation supplied.

January 19, 2017: Speaker, Investiture of Circuit Judge Jennifer Hilal, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Video recording supplied.

November 29, 2016: Judge, Florida Bar Oath of Admission Ceremony of Carissa Johnson, Courtroom 4810, Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301. Oath supplied.

October 26, 2016: President, “Portrayal of Lawyer and Judges in the Media.” This talk was about the Inns commitment to the rule of law and civility. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the American Inns of Court is 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 770, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

September 23, 2016: Judge, Florida Bar Oath of Admission Ceremony of Daniel Crispino, Courtroom 4810, Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301. Oath supplied.

September 22, 2016: Speaker, “Drafting Effective 3.850 Orders,” Florida Trial Court Staff Attorneys Association. Presentation supplied.

September 1, 2016: Host and Speaker, Joint B’Nai Brith Justice Unit (BBJU) and South Asian Bar Association (SABA) event. Judge Lisa Porter and I conduct a yearly joint dinner typically with approximately fifty people and we each give welcome remarks as representatives of these bar groups. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SABA of South Florida is 4770 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 1000, Miami, Florida 33137.

August 18, 2016: Panelist, Broward County Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section. A panel of judges discussed how new attorneys should conduct themselves both in and out of the courtroom to become pillars of professionalism and civility. Program supplied.

May 25 – 26, 2016: Faculty, “Survivor: Judge vs. Jury, Jury Issues Once Closing Arguments are Over,” Advanced Judicial Studies, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied (repeated course from 2015).

May 24, 2016: Faculty, “Make My Day: Dealing With Difficult Defendants,” Advanced Judicial Studies, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

May 5, 2016: Speaker, “*Miranda v. Arizona*,” Law Day, South Broward Bar Association (SBBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Law Day speech is always about the ABA selected topic and is held in conjunction with the middle school essay contest. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SBBA events is Tropical Acres, 2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312.

April 28, 2016: Judge, Florida Bar Oath of Admission Ceremony of Nahid S. Noori, Courtroom 4810, Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301. Oath supplied.

March 9, 2016: Faculty, "Speedy Trials," Florida Judicial College, Phase II, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

October 30, 2015: Keynote Speaker, South Asian Bar Association (SABA) Florida First Annual Banquet, Bombay Darbar Restaurant. I spoke about the importance of community involvement for young Asian-American lawyers to build a practice and strong reputation. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SABA of South Florida is 4770 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 1000, Miami, Florida 33137.

August 18, 2015: Panelist, "Courtroom Decorum Panel," Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward County Bar Association is 1051 South East Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

August 3, 2015: Faculty: "What Florida Judges Need to Know About Sex Crimes and Human Trafficking"; "Florida Internet Sex Crimes Sentencing Framework"; "Florida Internet Sex Crimes, Human Trafficking Evidentiary Issues," Florida Conference of Circuit Judges. Presentation supplied.

June 8 – 9, 2015: Faculty, "Survivor: Judge vs. Jury, Jury Issues Once Closing Arguments are Over," Advanced Judicial Studies, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

May 28, 2015: Speaker, "Pathways to the Bench," South Asian Bar Association (SABA), Plantation, Florida. Dinner meeting regarding Asian-Americans in the judiciary. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SABA of South Florida is 4770 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 1000, Miami, Florida 33137.

April 24, 2015: Panelist, Diversity Leadership Summit, Wilkie D. Ferguson Jr. Bar Association, Miami, Florida. Co-sponsored by the Florida Bar, General issues in promoting diversity in the legal profession. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for Wilkie D. Ferguson, Jr. Bar Association is 400 North Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33128.

March, 2015: Swearing in of Board of Directors, Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL) Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers is P.O. Box 30386, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301.

March 3, 2015: Panelist, "A Perspective from the Bench," Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for Broward County Bar Association is 1051 South East Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

February 18, 2015: Speaker, "Ethics in Lawyer Advertising in Florida." This talk was about the Inns commitment to the rule of law and civility. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the American Inns of Court is 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 770, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

November 15, 2014: Keynote Speaker, "Pathways to the Judiciary," Ten-year anniversary gala and dinner, Asian Pacific American Bar Association (APABA), Miami, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association is 200 South Andrews Avenue, #100, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301.

October 17, 2014: Speaker, "Ethics & Professionalism in Criminal Cases," Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for BCBA is 1051 Southeast Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

July 25, 2014: Panelist, "Professionalism in Criminal Court," Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), Fort Lauderdale, Florida (Courthouse law library). Presented with Judge Lisa Porter to Assistant State Attorneys and Assistant Public Defenders. Notes supplied.

July 24, 2014: Host and Speaker, Joint B'Nai Brith Justice Unit (BBJU) and South Asian Bar Association (SABA) event. Judge Lisa Porter and I conduct a yearly joint dinner typically with approximately fifty people and we each give welcome remarks as representatives of these bar groups. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SABA of South Florida is 4770 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 1000, Miami, Florida 33137.

June 24, 2014: Speaker, "Impact of Criminal Convictions on Immigration Status," Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Plantation, Florida. Notes supplied.

June 8, 2014: Speaker, "Daubert Error Rates," Advanced Judicial Studies, Orlando, Florida. Presentation supplied.

May 7, 2014: Panelist, "Pathways to the Bench with Governor's General Counsel Peter Antonacci," Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward County Bar Association is 1051 South East Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

April 17, 2014: Speaker, "Professionalism," Take Your Children to Work Day, Broward County Bar Association (BCBA). I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward County Bar Association is 1051 South East Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

March 13, 2014: Panelist, "Immigration Consequences in Criminal Court," Continuing Legal Education, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Notes supplied

November 8, 2013: Panelist, Leadership Forum, South Asian Bar Association (SABA), FIU Law School, Miami, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address of FIU Law School is Rafael Diaz Balart Hall, 11200 South West Eighth Street, Miami, Florida 33199.

July 13, 2013: Host and Speaker, Joint B'Nai Brith and South Asian Bar Association (SABA) event at Udipi Café. Judge Lisa Porter and I conduct a yearly joint dinner typically with approximately fifty people and we each give welcome remarks as representatives of these bar groups. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SABA of South Florida is 4770 Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 1000, Miami, Florida 33137.

May 2, 2013: Speaker, "*Gideon v. Wainwright*," Law Day, South Broward Bar Association (SBBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Law Day speech is always about the ABA selected topic and is held in conjunction with the middle school essay contest. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for SBBA events is Tropical Acres, 2500 Griffin Road, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33312.

April 25, 2013: Speaker, "Injury and Death Investigation Course," Broward County Police Academy, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This course is for homicide investigators and involves a prosecutor, defense attorney and judge separately speaking to the students over one day to take them through a criminal case from beginning to end. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Police Academy is Broward College, Building 21, 3501 South West Davie Road, Davie, Florida 33314.

January 31, 2013: Speaker, "Injury and Death Investigation Course," Broward County Police Academy, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This course is for homicide investigators and involves a prosecutor, defense attorney and judge separately speaking to the students over one day to take them through a criminal case from beginning to end. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Police Academy is Broward College, Building 21, 3501 South West Davie Road, Davie, Florida 33314.

November 9, 2012: Panelist, Diversity Leadership Forum, South Asian Bar Association (SABA), University of Miami Law School, Coral Gables, Florida. Notes supplied.



February, 2012: Presentation of Harry Gulkin Award (Bo Hitchcock), Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers is P.O. Box 30386, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301.

