



FLORIDA DEMOCRATIC CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Federal Judicial Nominations Conference

U.S. Representative Alcee L. Hastings, Dean of the Florida Delegation



March 2021

Dear Applicant,

The Florida Federal Judicial Nominating Conferences (JNC) are a nonpartisan body of lawyers, legal scholars, former legal professionals, and non-lawyers who will evaluate applicants for the positions of U.S. District Court Judge, U.S. Attorney, and U.S. Marshal in the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Florida. Members of Florida's congressional delegation have established these three Federal Judicial Nominating Conferences and tasked them with identifying highly qualified and diverse candidates for these positions.

The regional JNCs will interview and vet applicants for each vacancy and make candidate recommendations. Upon receiving those recommendations, the congressional delegation under the leadership of the Dean, or their designee, will provide President Biden and Florida's Senators the names of persons recommended for nomination.

The establishment of these regional JNCs is not intended to usurp the constitutional directive that the Senate provides "advice and consent" in the federal nominations process. These conferences are simply designed to assist with the selection of suitable candidates to be considered by Florida's Senators and the President of the United States.

These three committees are accepting applications on an ongoing basis. Applicants are advised to apply now and not to wait for a vacancy to arise. If you're interested in being considered, please complete and send the relevant application form and supporting documents electronically to the appropriate regional email contact below. Applicants for all vacancies should also complete the "Confidential Application Form."

Please save cover letter, application forms and other supporting documents in a single file (pdf preferred).

FloridaJNC117North@mail.house.gov

FloridaJNC117Middle@mail.house.gov

FloridaJNC117South@mail.house.gov

Applicants who are selected for personal interviews will be notified via email by the Chairperson of the JNC region for which they are applying.

Sincerely,

Alcee Hastings

Member of Congress

FEDERAL JUDICIAL NOMINATING CONFERENCES OF FLORIDA

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE APPLICATION FORM - PUBLIC

1. **Name**: State full name (include any former names used).
2. **Specific Judicial District Sought**:
 Southern District Middle District Northern District
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.
4. **Birthplace**: State year and place of birth.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
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.
 - 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.
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.
- 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.

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 delivered 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.
- 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.

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.

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

- i. Of these, approximately what percent were:
- ii. jury trials: _____%
 bench trials: _____% [total 100%]
- iii. civil proceedings: _____%
 criminal proceedings: _____% [total 100%]

- b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.
- c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature 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).
- 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.
- e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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.

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.
- 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.

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;
 - ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;
 - 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.
 - 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.
- b. Describe:
 - i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.
 - ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.
- 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: _____%
2. state courts of record: _____%
3. other courts: _____%
4. administrative agencies: _____%

ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1. civil proceedings: _____%
2. criminal proceedings: _____%

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.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

1. jury: _____%
2. non-jury: _____%

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.

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.

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.)

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.

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.

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.
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).
23. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).
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.
 - b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.
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.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT: NET WORTH

Provide a complete, current financial net worth statement which itemizes in detail all assets (including bank accounts, real estate, securities, trusts, investments, and other financial holdings) all liabilities (including debts, mortgages, loans, and other financial obligations) of yourself, your spouse, and other immediate members of your household.) Note: All amounts rounded to nearest \$1000

ASSETS				LIABILITIES			
Cash on hand and in banks				Notes payable to banks-secured			
U.S. Government securities-add schedule				Notes payable to banks-unsecured			
Listed securities-add schedule*				Notes payable to relatives			
Unlisted securities--add schedule				Notes payable to others			
Accounts and notes receivable:				Accounts and bills due			
Due from relatives and friends				Unpaid income tax			
Due from others				Other unpaid income and interest			
Doubtful				Real estate mortgages payable-add schedule			
Real estate owned-add schedule**				Chattel mortgages and other liens payable			
Real estate mortgages receivable				Other debts-itemize:			
Autos and other personal property							
Cash value-life insurance							
Other assets itemize:							
				Total liabilities			
				Net Worth			
Total Assets				Total liabilities and net worth			
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES				GENERAL INFORMATION			
As endorser, comaker or guarantor				Are any assets pledged? (Add schedule)			
On leases or contracts				Are you defendant in any suits or legal actions?			
Legal Claims				Have you ever taken bankruptcy?			
Provision for Federal Income Tax							
Other special debt							

AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE

I hereby acknowledge and agree that my application may be given to the Federal Judicial Nominating Conferences of Florida ("JNC") in the event my name is submitted for evaluation; and that all or portions of my application or the information contained therein may be given to or shared with the JNC (if that committee is providing such assistance to the President) and other committees and/or individuals who have been asked by the President to assist him in the evaluation of applicants for federal appointment. I further acknowledge and agree that for the purpose in aiding the President in evaluating my background and qualifications, the foregoing organizations and individuals will be entitled to seek and obtain information and documents concerning me from firms, companies, corporations, law schools and other educational institutions, attorneys, judges and other third parties, including those mentioned in my application.

I hereby authorize any governmental, licensing or law enforcement agency, including, but not limited to, any major national credit reporting organizations (collectively referred to as "agencies") to release to the President and the JNC any and all information which those agencies may have about me (whether public, personal or confidential) for the purpose of aiding the President in evaluating my background and qualifications for appointment as District Court Judge. I understand that I will not receive, and am not entitled to know, the contents of confidential reports received from these agencies and I further understand that these reports are privileged, except that I am entitled to receive a copy of reports from major national credit reporting agencies.

I hereby release and discharge the President and his representatives, the JNC and its members, all agencies, their agents and representatives, and any person furnishing information from any and all liability of every nature and kind arising out of the furnishing, use and inspection of documents, records and other information and the investigation of my background and qualifications, and this release shall be binding on my legal representatives, heirs and assignees.

I hereby declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Florida and the United States of America that the answers and statements provided by me in the foregoing application are true and correct.

Name: _____
(Type or Print)

Signature: _____