

APPLICATION FOR NOMINATION TO THE CIRCUIT COURT

(Please attach additional pages as needed to respond fully to questions.)

DATE: April 15, 2019 Florida Bar No.: 88625

GENERAL: Social Security No.: [REDACTED]

1. Name Tesha S. Ballou E-mail: tmscolaro3@gmail.com

Date Admitted to Practice in Florida: September 27, 1996

Date Admitted to Practice in other States: District of Columbia November 7, 1997; Massachusetts March 28, 2006

2. State current employer and title, including professional position and any public or judicial office.
General Magistrate, Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, Seminole County, Florida

3. Business address: 190 Eslinger Way
City Sanford County Seminole State FL ZIP 32773
Telephone (407) 665-5466 FAX () -

4. Residential address: [REDACTED]
City [REDACTED] County Seminole State FL ZIP [REDACTED]
Since May 2009 Telephone [REDACTED]

5. Place of birth: Norwich, Connecticut
Date of birth: March 3, 1970 Age: 49

6a. Length of residence in State of Florida: Total 20 years: 10 years: July 2008-Present; 9 years 1997-2006; 1 year 1995-1996

6b. Are you a registered voter? Yes No
If so, in what county are you registered? Seminole

7. Marital status: Married
If married: Spouse's name Matthew Scott Ballou
Date of marriage June 28, 2008
Spouse's occupation Retired Law Enforcement; Post-retirement career Executive Management

If ever divorced give for each marriage name(s) of spouse(s), current address for each former spouse, date and place of divorce, court and case number for each divorce.

David A. Faulkner, Work address: Brandon Legal Group, 1209 Lakeside Drive, Brandon, Florida 33510; Dissolution of Marriage: April 25, 2002, Seminole County, Florida Case No. 02-DR-1061-02D-K

8. Children
Name(s) *Age(s)* *Occupation(s)* *Residential address(es)*
 N/A

9. Military Service (including Reserves)
Service *Branch* *Highest Rank* *Dates*
 N/A
 Rank at time of discharge _____ Type of discharge _____
 Awards or citations _____
Service *Branch* *Highest Rank* *Dates*
 Rank at time of discharge _____ Type of discharge _____
 Awards or citations _____

HEALTH:

10. Are you currently addicted to or dependent upon the use of narcotics, drugs, or intoxicating beverages? If yes, state the details, including the date(s).

No

11a. During the last ten years have you been hospitalized or have you consulted a professional or have you received treatment or a diagnosis from a professional for any of the following: Kleptomania, Pathological or Compulsive Gambling, Pedophilia, Exhibitionism or Voyeurism?

Yes No

If your answer is yes, please direct each such professional, hospital and other facility to furnish the Chairperson of the Commission any information the Commission may request with respect to any such hospitalization, consultation, treatment or diagnosis. ["Professional" includes a Physician, Psychiatrist, Psychologist, Psychotherapist or Mental Health Counselor.]

Please describe such treatment or diagnosis.

N/A

11b. In the past ten years have any of the following occurred to you which would interfere with your ability to work in a competent and professional manner?

- Experiencing periods of no sleep for 2 or 3 nights
- Experiencing periods of hyperactivity
- Spending money profusely with extremely poor judgment
- Suffered from extreme loss of appetite
- Issuing checks without sufficient funds
- Defaulting on a loan
- Experiencing frequent mood swings
- Uncontrollable tiredness
- Falling asleep without warning in the middle of an activity

Yes No

If yes, please explain.

N/A

12a. Do you currently have a physical or mental impairment which in any way limits your ability or fitness to properly exercise your duties as a member of the Judiciary in a competent and professional manner?

Yes No

12b. If your answer to the question above is Yes, are the limitations or impairments caused by your physical or mental health impairment reduced or ameliorated because you receive ongoing treatment (with or without medication) or participate in a monitoring or counseling program?

Yes No

Describe such problem and any treatment or program of monitoring or counseling.

N/A

13. During the last ten years, have you ever been declared legally incompetent or have you or your property been placed under any guardianship, conservatorship or committee? If yes, give full details as to court, date and circumstances.