January 20, 2012: Speaker, Investiture of Circuit Judge Raag Singhal, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Video recording supplied.

November 11, 2011: Panelist, The 2011 Diversity Leadership Forum, South Asian Bar Association (SABA), University of Miami Law School, Coral Gables, Florida. Notes supplied.

October 28, 2011: Guest of Honor, The India-US-Chamber of Commerce, Inc., South Florida's Annual Gala. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the India-US-Chamber of Commerce, Inc., South Florida is 3801 NE 207th Street #1102, Miami, Florida 33180. Program supplied.

2010: Speaker, "Ineffective Assistance of Counsel Motions in Florida," Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers is P.O. Box 30386, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301.

January 26, 2007: Speaker, Circuit Judge Charles Kaplan, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for Broward County Courthouse is 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301.

2007 – 2008: Speaker, "Opening Arguments in Capital Cases," Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers is P.O. Box 30386, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

2002: Speaker, "Admissibility of DNA Evidence under the Frye Test," Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers is P.O. Box 30386, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

February 21, 2002: Presenter, Annual Harry Gulkin Award Dinner, Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers is P.O. Box 30386, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

October 14, 2001: Panelist, Bench Bar Conference Criminal Law Panel, Broward County Bar Association (BCBA), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for Broward County Bar Association is 1051 South East Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316.

2001: Speaker, "Analysis of Fingerprint Evidence," Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), Fort Lauderdale, Florida. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers is P.O. Box 30386, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

1994 – 1997: Speaker, "Courtroom Demeanor and Testimony," Palm Beach County Police Academy, Lake Worth, Florida. This course is for police recruits and exposes them to the types of interaction they will have with lawyers and judges in the criminal justice system. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Palm Beach Police Academy is Palm Beach State College, 4200 Congress Avenue, Lake Worth, Florida 33461.

1990 – 1992: Speaker, DUI Prosecutor Training Sessions, Broward County Office of the State Attorney. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Office of the State Attorney is Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301.

September, 1990: DUI Police Procedure, Pompano Beach Police Department, Broward County Office of the State Attorney. I have no notes, transcripts, or recordings. The address for the Office of the State Attorney is Broward County Courthouse, 201 South East Sixth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301.

- e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

As a judge, I do not give interviews relating to cases, any matters of legal interpretation, or issues likely to come before the court. As a lawyer, particularly because of community involvement and the types of cases I handled, I was often interviewed. What follows is a list, to the best of my recollection and with the assistance of internet searches, of each interview. Many interviews did not result in a quotation of my words.

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Rafael Olmeda, *Judge Accused of Hate Speech Duffy Consequently Asked to Drop Case*, Sun-Sentinel, Feb. 5, 2017. Copy supplied.

Carlos Harrison, *Judicial Profile: Singhal Went Against Grain and Never Stopped Trying*, Daily Business Review, Feb. 11, 2013. Copy supplied.

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Sunita Sohrabji, *Defense Attorney Appointed to Circuit Court in Florida*, IndiaWest, Jan. 24, 2012. Copy supplied.

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Kevin Davis, *Slain Trooper Fought DUI Police*, Sun-Sentinel, July 18, 1992. Copy supplied.

Larry Keller, *Woman Not Guilty of Hate Crime, "White Cracker" Remark is Ruled Free Speech*, Sun-Sentinel, Mar. 13, 1992. Copy supplied.

Barbara Walsh, *Willetses Acquitted of Battery*, Sun-Sentinel, Oct. 29, 1991. Copy supplied.

Barbara Walsh, *Judge Will Not Delay Willetses' Battery Case Trial*, Sun-Sentinel, Oct. 22, 1991. Copy supplied.

Paul Gallotta, *Unlicensed Driver With 25 Citations Given 6 Months Under House Arrest*, Miami Herald, Mar. 27, 1991. Copy supplied.

Steve Rothaus, *Choice for Driver: Use Radio Bracelet or Do Time in Jail*, Miami Herald, Mar. 21, 1991. Copy supplied.

Steve Rothaus, *Prosecutors Employ Rare Tactic to Jail Driver*, Miami Herald, Jan. 4, 1991. Copy supplied.

13. **Judicial Office:** State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

On August 31, 2011, I was appointed by then-Governor Rick Scott to the position of Circuit Court Judge. On May 2, 2014, I was retained through the elections process, unopposed, to a six-year term ending January 3, 2021.

My court handles felony-level criminal cases, civil lawsuits with amounts in controversy over \$15,000, and certain appeals from the County Court. It also has jurisdiction over dependency, family, juvenile, and probate cases. My division assignments have dictated the kinds of cases that I have handled. Thus far, I have been assigned to the Criminal and Civil divisions, and I have also presided over the felony mental health division. In 2013, I presided over the Broward County Grand Jury for the Spring term. In October 2018, I was assigned to handle all Broward County Risk Protection Order (RPO) matters.

In addition to my trial court duties, I was assigned to the initial Criminal Appellate Division in 2015 and the Civil Appellate Division in 2017 and 2019. These divisions hear all direct appeals from the County Court, all administrative appeals, and extraordinary writs with original jurisdiction in the Circuit Court. The appellate panels consist of three circuit judges who, in addition to their trial division work, hear appeals on a six-month rotation.

In 2013, 2014, 2017, and 2019, I served by invitation as an Associate Judge on the Florida Fourth District Court of Appeal. This court consists of twelve appointed judges who hear appeals from the Circuit Court in three-judge panels. On occasion, trial judges are invited to sit and fill in for appellate judges upon approval by the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court.

- a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment?

I have presided over more than 450 cases resolved via trial, or final evidentiary hearing, to verdict or judgment. Additionally, as a criminal judge I presided over



approximately 8,625 cases resolved via plea bargain or open plea.

i. Of these, approximately what percent were:

jury trials:	40%
bench trials:	60% [total 100%]
civil proceedings:	25%
criminal proceedings:	75% [total 100%]

b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.

*State of Florida v. Bradshaw*, 19 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 441a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2012).

*Hinke v. State of Florida*, 19 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 621a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2012).

*Schmitt v. State of Florida*, 19 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 616c (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2012).

*Thier v. State of Florida*, 19 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 697a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2012).

*State of Florida v. Martinez*, 19 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 1062a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2012).

*Louis vs. State of Florida*, 20 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 258a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2012).

*Jackson v. State of Florida*, 120 So. 3d 147 (Fla. 4th DCA 2013).

*S2 Glob., Inc. v. Tactical Operational Support Servs.*, 119 So. 3d 1280 (Fla. 4th DCA 2013).

*Nationwide Mut. Fire Ins. Co. v. Advanced Cooling & Heating, Inc.*, 126 So. 3d 385 (Fla. 4th DCA 2013).

*Trompeta v. State of Florida*, 22 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 1012a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2014).

*Mais v. State of Florida*, 22 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 1129b (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2014).

*State of Florida v. Rago*, 21 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 1014b (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2014).

*Voelker v. State of Florida*, 21 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 1003a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2014).

*State of Florida v. Phillips*, 22 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 193b (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2014).

*Israni v. Broward Sheriff's Office*, 22 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 431a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2014).

*Senior v. State of Florida*, 22 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 200a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2014).

*State of Florida v. Paba-Ardila*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 408a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2014).

*Owen v. State of Florida*, 22 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 798a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2014).

*Garcia v. State of Florida*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 96b (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2015).

*Shaygannick v. State of Florida*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 100b (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2015).

