# Keeping Informed

Where to find information about judges in the State of Florida

# **Making an Informed Choice**

Many people leave the ballot blank when it comes to voting for judges. Why? Because they do not know anything about the judicial candidate or how they should be evaluated. Judges have a unique function in our constitutional democracy. By researching judicial candidates using information provided by nonpartisan entities, voters may exercise an informed vote thus protecting fair and impartial courts.

## Where to Look for Information

In order to make an informed vote, it is important to consult a variety of nonpartisan resources, free from political agendas or special interests. Talk to lawyers who may know judges or judicial candidates on the ballot. Check with voluntary bar associations in your area to review judicial polls and determine how attorneys have evaluated judges on the ballot. See resources below for examples.

### The Florida Bar

http://www.floridabar.org



Constitution and the Bill of Rights Courts and the Judicial Branch Special Topics



### This resource provides:

**Voter information** 

Attorney discipline records

Poll results for judicial candidates

**Education programs and Speakers Bureau** programs

# Florida Supreme Court

http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/pub\_info/jqc.shtml



NEED LEGAL SELF HELP?

- Argument Calendars &
- <u>Briefs</u> Argument Webcasts
- Budget Documents
- Court Documents Court Orders
- . Death Warrant Cases

JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMISSION CASES PENDING IN THE FLORIDA SUPREME COURT

Since October 20, 2000, this page has been available on-line to quickly distribute to news media and others any documents filed with the Florida Supreme Court in <u>Judicial Qualifications Commission</u> cases involving alleged misconduct by Florida state judges or involuntary retirement of a judge due to serious illness. It does not

This resource provides:

The Code of Judicial Conduct

**Current JQC cases against Florida State Judges** 

**Archived videos of disciplinary proceedings** 







# Judicial Qualifications Commission

http://www.floridajqc.com/







### This resource provides:

Authorized under the Florida Constitution to investigate judicial misconduct.

A link to current JQC cases under review

# Florida Supreme Court Justices

http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/justices/index.shtml



This resource provides:

**Justice biographies and information** 

**Merit Retention of Justices** 

**Oral Arguments** 

# National Association of Women Judges Florida

http://ivp.nawj.org/state/florida

# Florida Judicial Selection in Florida Sureme Curt patient so the internal depart of the depart of the selection of the selec

This resource provides information on:

Judicial selection and retention in Florida

Voting information including what to look for in judicial candidates

Bios of Judges and Justices who will appear on the ballot

# What to Look For

In order to make an informed choice, it is critical to understand how judges are different from other elected officials, the methods by which judges and justices are selected in Florida, and the role of judges in our constitutional system. By consulting a variety of nonpartisan sources that address these topics, voters can feel prepared to make an informed and reasoned decision!



Provided by:

Informed

FAIR JUDGES

JUSTICE FREE FROM SPECIAL INTERESTS