No

14. During the last ten years, have you unlawfully used controlled substances, narcotic drugs or dangerous drugs as defined by Federal or State laws? If your answer is "Yes," explain in detail. (Unlawful use includes the use of one or more drugs and/or the unlawful possession or distribution of drugs. It does not include the use of drugs taken under supervision of a licensed health care professional or other uses authorized by Federal law provisions.)
- No
15. In the past ten years, have you ever been reprimanded, demoted, disciplined, placed on probation, suspended, cautioned or terminated by an employer as result of your alleged consumption of alcohol, prescription drugs or illegal use of drugs? If so, please state the circumstances under which such action was taken, the name(s) of any persons who took such action, and the background and resolution of such action.
- No
16. Have you ever refused to submit to a test to determine whether you had consumed and/or were under the influence of alcohol or drugs? If so, please state the date you were requested to submit to such a test, the type of test required, the name of the entity requesting that you submit to the test, the outcome of your refusal and the reason why you refused to submit to such a test.
- No
17. In the past ten years, have you suffered memory loss or impaired judgment for any reason? If so, please explain in full.
- No

EDUCATION:

18a. Secondary schools, colleges and law schools attended.

| <i>Schools</i> | <i>Class Standing</i> | <i>Dates of Attendance</i> | <i>Degree</i> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Norwich Free Academy | 19/443 | 9/86-6/88 | Diploma |
| Stonehill College | 49/575 | 8/88-5/92 | B.A.-Political Science |
| New England School of Law | Group VI | 8/92-5/95 | J.D. |

18b. List and describe academic scholarships earned, honor societies or other awards.
 Stonehill College Honors Scholar Award for academic performance
 Anita S. Meyers Council of Jewish Women Award
 National Honor Society

Dean's List: 1989-1992
 Dean's List: 1995
 Graduated magna cum laude 5/92

NON-LEGAL EMPLOYMENT:

19. List all previous full-time non-legal jobs or positions held since 21 in chronological order and briefly describe them.

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Position</i> | <i>Employer</i> | <i>Address</i> |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 10/2011-11/2012 | Regional Program Manager | Department of Children and Families | 400 West Robinson Street, Orlando, Florida 32801 |
| 11/2012-11/2015 | Regional Director | Department of Children and Families | 400 West Robinson Street, Orlando, Florida 32801 |

PROFESSIONAL ADMISSIONS:

20. List all courts (including state bar admissions) and administrative bodies having special admission requirements to which you have ever been admitted to practice, giving the dates of admission, and if applicable, state whether you have been suspended or resigned.

Florida: September 26, 1996; District of Columbia November 7, 1997; Massachusetts March 28, 2006; United States District Court Middle District of Florida February 1999(no longer a member).

LAW PRACTICE: (If you are a sitting judge, answer questions 21 through 26 with reference to the years before you became a judge.)

21. State the names, dates and addresses for all firms with which you have been associated in practice, governmental agencies or private business organizations by which you have been employed, periods you have practiced as a sole practitioner, law clerkships and other prior employment:

| <i>Position</i> | <i>Name of Firm</i> | <i>Address</i> | <i>Dates</i> |
|-----------------------------|--|--|-------------------|
| General Magistrate | Seminole County Judicial-Eighteenth Judicial Circuit | 190 Eslinger Way, Sanford, Florida 32773 | 11/2015 - Present |
| Senior Attorney | Florida Department of Children and Families | 400 West Robinson Street, Orlando, Florida 32801 | 5/2009 - 10/2011 |
| Counsel to the Commissioner | Division of Insurance | 1000 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02118 | 8/2007-6/2008 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------|
| Administrative Hearings Counsel | Division of Professional Licensure | 1000 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02118 | 9/2006 - 8/2007 |
| General Counsel | Seminole County Sheriff's Office | 100 Eslinger Way, Sanford, Florida 32773 | 2/2001- 3/2006 |

See attached for
additional
employment

22. Describe the general nature of your current practice including any certifications which you possess; additionally, if your practice is substantially different from your prior practice or if you are not now practicing law, give details of prior practice. Describe your typical clients or former clients and the problems for which they sought your services.