*State of Florida v. Montes*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 100a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2015).

*Keefe v. State of Florida*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 404a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2015).

*State of Florida v. Whidden*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 405a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2015).

*Ecchio v. State of Florida*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 700b (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2015).

*State of Florida v. Silva*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 700c (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2015).

*State of Florida v. Williams*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 698a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2015).

*State of Florida v. Victor*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 697a (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2015).

*State of Florida v. Moonilal*, 23 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 694b (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2015).

*State of Florida v. Grace*, 20 Fla. L. Weekly Supp. 262d (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. 2012).

*Laster v. State of Florida*, 212 So. 3d 392 (Fla. 4th DCA 2017).

Published Trial Court Orders:

*Scordamaglia v. Neptune Mgmt., Corp.*, 2018 WL 4698656 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. Sept. 11, 2018).

*Brutus v. Ft. Lauderdale Police & Fire Ret. Sys. Bd. of Trs.*, 2018 WL 4775961 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. July 19, 2018).

*Canova v. Snipes*, 2018 WL 3659485 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. May 17, 2018).

*Recreational Design & Const., Inc. v. Posson*, 2018 WL 2456047 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. Apr. 16, 2018).

*Sacchetti v. Benihana Nat. of Fla. Corp.*, 2018 WL 2230433 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. Mar. 27, 2018).

*1492 E. Broward Blvd, LLC v. A LA MANO, LLC*, 2018 WL 2230428 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. Mar. 27, 2018).

*Castro v. City of Ft. Lauderdale*, 2018 WL 898053 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. Jan. 19, 2018).

*Nationwide Lab. Servs., Inc. v. PNC Bank*, 2016 WL 10950069 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. June 14, 2016).

*Highlands Inv. Grp., LLC v. Lawrence*, 2016 WL 10981481 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. Apr. 20, 2016).

*State v. Perez*, 2012 WL 12094053 (Fla. 17th Cir. Ct. Apr. 5, 2012).

- c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature of the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (3) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

(1) *Zingaro v. Philip Morris USA, Inc. & R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.*

Plaintiff brought an *Engle* progeny tobacco case arguing that she developed lung cancer and COPD from the use of and addiction to defendants' products. After a four-week trial, the jury returned a verdict of approximately \$1.7 million against Philip Morris and zero as to RJR, but assessed plaintiff 84% comparative negligence.

Counsel for Plaintiff:  
Todd Falzone and Eric Rosen  
Kelley Uustal  
500 North Federal Highway, Suite 200  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301-1103  
(954) 522-6601

Counsel for Defendants:  
For R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company:  
Jason Keehfus  
King & Spalding, LLP  
1180 Peachtree Street, North East  
Atlanta, Georgia 30309  
(404) 572-4600

For Philip Morris USA, Inc.:  
Kenneth J. Reilly  
Shook, Hardy & Bacon, LLP  
201 South Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 3200  
Miami, Florida 33131  
(305) 358-5171

Robert C.L. Vaughan  
Kim Vaughan Lerner, LLP  
1 Financial Plaza  
100 Southeast Third Avenue, Suite 2001  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33394  
(954) 527-1115

There is neither a citation nor a reported opinion for this case. There were numerous motions and rulings, each of which will be reflected in the court file. The Circuit Civil case number for this matter is CACE07-036438.

(2) *Swaters v. Occupational Health Care of Florida, P.A.*

Plaintiff was a captain for Spirit Airlines and brought suit, arguing defendant's failure to properly conduct a mandatory urine test resulted in his termination from employment and his inability to maintain his livelihood as a commercial pilot. After a two week trial, the jury found in favor of the plaintiff and awarded him a total of \$5,500,000.

Counsel for Plaintiff:  
Michael J. Ferrin  
315 East Linton Boulevard, Suite 2010  
Delray Beach, Florida 33483  
(561) 683-4000

Alan M. Burger  
McDonald Hopkins LLC  
505 S Flagler Drive, Suite 300  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401-5942  
(561) 472-2121

Counsel for Defendant:  
Matthew L. Jones  
Jones & Adams, P.A.  
999 Ponce De Leon Boulevard  
Coral Gables, Florida 33134-3000  
(305) 270-8858

Jodi G. Barrett  
Hall Booth Smith, PC  
4360 Northlake Boulevard, Suite 109  
North Palm Beach, Florida 33410-6265  
(561) 472-1020

There is neither a citation nor a reported opinion for this case. There were numerous motions and rulings, each of which will be reflected in the court file. The Circuit Civil case number for this matter is CACE10-013086.

(3) *State v. Jacobi*

The co-defendants in this case were both police officers. They were charged with Official Misconduct, Grand Theft, Criminal Mischief and Trespass. The officers went to the home of a suspected marijuana dealer and, without a warrant, entered the home, confiscated twelve plants, and placed them in evidence. Defendant Conger's involvement, based on the trial evidence, was that she was there and participated by omission. A jury found Mr. Jacobi guilty of Official Misconduct and Criminal Mischief. I granted a directed verdict of acquittal as to Officer Conger.

Attorney for the State of Florida:  
David Schulson  
Broward County State Attorney's Office  
201 South East Sixth Street, Suite 670  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301-3303  
(954) 831-8056

Attorney for the Defendant:  
Alberto Milian  
Miami-Dade Courthouse  
Office Room 7-11  
1351 North West 12th Street  
Miami, Florida 33125-1644  
(305) 548-5403

Per curiam affirmance in *State v. Jacobi*, 117 So. 3d 1104 (Fla. 4th DCA 2013). The Circuit Criminal case number for Defendant Conger is 11-002904CF10A.

(4) *State v. Maffei*

Defendant was a military veteran accused of shooting his ex-wife and her father. Both survived. The defense was based on post-traumatic stress disorder and involuntary intoxication. He was convicted of the charges and I sentenced him to sixty years of incarceration in Florida State Prison with two consecutive twenty-five year minimum mandatories.

Attorneys for the State of Florida:  
Molly McGuire and Whitney MacKay  
Broward County State Attorney's Office  
201 South East Sixth Street, Suite 670  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301-3303  
(954) 831-6955

Attorney for the Defendant:  
Fred Haddad  
Fred Haddad, P.A.  
315 South East Seventh Street, Suite 301  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301-3158  
(954) 467-6767

Per curiam affirmance in *State v. Maffei*, 246 So. 3d 360 (Fla. 4th DCA 2018).  
The Circuit Criminal case number for this matter is 12-016199CF10A.

(5) *State v. Cimera*

Unusually, this was a non-jury First Degree Murder trial held over a three-week period in January 2016. I found the defendant guilty of manslaughter with a weapon and sentenced him to seventeen years in prison followed by three years of probation.

Attorney for the State of Florida:  
The Honorable Alberto Ribas, Jr.  
Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida  
201 South East Sixth Street, Room 9129  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 831-6907

Attorney for the Defendant:  
David Frankel  
4601 Sheridan Street, Suite 213  
Hollywood, Florida 33021-3432  
(954) 683-0300

Per curiam affirmance in *State v. Cimera*, 227 So. 3d 590 (Fla. 4th DCA 2017).  
The Circuit Criminal case number for this matter is 11-016833CF10A.

(6) *State v. Putnam*

This relatively simple charge involving two older men fighting in a trailer park turned into an internationally publicized case because the fight was over a family of ducks. The case included “stand your ground” hearings. Defendant was convicted of the charge, but sentenced to supervision with numerous special conditions.

Attorney for the State of Florida:  
Ori Silver  
Broward County State Attorney’s Office  
201 South East Sixth Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 831-6955

Attorney for the Defendant:  
Alexia Hudson  
Landau & Associates, P.A.  
1619 North West 136th Avenue, Suite 2C  
Sunrise, Florida 33323-2856  
(954) 744-8383

Per curiam affirmance in *State v. Putnam*, 232 So. 3d 373 (Fla. 4th DCA 2017).  
The Circuit Criminal case number for this matter is 14-006560CF10A.

(7) *State v. Henry*:

Highly publicized case of a seventeen-year old defendant stabbing an acquaintance to death (with one stab wound) over a drug issue. The defense was “stand your ground.” Defendant was convicted of manslaughter with a weapon and sentenced to sixteen years in prison followed by four years of probation.

Attorney for the State of Florida:  
Ksenia Saavedra  
Vernis & Bowling of Broward  
5821 Hollywood Blvd.  
Hollywood, Florida 33021  
(954) 927-9015

Attorney for the Defendant:  
Debra Steinsaltz Reidy  
Guardian ad Litem Office  
612 South Andrews Avenue, Suite 1000

Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 831-6220

Per curiam affirmance in *Henry v. State*, 229 So. 3d 1242 (Fla. 4th DCA 2017).  
The Circuit Criminal case number for this matter is 12-006894CF10A.

(8) *State v. Ramirez*

This case involved an extremely difficult defendant who went through three judges and possibly eight defense attorneys. This particular matter involved charges of kidnapping and violation of probation. On the probation matter, defendant had a full hearing and was sentenced to twenty-five years in prison. This defendant had a series of crimes against women.

Attorney for the State of Florida:  
Ksenia Saavedra  
Vernis & Bowling of Broward  
5821 Hollywood Blvd.  
Hollywood, Florida 33021  
(954) 927-9015

Attorney for the Defendant:  
Sim Gershon (deceased)

Per curiam affirmance in *Ramirez v. State*, No. 4D18-2823, 2019 WL 410925 (4th DCA Jan. 31, 2019). The Circuit Criminal case number for this matter is 12-009673CF10A.

(9) *State v. Troutman*:

This sad murder case involved a man stabbing his thirty-seven-year-old son to death. In the late 1980s, this same defendant had stabbed his then-wife, who survived, in front of the same son. The defense was a combination of “stand your ground” and traditional self-defense. This defendant was sentenced to life in prison.

Attorney for the State of Florida:  
The Honorable Gina Hawkins  
Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida  
201 South East Sixth Street, Suite 11138  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 831-6574

Attorney for the Defendant:  
Jose Reyes  
1900 North East 41st Street



Oakland Park, Florida 33308  
(954) 554-5992

Per curiam affirmance in *Troutman v. State*, 226 So. 3d 846 (Fla. 4th DCA 2017).  
The Circuit Criminal case number for this matter is 14-005448CF10A.

(10) *State v. Dixon*

This case was tried twice because of a mistrial during the state's case. The case involved hearings relating to the admissibility of expert testimony under both the *Frye* and *Daubert* standards regarding police interrogation techniques. This defendant was convicted at trial of sex offenses against his step-daughter and sentenced to sixty years in prison.

Attorney for the State of Florida:  
Katya Pisman Palmiotto  
Broward County State Attorney's Office  
201 South East Sixth Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 831-6955

Attorney for the Defendant:  
Ramona Tolley  
517 South West 1st Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 616-5047

Per curiam affirmance in *Dixon v. State*, No. 4D18-3457, 2019 WL 479089 (4th DCA Feb. 7, 2019). The Circuit Criminal case number for this matter is 12-003513CF10A.

- d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.

(1) *FXE Futbol, LLC v. City of Fort Lauderdale*, Circuit Civil case number CACE19-008041. Copy supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:  
David J. Winker  
2222 South West 17th Street  
Miami, Florida 33145  
(305) 801-8700

Counsel for Defendants:

For City of Fort Lauderdale:  
Alain E. Boileau  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 828-5940

For Miami Beckham United, LLC:  
Shubin & Bass, P.A.  
John K. Shubin  
46 South West First Street  
Third Floor  
Miami, Florida 33130  
(305) 381-6060

(2) *Terwilliger v. City of Pompano Beach*, Circuit Civil case number CACE18-023333. Copy supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:  
Kevin P. Tynan  
Richardson & Tynan, PLC  
8142 North University Drive  
Tamarac, Florida 33321-1708  
(954) 721-7300

Counsel for Defendant:  
Joseph Geller  
Greenspoon Marder, LLP  
200 East Broward, Suite 1800  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 491-1120

For City of Pompano Beach  
Mark E. Berman  
100 West Atlantic Boulevard, Suite 467  
Pompano Beach, Florida 33061  
(954) 786-4614

(3) *Canova v. Snipes*, Circuit Civil case number CACE17-010904. Copy supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:  
Leonard M. Collins  
215 South Monroe Street, Suite 400  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
(850) 681-6810

Counsel for Defendant:  
Andrew J. Meyers  
Broward County Attorney's Office  
Governmental Center  
115 South Andrews Avenue, Suite 423  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 357-7600

(4) *Brutus v. Fort Lauderdale Police and Fire Ret. Sys. Bd. of Trs.*, Circuit Civil case number CACE17-002456. Copy supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:  
Richard A. Sicking  
2030 South Douglas Road  
Coral Gables, Florida 33134  
(305) 442-2318

Counsel for Defendant:  
Robert D. Klausner  
7080 North West Fourth Street  
Plantation, Florida 33317  
(954) 916-1202

(5) *Republican Party of Florida v. Snipes*, Circuit Civil case number CACE17-001159. Copy supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:  
Benjamin J. Gibson  
Shutts & Bowen, LLP  
215 South Monroe Street  
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(850) 241-1720

Co-Counsel for Plaintiff:  
Michael A. Sasso  
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Counsel for Defendant:  
Andrew J. Meyers  
Broward County Attorney's Office  
Governmental Center  
115 South Andrews Avenue, Suite 423  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

(954) 357-7600

(6) *Laster v. State of Florida*, 212 So. 3d 392 (Fla. 4th DCA 2017). Copy supplied.

Counsel for Appellant:  
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Criminal Conflict & Civil Regional Counsel  
Regional Counsel, 4th DCA Region  
401 South Dixie Highway, Suite 200  
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Counsel for Appellee:  
Mitchell A. Egber  
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Office of the Attorney General  
1515 North Flagler Drive  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401-3428  
(561) 837-5025

(7) *Segall Gordich, P.A. v. Conrad & Scherer, LLP*, Circuit Civil case number CACE16-005717. Copy supplied.

Counsel for Plaintiff:  
Andrew S. Berman  
Young, Berman, Karpf & Gonzales, P.A.  
1001 Brickell Bay Drive, Suite 1704  
Miami, Florida 33131  
(305) 377-2291

Counsel for Defendant:  
William R. Scherer  
Conrad & Scherer, LLP  
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(954) 462-5500

Co-Counsel for Defendant:  
Harley Tropin  
Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton  
2525 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, 9th Floor  
Coral Gables, Florida 33134  
(305) 372-1800

(8) *S2 Glob., Inc. v. Tactical Operational Support Servs.*, 119 So. 3d 1280 (Fla.

4th DCA 2013). Copy supplied.