Currently, I serve as a General Magistrate in the Dependency and Probate Division of the Circuit Court. Prior to this appointment, I served as an Administrative Hearings Officer in Massachusetts for both the Division of Insurance and the Division of Professional Licensure handling complex regulatory issues and licensure matters. Despite being the newest hearing officer, I was assigned to hear cases of first impression, as I was the only hearing officer with experience regarding the criminal justice system. While at the Department of Children and Families, I was a Senior Attorney with the General Counsel's Office. I appeared in circuit court in the mental health division on adult protective services cases, and competency matters in criminal court. Further, I litigated cases before the Division of Administrative Hearings for DCF and the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. As General Counsel for the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, I was responsible for training law enforcement within my own agency and the municipal agencies throughout the county on search and seizure, the Fifth and Sixth Amendment Right to Counsel, and provided case law updates as new rulings emerged. I handled a variety of matters ranging from criminal law matters, such as reviewing search and arrest warrants, applications for mobile tracking devices, to police liability, employment and labor, and civil forfeiture litigation. I provided counsel to the Sheriff on policies and procedures ensuring state and federal compliance. Prior to joining the Sheriff's Office, I served as a Litigation Specialist for CNA Insurance managing Disability and Accidental Death and Dismemberment litigation throughout the United States. Many matters fell under ERISA and were litigated in Federal Court. The majority of these cases settled at mediation under reserve amounts. I began my career as an Assistant State Attorney litigating both misdemeanor and felony cases. I served as the Acting Division Chief for the Domestic Violence Division.

23. What percentage of your appearance in courts in the last five years or last five years of practice (include the dates) was in:

| Court | | Area of Practice | |
|----------------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| | | | (2009-2011) |
| Federal Appellate | _____ % | Civil | _____ 15 % |
| Federal Trial | _____ % | Criminal | _____ % |
| Federal Other | _____ % | Family | _____ % |
| | | | (2018-2019) |
| State Appellate | _____ % | Probate | _____ 5 % |
| | (2009-2011) | | (2006-2011) |
| | (2015-2019) | | (2015-2019) |
| State Trial | _____ 65 % | Other | _____ 80 % |
| | (2006-2011) | | |
| | (2015-2019) | | |
| State Administrative | _____ 35 % | | |
| State Other | _____ % | | |
| | _____ % | | |
| TOTAL | _____ 100 % | TOTAL | _____ 100 % |

24. In your lifetime, how many (number) of the cases you have tried to verdict or judgment were:

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|------------------------|-----------|
| Jury? | <u>8</u> | Non-jury? | <u>10</u> |
| Arbitration? | <u>n/a</u> | Administrative Bodies? | <u>23</u> |

25. Within the last ten years, have you ever been formally reprimanded, sanctioned, demoted, disciplined, placed on probation, suspended or terminated by an employer or tribunal before which you have appeared? If so, please state the circumstances under which such action was taken, the date(s) such action was taken, the name(s) of any persons who took such action, and the background and resolution of such action.

No

26. In the last ten years, have you failed to meet any deadline imposed by court order or received notice that you have not complied with substantive requirements of any business or contractual arrangement? If so, please explain in full.

No

(Questions 27 through 30 are optional for sitting judges who have served 5 years or more.)

- 27a. For your last 6 cases, which were tried to verdict before a jury or arbitration panel or tried to judgment before a judge, list the names and telephone numbers of trial counsel on all sides and court case numbers (include appellate cases).

See attached

- 27b. For your last 6 cases, which were settled in mediation or settled without mediation or trial, list the names and telephone numbers of trial counsel on all sides and court case numbers (include appellate cases).

Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Petitioner v. Tucker House Group Home, Threshold, Inc., Respondent; DOAH Case No. 11-1543; James Dennis, Esq. (407) 403-1538

Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Petitioner v. Riverton Group Home Threshold, Inc. Respondent; DOAH Case No. 11-1542; James Dennis, Esquire (407) 403-1538

Department of Children and Families, Petitioner v. Clarcona Academy Child Care, Respondent; DOAH Case No. 10-9429; Jack P. Caolo, Esq. (972) 717-5200

Aguilar Family Day Care Home, Petitioner v. Department of Children and Families, Respondent; DOAH Case No. 6951; Joel Spector, Esq. (407) 418-1320

Department of Children and Families, Petitioner v. Super Kids Cool School and Melissa Somerville, Respondent, DOAH 09-6949; David S. Oliver, Esq.(407) 649-4000

Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Petitioner vs. Quest Citrus Group Home, Respondent, DOAH Case No. 11-2791APD; Pro se litigant

- 27c. During the last five years, how frequently have you appeared at administrative hearings?
4 average times per month

- 27d. During the last five years, how frequently have you appeared in Court?
16 average times per month

- 27e. During the last five years, if your practice was substantially personal injury, what percentage of your work was in representation of plaintiffs? n/a% Defendants? _____%

28. If during any prior period you have appeared in court with greater frequency than during the last five years, indicate the period during which this was so and give for such prior periods a succinct statement of the part you played in the litigation, numbers of cases and whether jury or non-jury.