Counsel for Appellant:  
John R. Hamilton (deceased)  
Foley & Lardner, LLP  
111 North Orange Avenue  
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Orlando, Florida 32801  
(407) 423-7656

Counsel for Appellee:  
Jeffrey Harrington  
Harrington Law Associates, PLLC  
100 South Olive Avenue  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401  
(561) 253-6690

(9) *Nationwide Mut. Fire Ins. Co. v. Advanced Cooling & Heating, Inc.*, 126 So. 3d 385 (Fla. 4th DCA 2013). Copy supplied.

Counsel for Appellant:  
Diane H. Tutt  
Conroy, Simberg, Ganon, Krevans, Abel, Lurvey, Morrow, & Schefer, P.A.  
3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Second Floor  
Hollywood, Florida 33021  
(954) 961-1400

Counsel for Appellee:  
Gerald R. Pumphrey  
Gerald R. Pumphrey, P.A.  
P.O. Box 2467  
Jupiter, Florida 33468-2467  
(561) 622-5446

(10) *Jackson v. State of Florida*, 120 So. 3d 147 (Fla. 4th DCA 2013). Copy supplied.

Counsel for Appellant:  
Ira D. Karmelin  
3897 North Haverhill Road, Suite 127  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33417-8337  
(561) 683-6141

Counsel for Appellee:  
Melanie Dale Surber  
Assistant Attorney General

Office of the Attorney General  
1515 North Flagler Drive  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401-3428  
(561) 837-5000

- e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.

None.

- f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

*Stickney v. State*, 263 So. 3d 67 (Fla. 4th DCA 2019). This case was remanded for imposition of written orders indicating why probation was violated.

*Howard v. Gualt*, 259 So. 3d 119 (Fla. 4th DCA 2018). Default judgment set aside because service by publication under the facts in this case was insufficient to properly notice defendant.

*Branch-McKenzie v. Broward Cty. Sch. Bd.*, 254 So. 3d 1007 (Fla. 4th DCA 2018). Evidence was sufficient to establish a genuine issue of material fact as to one of five counts dismissed at summary judgment. The matter was reversed to proceed on the one count.

*Scotsman v. State*, 238 So. 3d 300 (Fla. 4th DCA 2018). Defendant confessed to several counts of armed robbery after initially invoking *Miranda*. Appellate court found that despite defendant's later decision to talk to law enforcement, defendant's actions were inconsistent with voluntariness.

*Williams v. State*, 229 So. 3d 848 (Fla. 4th DCA 2017). Reversed because plea colloquy reflected side bar but no actual acknowledgement by defendant that he understood there were no guarantees his prison sentence would be served in state rather than federal prison.

*State v. Telucien*, 225 So. 3d 385 (Fla. 4th DCA 2017). I dismissed this case for a violation of the speedy trial rule. The appellate court affirmed my decision in March 2017. In May 2017, the court ruled differently on another case. In August, the court granted the State's motion for reconsideration and reversed. The issue was whether felony charges could lawfully be filed outside the speedy trial time period where the defendant had been granted a timely continuance on the original misdemeanor charge.

*Davis v. State*, 198 So. 3d 995 (Fla. 4th DCA 2016). Occasionally inmates will abuse process by filing successive, frivolous pleadings once their direct appeals have been exhausted. In certain situations, a sanction is to require that future pleadings be signed by a licensed Florida Bar member. This case was reversed to allow this defendant to file further pleadings.

*Atwell v. State*, 197 So. 3d 1040 (Fla. 2016). In August 1990, sixteen-year-old Angelo Atwell committed an Armed Robbery and First Degree Murder. Atwell was convicted of the charges and sentenced, in accordance with the then-existing statute to life in prison *with* the possibility of parole after twenty-five years. In 2012, the United States Supreme Court decided *Miller v. Alabama* and held that juvenile offenders could not be sentenced to life *without* parole, unless there was a meaningful future review of their sentence. Accordingly, based upon the plain meaning of the sentencing statute and my conclusion that *Miller* did not apply, I denied Atwell relief. The Fourth District Court of Appeal affirmed my decision. The Florida Supreme Court, in a 5-2 opinion, then reversed the Fourth District Court of Appeal's decision and found that, due to the Florida Parole Commission's procedures, "with parole" was analogous to "without parole," and *Miller* applied. Later, finding its decision unworkable and contrary to newer decisions from the United States Supreme Court, this decision was essentially abrogated in *Michel v. State*. See *Franklin v. State*, 258 So. 3d 1239, 1241 (Fla. 2018) (recognizing abrogation).

*Walker v. State*, 180 So. 3d 1154 (Fla. 4th DCA 2015). Defendant was stopped by the police, and he asked the officer why he was being detained. The officer told him they needed to discuss an armed robbery. Although no question had been asked, the defendant stated, "I've snatched chains before but I don't own a gun." The police officer had not yet told the defendant that the case involved a gun and a snatched chain. I allowed the statement into evidence. The appellate court reversed, finding the statement more prejudicial than probative.

*O'Connor v. State*, 133 So. 3d 1065 (Fla. 4th DCA 2014). Remanded for disposition to reflect whether defendant was sentenced as a youthful offender.

*Robinson v. State*, 117 So. 3d 843 (Fla. 4th DCA 2013). This case bears my name as judge because of a scrivener's error, but it was not my case. For double jeopardy reasons, the misdemeanor conviction and sentence were reversed while the felony conviction and sentence were affirmed.

- g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.

Many cases are resolved through motion practice, resulting in unpublished orders. In cases in which a motion for summary judgment is heard, for example, I write an opinion setting forth my analysis and reasoning. Those opinions are

electronically stored in the court file of each particular case. In criminal court, motions to suppress evidence are handled in the same manner. Such substantive evidentiary motions are normal in approximately fifty percent of all cases.

- h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

*Puppy Collection, Inc. v. City of Oakland Park*, Circuit Civil case number CACE18-002665. Copy supplied.

- i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority, dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.

I have never sat by designation on a federal court of appeals.

14. **Recusal:** If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an “automatic” recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information:

- a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;
- b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;
- c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;
- d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself, including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

Although recusal motions have become much more common in modern state court practice, I have rarely been asked to recuse myself. I have offered to recuse myself on any cases, as they come before me, where I had represented a criminal defendant as a lawyer. This has happened approximately ten times. Upon disclosing the issue to counsel, on the record, the litigants discussed the issue and I was always asked to stay on the case.

In civil court, I have been asked to recuse myself on four occasions:



(1) *Brizuela v. Zuni Transp.*, Circuit Civil case number CACE16-016292.

I granted the plaintiff's request because the defense lawyer had handled personal issues for me, specifically, drafting my will and handling a closing.

(2) *Jallali v. Gaisi*, Circuit Civil case number CACE16-009358.

Here, the plaintiff's counsel moved to disqualify me after an adverse ruling. Before I could rule on the Motion, the Chief Judge for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit took this case as this plaintiff had previously successfully recused Circuit Judges Stone, Gates, and Levenson.

(3) *Canova v. Snipes*, Circuit Civil case number CACE17-010904.

Following an adverse ruling, defendant filed a legally insufficient recusal motion. In civil cases, unlike criminal, opposing counsel files a response to the motion. I denied the motion. This case was appealed and the appeal was later dismissed.

(4) *Republican Party of Florida v. Snipes*, Circuit Civil case number CACE17-001159.

Following an adverse ruling in the *Canova* case, defendant filed a legally insufficient recusal motion. In civil cases, unlike criminal, opposing counsel files a response to the motion. I denied the motion. This case, like the *Canova* case, was appealed and the appeal was later dismissed.

In civil court, I have entered *sua sponte* orders of recusal in two cases. In each case, the level of professionalism and civility displayed by a lawyer was so low, that I believed any adverse decisions I made could be perceived as biased since I was reporting these lawyers to the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit Professionalism Panel. These cases are as follows:

(1) *Romanow v. Maestres*, Circuit Civil case number CACE16-020968.

Following denial of a defense motion, plaintiff's counsel made a remark to defense counsel. Defense counsel then began to take his jacket off and said he "was ready to throw down" and challenged opposing counsel to a fight in the courtroom. I admonished the lawyers on their lack of civility.

(2) *Desilus v. Kelgard*, Circuit Civil case number CACE15-019582.

I was already the second judge on this case. Plaintiff's counsel had missed the first hearing before me and appeared late for the second hearing. At that time, ninety-three pre-qualified jurors were lined up to enter court for selection in a different case. Counsel's behavior in making argument was remarkably disrespectful, and more importantly, repeatedly cited the law incorrectly. Counsel

refused to listen to court personnel. After several minutes of counsel's behavior, I admonished counsel and entered an order of recusal.

In a legally sufficient Motion to Disqualify, in the State courts of Florida, the judge must accept the allegations as true and, without comment, grant the motion if the litigant reasonably has a fear of bias. In that regard, I have been asked to recuse myself on the following five criminal cases. These cases are as follows:

(1) *State v. Ramirez*, Circuit Criminal case number 12-009673CF10A.

Granted. Having sentenced this defendant to twenty-five years in Florida State Prison on his violation of probation (04-006065CF10A), the defendant began litigating his substantive case. Two years later, at a hearing he moved to disqualify me because I had made a finding regarding his previous case that he was not credible. While I believed his allegation was baseless, taking it as true as required, I granted his Motion.

(2) *State v. Barnes*, Circuit Criminal case number 15-010380CF10A.

Denied as legally insufficient and the subsequent writ was dismissed. Defendant alleged I was unfair despite sworn record testimony where he said I was fair.

(3) *State v. Irons*, Circuit Criminal case number 15-013567CF10A.

Denied as legally insufficient; no appeal was taken. Defendant generally alleged I was unfair.

(4) *State v. Beram*, Circuit Criminal case number 13-002628CF10A.

Granted. Taking defendant's legally sufficient Motion as true, I was compelled to grant the motion, without comment, even though the allegations were false.

(5) *State v. Miller*, Circuit Criminal case number 13-000751CF10A.

Following an open plea where defendant received a bottom of the guidelines prison sentence, his lawyer stated that he had promised his client probation. I allowed the defendant to withdraw his plea with the understanding that he would go to a different judge because I did not want to have a potential argument for vindictive sentencing if I gave him a worse sentence later.

(6) *State v. Resiles*, Circuit Criminal case number 14-012657CF10A.

This defendant was accused of First Degree Murder and, on July 15, 2016, executed an escape from a crowded courtroom. Eight others were eventually charged as co-defendants to the escape. One of the lawyers for a co-defendant moved to recuse me arguing I was a witness to the escape and therefore could not

sit on the cases. I denied the motion as legally insufficient. The denial was not appealed.

**15. Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

Member and Precinct Committeeman F007 (2006 – 2011), Broward Republican Executive Committee (BREC), Fort Lauderdale, Florida; elected (2006, 2008)

Member (2014 – present), Interstate Commission on Adult Offender Supervision (ICAOS); Appointed by Governor Scott on August 20, 2014

I applied to the Seventeenth Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission for a County Court seat on March 17, 1995. On July 21, 2005, I applied for both Circuit and County Court seats. I also applied for Circuit Court seats in October 2005, February 2006, September 2007, October 2008, and May 2010. In October 2010 and August 2016, I applied for a seat on the Fourth District Court of Appeal. In February 2011, I applied for the position of Regional Counsel with the Fourth District Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel through the Supreme Court Judicial Nominating Commission. I applied, on October 12, 2017, for a position as United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida. On October 8, 2018, I applied for one of three seats on the Florida Supreme Court. I was included among the list of recommended candidates to the Governor for twelve Circuit Court seats, a seat on the Fourth District Court of Appeal, a seat on the Florida Supreme Court, and for the Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel position.

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

I have not held a membership or office or played a role in a partisan political campaign. I have, however, been involved in three judicial campaigns. I was active as a committee member on the Campaign to Retain Judge Cheryl Aleman in 2004. I was campaign treasurer and active in the Campaign to Elect Charles Kaplan in 2006. I ran my own campaign to retain my Circuit Court seat in 2014.

**16. Legal Career: Answer each part separately.**

a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:

i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

I did not serve as a clerk to a judge.

ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I practiced alone from January 1, 2007 through September 29, 2011, after my law partner was elected to the Broward Circuit Court. While I shared space with another lawyer, my practice was solo. Prior to that, in the year after I left the Office of the State Attorney, I maintained a solo law practice but shared space with a small law firm.

1993 – 1994

Blackmore & Blackmore  
320 South East 10th Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316  
Shared space and secretary, general litigation law firm

2007 – 2011

Law Office of Raag Singhal, P.A.  
1323 South East Fourth Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316  
Partner/Owner, criminal defense attorney

iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each.

1989 – 1990

Fleming, O'Bryan & Fleming  
500 East Broward Boulevard  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308  
Associate, general litigation law firm

1990 – 1993

Office of the State Attorney  
Broward County  
201 South East Sixth Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
Assistant State Attorney

1993 – 1994

Blackmore & Blackmore  
320 South East 10th Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316  
Shared space and secretary, general litigation law firm

1995 – 2006  
Law Offices of Kaplan & Singhal, P.A.  
1323 South East Fourth Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316  
Partner, criminal defense law firm

2007 – 2011  
Law Office of Raag Singhal, P.A.  
1323 South East Fourth Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316  
Partner/Owner, criminal defense attorney

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I have never served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings. I have negotiated many cases as a lawyer and handled more than 1,500 open pleas as a judge.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

Currently, I serve as a judge on the Circuit Court in and for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, where I have presided over criminal and civil cases. For the eighteen years prior to my 2011 appointment to the Circuit Court, my law practice was devoted to criminal trial and appellate work in both State and Federal courts. Because I handled traffic fatality cases, I also consulted with insurance defense firms in their preparation for wrongful death defense trials. Many of my serious criminal defense clients were indigent, including those in thirty-three murder trials.

In the final few years of my criminal defense practice (2008 – 2011), my caseload evolved to consist of more non-violent money crimes, complex economic fraud litigation, and appellate work. I was always involved in daily courtroom activity, and over the course of my career I was often called upon to handle particularly troublesome cases. For example, judges routinely requested that I be appointed to cases that other lawyers would

not take, or cases in which the clients could not get along with a series of other lawyers.

Prior to my criminal defense work, I spent three years as an Assistant State Attorney in Broward County, Florida and handled cases ranging from misdemeanors to felony habitual offender prosecutions. I started my legal career as an associate at Fleming, O'Bryan & Fleming where I handled general insurance defense matters and appellate work.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

Before I became a judge, I handled predominantly state court complex criminal cases at the trial and appellate level. The Florida Supreme Court requires lawyers who handle capital cases to be "death qualified," and from 1996 through 2007, as a death qualified lawyer, I handled an average of three death penalty cases per year. Nearly all of these clients were indigent, and many previously had been represented by counsel who withdrew.