From 1997-1999, I was employed by the Office of the State Attorney. During that period of time, I appeared in court daily for arraignments, motion hearings, docket sounding, and trials. I handled both jury and bench trials.

Since November 2015, as a General Magistrate, I appear in court, although in a different capacity, four days per week hearing a variety of different matters each day.

29. For the cases you have tried to award in arbitration, during each of the past five years, indicate whether you were sole, associate or chief counsel. Give citations of any reported cases.

N/A

30. List and describe the six most significant cases which you personally litigated giving case style, number and citation to reported decisions, if any. Identify your client and describe the nature of your participation in the case and the reason you believe it to be significant. Give the name of the court and judge, the date tried and names of other attorneys involved.

See attached

31. Attach at least one example of legal writing which you personally wrote. If you have not personally written any legal documents recently, you may attach writing for which you had substantial responsibility. Please describe your degree of involvement in preparing the writing you attached.

See attached

PRIOR JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE OR PUBLIC OFFICE:

- 32a. Have you ever held judicial office or been a candidate for judicial office? If so, state the court(s) involved and the dates of service or dates of candidacy.

No

- 32b. List any prior quasi-judicial service:

| <i>Dates</i> | <i>Name of Agency</i> | <i>Position Held</i> |
|---------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 11/2015-Pres. | Seminole County Judicial-Eighteenth Judicial Circlut | General Magistrate |
| 8/2007-6/2008 | Division of Insurance, Massachusetts | Counsel to the Commissioner |
| 9/2006-8/2007 | Division of Professional Licensure, Massachusetts | Administrative Hearings Counsel |

Types of issues heard: Dependency hearings pursuant to Chapter 39, Guardianship Cases pursuant to Chapter 744. Licensure and Regulatory Hearings.

- 32c. Have you ever held or been a candidate for any other public office? If so, state the office, location and dates of service or candidacy.

No

- 32d. If you have had prior judicial or quasi-judicial experience,

- (i) List the names, phone numbers and addresses of six attorneys who appeared before you on matters of substance.

See attached

- (ii) Describe the approximate number and nature of the cases you have handled during your judicial or quasi-judicial tenure.

I have handled approximately 2,897 dependency and guardianship cases, including arraignments, pleas, motions, dispositions, judicial reviews, and Orders to Show Cause. As an Administrative Hearings Officer, I handled over 200 matters related to licensure (denial, sanctions, discipline, and revocation) and regulatory matters, such as private passenger motor vehicle rates. I presided over evidentiary hearings; also I ruled on several motions for summary decisions.

- (iii) List citations of any opinions which have been published.

N/A

- (iv) List citations or styles and describe the five most significant cases you have tried or heard. Identify the parties, describe the cases and tell why you believe them to be significant. Give dates tried and names of attorneys involved.

See attached

- (v) Has a complaint about you ever been made to the Judicial Qualifications Commission? If so, give date, describe complaint, whether or not there was a finding of probable cause, whether or not you have appeared before the Commission, and its resolution.

No

- (vi) Have you ever held an attorney in contempt? If so, for each instance state name of attorney, approximate date and circumstances.

No

- (vii) If you are a quasi-judicial officer (ALJ, Magistrate, General Master), have you ever been disciplined or reprimanded by a sitting judge? If so, describe.

No

BUSINESS INVOLVEMENT:

- 33a. If you are now an officer, director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise, state the name of such enterprise, the nature of the business, the nature of your duties, and whether you intend to resign such position immediately upon your appointment or election to judicial office.

No

- 33b. Since being admitted to the Bar, have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business or profession other than the practice of law? If so, give details, including dates.

Yes. I served on the Executive Management Team, as the Community Development Director/Deputy Regional Managing Director for the Department of Children and Families from 11/2012-11/2015. Further, I served as the Regional Program Manager for the Department of Children and Families from 10/2011-11/2012.

- 33c. State whether during the past five years you have received any fees or compensation of any kind, other than for legal services rendered, from any business enterprise, institution, organization, or association of any kind. If so, identify the source of such compensation, the nature of the business enterprise, institution, organization or association involved and the dates such compensation was paid and the amounts.

In 2014 and up until October 2015, I was compensated by the State of Florida when I was employed with the Department of Children and Families. My salary was approximately \$87,000/year.