Concurrent with my death-penalty work, I handled private criminal cases for clients from all walks of life. Early in my career I was retained on an average of twenty-five driving under the influence cases per year. By the time I left my practice, it was rare for me to handle a DUI, unless it involved serious bodily injury or death. Toward the end of my practice, I handled many drug related crimes, particularly drug trafficking. I also represented clients involved in a high profile prostitution related case, although my clients there became witnesses rather than defendants.

In federal court, the most significant case I handled concerned the investigation into and prosecution of Broward Sheriff Ken Jenne. The other federal matters I handled were relatively routine.

My civil work at Fleming, O'Bryan and Fleming, to begin my career as a lawyer, involved insurance defense and appellate cases. I clerked for this firm as a 2L and began my legal career there upon graduation.

- c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.
  - i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:
    1. federal courts: 5%
    2. state courts of record: 90%
    3. other courts: 0%
    4. administrative agencies: 5%

ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. civil proceedings: 5%
2. criminal proceedings: 95%

- d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

At the time of my appointment to the Florida Circuit Court in 2011, I had tried the following numbers of cases:

Jury Trials:	204 (33 of which were First Degree Murder cases)
Non-Jury Trials:	150*
Administrative:	100*
Arbitration:	1

\*I am unable to account for and verify all of the non-jury proceedings and administrative hearings, such as Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicle administrative hearings, that I handled between 1990 and 1993 while at the Office of the State Attorney. I believe the numbers of cases I actually handled to be significantly higher than those provided above.

I was sole counsel on each case except eight jury trials on which I was co-counsel. Each of those eight trials were first degree murder death penalty trials requiring two lawyers, one for the guilt phase and one for the penalty phase.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

1. jury: 65%
2. non-jury: 35%

- e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

Unfortunately, I never had the privilege of practicing before the Supreme Court of the United States.

17. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation;
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

(1) *State v. Mrachek*, Broward Circuit Court, The Honorable Mily Rodriguez-Powell, Circuit Criminal case 05-014470CF10A (Trial: June 24 – 26, 2008).

This was an extremely difficult vehicular homicide case with a high-profile victim. The case involved extensive expert testimony and greatly affected the companion civil case. The client was found guilty of Reckless Driving, a misdemeanor, and was in essence found not responsible for the fatality.

Opposing Counsel:  
The Honorable Spencer Multack  
North Dade Justice Center  
15555 Biscayne Boulevard  
Miami, Florida 33160  
(305) 354-2939

(2) *State v. Garland*, Broward Circuit Court (three trials), The Honorable Paul L. Backman (trials one and three), The Honorable Daniel True Andrews (retired Polk County) (trial two), Circuit Criminal case 99-000017CF10A (May 22 – 29, 2003).

Trials one and two, *Tindal v. State*, 803 So. 2d 806 (Fla. 4th DCA 2001) and trial three, *Garland v. State*, 834 So. 2d 265 (Fla. 4th DCA 2002):

I was court appointed on this First Degree Murder case after the defendant's first lawyer was disbarred. The three trials involved myriad legal issues with the first jury deliberating for more than one week before being hung at 11-1 for acquittal. The second trial resulted in a conviction as charged after two hours, but was reversed for misconduct. Trial three ended with an acquittal.

Opposing Counsel:  
Kenneth Padowitz  
12 South East Seventh Street, Suite 700  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301-3433  
(954) 761-3888

Trial three:  
Opposing Counsel:  
The Honorable Peter Holden



Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of Florida  
201 South East Sixth Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 831-7340

(3) *State v. Roberts*, Broward Circuit Court, The Honorable Ana Gardiner, Circuit Criminal case 00-007953CF10A (Trial: July 10 – 23, 2002).

This case was a First Degree Murder cold case with a 2002 arrest for a 1983 homicide. The case involved extensive litigation regarding the admissibility of DNA evidence. The defendant was acquitted at trial because the State's expert admitted the DNA evidence consisted of a mixture of three people, one of whom was the victim's then-boyfriend who at the time of trial was in prison for a similar crime.

Opposing Counsel:  
Deborah Zimet  
Assistant State Attorney  
2111 Wisconsin Avenue Northwest, Apartment 718  
Washington, DC 20007

(4) *Wuornos v. Moore*, Broward Circuit Court, The Honorable Paul L. Backman, Circuit Criminal case CACE02-012251 (June 20 – October 2, 2002).

In June 2002, I was appointed by Order of the Florida Supreme Court to investigate complaints that Aileen Wuornos had made concerning her treatment as an inmate on death row. Because women's death row was in Broward County, the complaints, treated as a Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, were handled in our courthouse. I believed the client to be mentally ill during the course of my brief representation and wanted to ensure that the State of Florida did not execute a mentally ill person without an expert opinion as to her mental state. Governor Bush issued a stay of execution and evaluations were conducted. This client was executed on October 9, 2002.

Opposing Counsel:  
Maxine Streeter  
Genovese, Joblove & Battista, P.A.  
200 East Broward Boulevard, Suite 1110  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 453-8017

(5) *State v. Solis*, Broward Circuit Court, The Honorable Ana Gardiner, Circuit Criminal case 01-002563CF10A (2001 – 2002).

This death penalty case was tried twice because the first trial was mistried after three weeks. The case involved the largest number of aggravating factors of any

of my cases. During the second trial, before the jury was sworn, the U.S. Supreme Court decided *Ring v. Arizona*. That case held, in pertinent part, that *Apprendi* considerations applied to the Florida death-penalty statute. There was significant motion practice mid-trial as a result, and we persuaded the State to offer a life sentence.

Opposing Counsel:  
Howard Scheinberg  
8142 North University Drive  
Tamarac, Florida 33321  
(954) 721-7300

Co-Counsel:  
Steven J. Hammer  
1212 South East Third Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33316  
(954) 320-9507

(6) *State v. Farmer*, Broward Circuit Court, The Honorable Stanton Kaplan, Circuit Criminal case 01-006137CF10A (2001 – 2002).

This death penalty case was racially charged and was presented as a potential hate crime. Ultimately, after a lengthy trial, my client was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to fifteen years in prison.

Opposing Counsel:  
W. Anthony (Tony) Loe  
Assistant State Attorney  
Office of the State Attorney  
201 South East Sixth Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 831-6955

(7) *State v. Scibana*, 726 So. 2d 793 (Fla. 4th DCA Jan. 6, 1999).

This appeal affected approximately fifty cases in which a County Court judge back-dated driver's license suspensions on DUI cases in an effort to make plea offers appear more palatable. The County Court judge was ultimately removed from office for utilizing this method, as it involved fraudulent alteration of court documents. The judge's actions in the three cases on appeal were neither requested nor encouraged by the defense, but the issue on appeal was whether the defendants had received an illegal sentence. The appellate court viewed the suspensions as collateral consequences and therefore not correctable based upon the plain meaning of Florida Rule of Criminal Procedure 3.800.

Opposing Counsel:

J. Scott Raft  
Assistant State Attorney  
Office of the State Attorney  
201 South East Sixth Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 831-6955

Co-Counsel:  
H. Dohn Williams, Jr.  
633 South East Third Avenue, Suite 202  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301-3151  
(561) 929-5432

(8) *State v. Weaver*, Broward Circuit Court, The Honorable Mark A. Speiser, Circuit Criminal case 96-01644CF10A (Trial: April 14 through May 26, 1999). Conviction affirmed and sentence reduced to life in *Weaver v. State*, 894 So. 2d 178 (Fla. 2004).

I was court appointed two months before trial to represent Jeffrey Lee Weaver on only the penalty phase portion of his trial for First Degree Murder of a Law Enforcement Officer. One week before trial, the client's guilt-phase counsel was discharged, leaving the client to represent himself. Following his conviction as charged, I presented mitigation witnesses and convinced the jury to recommend a life sentence. Judge Speiser entered an override of the jury recommendation and sentenced the client to death, but that decision was unanimously reversed by the Florida Supreme Court. This case is significant for several reasons. First, it is the last judicial override in Florida. Second, it represents the current state of the law for waiver-of-counsel issues known as *Faretta* hearings. Third, it was the only death-penalty case argued by Mr. Satz, until that time, that ended with a life-sentence recommendation.

Opposing Counsel:  
Michael J. Satz  
State Attorney  
Office of the State Attorney  
201 South East Sixth Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 831-6955

Co-Counsel:  
Michael L. Tenzer  
633 South Andrews Avenue, Suite 200  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301-2840  
(954) 468-3060

(9) *State v. Stewart*, Broward Circuit Court, The Honorable Fred J. Berman, Circuit Criminal case 98-009144CF10A (1998 – 1999).

This client was accused of Armed Robbery, using a rifle, of a Hollywood, Florida liquor store. It was originally a three co-defendant case. The other two defendants were offered plea bargains and testified against my client. My client had no criminal history. He also refused to speak the entire time I represented him, until the day of trial when we were waiting for the jury panel. He was acquitted at trial.

Opposing Counsel:  
David Schulson  
Assistant State Attorney  
Office of the State Attorney  
201 South East Sixth Street  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301  
(954) 831-8056

(10) *State v. Dixon*, Broward Circuit Court, The Honorable Susan Lebow, Circuit Criminal case 94-020650CF10A (1997).

Mr. Harris was the guilt-phase lawyer and I handled the penalty phase. The presentation in this death penalty case involved significant psychological testimony in mitigation to secure a life sentence.

Opposing Counsel:  
Thomas Kern (deceased)  
Assistant State Attorney

Co-Counsel:  
Jeffrey Harris  
9458 North West 46th Street  
Sunrise, Florida 33351  
(954) 522-7000

18. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

(1) *State v. Clinton Seymore*

I was the court appointed criminal defense attorney in this significant case requiring expert testimony about police procedure in photographic lineup identifications. Two eyewitnesses identified the defendant using the same photograph six pack. One witness interpreted for the other. The taint caused by this joint identification resulted in suppression of evidence. This case was one of the reasons Broward County began the practice of using double blind sequential photo identifications.

(2) Reasonable doubt instruction

In 1999, there was a call to rewrite the state court reasonable doubt jury instruction. In essence, the proposed change would have replaced the “abiding conviction of guilt” language with the “firmly convinced” standard. At the time, I was President of the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), and I handled our organization’s efforts to oppose amendment to the jury instruction.

(3) Videotaped interrogations

With attorney Steven J. Hammer, and in my role as President of BACDL, we had extensive meetings with the Broward County Sheriff to advocate for the use of videotaped interrogations. At the time, there had been substantial publicity related to false confessions. The Sheriff’s Office led the way for other Broward police departments by building two rooms equipped for videotaped interrogations.

(4) Stephen R. Booher Chapter, American Inns of Court

The Inns of Court is an organization that promotes civility and professionalism in law by creating mentoring relationships between experienced lawyers and new lawyers or law students. After involvement in many Inns activities, I became President in 2016.

(5) Judicial Faculty

I have taught many substantive courses at judicial conferences, including both phases of the New Judges’ College. The students at New Judges’ College have generally been appointed or elected the year before and are most eager to learn. This activity also enhances comraderie and collegiality in the judiciary. In 2018, I was appointed Associate Dean of the Florida College for Advanced Judicial Studies.

(6) Law student interns

Each summer, and often during the year, I have three interns who observe court with me and other judges. We discuss the cases, the lawyers’ presentations, and how the students can use what they observe in their own lives. When possible, I take the interns to the appellate court so they can observe arguments there. We also discuss the value of clerkships and other opportunities available to them.

19. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution

at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

None.

20. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

I contribute \$250 per month, directly from my pay, to the Florida Deferred Compensation Plan. I believe I can make use of this money once I turn seventy years old.

21. **Outside Commitments During Court Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

I have no plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during my service with the court.

22. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

When my nomination is formally submitted to the Senate and I file my Financial Disclosure Report, I will supplement this Questionnaire with a copy of that Report.

23. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

24. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

There are no family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts of interest

when I first assume the position to which I have been nominated.

- b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

In terms of categories of litigation, as with any State Circuit Court judge, there is always potential that a federal habeas case, under 28 U.S.C. §2254, will be assigned in which I was the trial judge. In such a situation, the case would need to be reassigned. I would follow any procedure currently in place for reassignment.

With regard to Motions for Disqualification or cases in which there might be a question as to impartiality or its appearance, I would refer to and follow the requirements of 28 U.S.C. §455. I would also be guided by the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, particularly canons two and three, and all other practices and procedures applicable to such situations.

25. **Pro Bono Work:** An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

As a lawyer, the most significant pro bono case I handled was a civil matter in 2002 relating to then-prison inmate Aileen Wuornos. I was appointed by the Circuit Court to handle Ms. Wuornos' complaints against the prison system during her incarceration on death row. I spent approximately 150 hours handling her case without compensation. Ultimately, she was transferred from Broward Women's Prison to Union Correctional Institution, where she was appointed different counsel and executed.

In 2001, while President of the Broward Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (BACDL), I was in charge of implementing a program started by attorney Jeffrey Harris to raise money for Legal Aid. The program involved criminal lawyers completing an appointed case on a voluntary basis and billing the case in favor of Legal Aid. Each case resulted in Legal Aid receiving \$350. More than \$10,000 was raised through this program.

26. **Selection Process:**

- a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department

regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

I submitted an application to the Florida Federal Judicial Nominating Commission on October 12, 2017. On October 27, 2017, I received an email from the Commission Chair advising that I was one of 24 applicants selected for an interview at the Miami federal courthouse on November 28, 2017.

On the night of November 29, 2017, I received an email including my name among the ten that were certified to the Florida Senators for the position of United States District judge. Next, on December 1, 2017, I received an email from Senator Rubio's office setting a meeting with the Senator for December 7, 2017. Thereafter, on December 6, 2017, I received an email from Senator Nelson's office indicating that it would be in touch at a later date. On December 15, 2017, Senator Nelson's office emailed to set up an interview for December 21, 2017.

On February 2, 2018, I received a phone call and follow-up email from the Office of White House Counsel confirming an interview for February 8, 2018. Following that interview, while I spoke with numerous colleagues about the process, I did not have any formal contact with anyone related to this process until I received an email on April 15, 2019 from Senator Rubio's office setting up a phone call for the following day with the General Counsels of both Florida Senators. On April 17, 2019, I received a phone call setting up an interview with the Office of White House Counsel for April 23, 2019.

On the evening of May 1, 2019, I received a phone call from the White House Counsel's Office informing me the President intended to nominate me pending background. The next day, I received emails from the White House and the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Policy informing me of paperwork needed and deadlines for various forms regarding background and vetting. Since that time, I have been in touch with attorneys and staff at the Office of Legal Policy regarding the vetting process and completion of this Questionnaire.

- b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

No.