In 2009, I was invited to teach as an adjunct faculty member with Seminole State College, f/k/a Seminole Community College. I was the instructor for the criminal litigation and procedure course. Seminole State College compensated me and it was approximately \$1500 for the semester or \$35-40/hour.

POSSIBLE BIAS OR PREJUDICE:

34. The Commission is interested in knowing if there are certain types of cases, groups of entities, or extended relationships or associations which would limit the cases for which you could sit as the presiding judge. Please list all types or classifications of cases or litigants for which you as a general proposition believe it would be difficult for you to sit as the presiding judge. Indicate the reason for each situation as to why you believe you might be in conflict. If you have prior judicial experience, describe the types of cases from which you have recused yourself.

None

MISCELLANEOUS:

- 35a. Have you ever been convicted of a felony or a first degree misdemeanor?
Yes _____ No If "Yes" what charges? _____
Where convicted? _____ Date of Conviction: _____
- 35b. Have you pled nolo contendere or pled guilty to a crime which is a felony or a first degree misdemeanor?
Yes _____ No If "Yes" what charges? _____
Where convicted? _____ Date of Conviction: _____
- 35c. Have you ever had the adjudication of guilt withheld for a crime which is a felony or a first degree misdemeanor?
Yes _____ No If "Yes" what charges? _____
Where convicted? _____ Date of Conviction: _____

- 36a. Have you ever been sued by a client? If so, give particulars including name of client, date suit filed, court, case number and disposition.
- No
- 36b. Has any lawsuit to your knowledge been filed alleging malpractice as a result of action or inaction on your part?
- No
- 36c. Have you or your professional liability insurance carrier ever settled a claim against you for professional malpractice? If so, give particulars, including the amounts involved.
- No
- 37a. Have you ever filed a personal petition in bankruptcy or has a petition in bankruptcy been filed against you?
- No
- 37b. Have you ever owned more than 25% of the issued and outstanding shares or acted as an officer or director of any corporation by which or against which a petition in bankruptcy has been filed? If so, give name of corporation, your relationship to it and date and caption of petition.
- No
38. Have you ever been a party to a lawsuit either as a plaintiff or as a defendant? If so, please supply the jurisdiction/county in which the lawsuit was filed, style, case number, nature of the lawsuit, whether you were Plaintiff or Defendant and its disposition.
- No
39. Has there ever been a finding of probable cause or other citation issued against you or are you presently under investigation for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by any court, administrative agency, bar association, or other professional group. If so, give the particulars.
- No
40. To your knowledge within the last ten years, have any of your current or former co-workers, subordinates, supervisors, customers or clients ever filed a formal complaint or formal accusation of misconduct against you with any regulatory or investigatory agency, or with your employer? If so, please state the date(s) of such formal complaint or formal accusation(s), the specific formal complaint or formal accusation(s) made, and the background and resolution of such action(s). (Any complaint filed with JQC, refer to 32d(v)).
- No
41. Are you currently the subject of an investigation which could result in civil, administrative or criminal action against you? If yes, please state the nature of the investigation, the agency conducting the investigation and the expected completion date of the investigation.
- No

42. In the past ten years, have you been subject to or threatened with eviction proceedings?
If yes, please explain.
No
- 43a. Have you filed all past tax returns as required by federal, state, local and other government authorities?
Yes No If no, please explain. _____
- 43b. Have you ever paid a tax penalty?
Yes No If yes, please explain what and why. Please see attached sheet
- 43c. Has a tax lien ever been filed against you? If so, by whom, when, where and why?
No

HONORS AND PUBLICATIONS:

44. If you have published any books or articles, list them, giving citations and dates.
N/A
45. List any honors, prizes or awards you have received. Give dates.
Eighteenth Judicial Service Pro Bono Award, December 2017
46. List and describe any speeches or lectures you have given.
Seminole County Association for Women Lawyers, Keeping it Balanced: Life, Work and Health, February 2019
Guardian Ad Litem Appreciation Breakfast, Appreciation speech to the GALs April 2019
Rock Lake Middle School, Girls Unity Club, September 2018
Light of Hope Ceremony, 2017 and 2018
Ethics Moments: Please see response 49b
Faculty with Office of State Court Administration: Please see response 49b
47. Do you have a Martindale-Hubbell rating? Yes If so, what is it? ___ No

PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- 48a. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any office which you may have held in such groups and committees to which you belonged.
Central Florida Family Law Inn, Board Member 2018-2019
Central Florida Family Law Inn, Member 2016-2017, 2017-2018
The Federalist Society, Member 2018, 2019
Juvenile Court Rules Committee, Dependency subcommittee, Term 6/30/2021

Judicial Wellness Committee, 2019

Seminole County Bar Association, Board of Directors 2016-Present

Seminole County Bar Association, Member 2015-2016

Brevard County Bar Association, Member 2017-2018, 2018-2019

Brevard Bar Foundation, Membership 2018-2019

Seminole County Inn of Court, Ethics Chair 2015-2018

Seminole County Inn of Court, Co-Chair Programs, 2018-2019

Seminole County Inn of Court, Member 2011-2015

Eighteenth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee, Co-Chair 2017-2018

Brevard County Association of Women Lawyers, Member 2018-2019

Seminole County Association of Women Lawyers, Member 2018-2019

Central Florida Association of Women Lawyers, Member 2018-2019

Orange County Bar Association, Member 2017-2018, 2018-2019

Florida Association of Police Attorneys, 2001-2006

- 48b. List, in a fully identifiable fashion, all organizations, other than those identified in response to question No. 48(a), of which you have been a member since graduating from law school, including the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in each such organization.

Rotary Club of Lake Mary, Florida, Member 2018

Rotary Club of Lake Mary, Chair Family of Rotary Committee 2018-2019

- 48c. List your hobbies or other vocational interests.

Swimming, community involvement through rotary, gardening (vegetables and flowers), mindfulness/meditation, travel

- 48d. Do you now or have you ever belonged to any club or organization that in practice or policy restricts (or restricted during the time of your membership) its membership on the basis of race, religion, national origin or sex? If so, detail the name and nature of the club(s) or organization(s), relevant policies and practices and whether you intend to continue as a member if you are selected to serve on the bench.

No

- 48e. Describe any pro bono legal work you have done. Give dates.

N/A

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

- 49a. Have you attended any continuing legal education programs during the past five years? If so, in what substantive areas?

Judicial College Phases I and II January and March 2016
Advanced Judicial Studies May 2016: Criminal Evidence, Dependency
Advanced Judicial Studies 2018: Criminal Evidence, Dependency
GAL Disabilities Training Conference May 2016: Dependency
GAL Disabilities Training Conference May 2017: Dependency
GAL Disabilities Training Conference June 2018: Dependency
Child Protection Summit September 2016: Dependency
Child Protection Summit September 2017: Dependency
Florida Circuit Judge Conference August 2018: Probate/Guardianship, Child Statements and Testimony in Court Proceedings, Plenary
Florida Association of Family and Conciliation Courts September 2018

- 49b. Have you taught any courses on law or lectured at bar association conferences, law school forums, or continuing legal education programs? If so, in what substantive areas?

Scheduled to teach: Advanced Judicial Studies, May 2019, Termination of Parental Rights: Ineffective Assistance of Counsel, Least Restrictive Means, Implementation of 2018 Statutory Changes, Least Restrictive Means

Judicial College, Phase II, March 2019, Termination of Parental Rights

Florida Conference of Circuit Court Judges, August 2018: Dependency/Delinquency Legislative and Case Law update

Seminole County Inn of Court 2015-2016, 2016-2017, 2017-2018: I presented an Ethics presentation to judges and attorneys at the monthly meetings. Topics included but not limited to: trust accounts, advertising, gift giving and receiving to and from judiciary, court staff, lawyers and clients, romantic relationships with clients, sexual misconduct, competence/communications/fees, represented persons and second opinions disclosure/disqualification/recusal, attorney conduct, judicial conduct, lawyer's duty to disclose material error, litigation cost protection insurance, conflicts of interest.

Central Florida Family Law Inn, February 2018: I presented on Gifts to the Judiciary, their families, and court staff from lawyers and clients.

GAL Disabilities Conference May 2018: I presented with the Honorable Charlie Crawford, Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, on Mindfulness

50. Describe any additional education or other experience you have which could assist you in holding judicial office.

In the Spring 2009, I had the opportunity to serve as an adjunct faculty member with Seminole State College, f/k/a, Seminole Community College. I taught Criminal Litigation and Procedure as part of the paralegal curriculum. The ages of the students ranged from recent high-school graduates to retirees seeking a second career, and their socio-economic status from low-income to upper middle-class. Further, they all had different levels of comprehension. I, not only had to develop a curriculum to cover the materials, I

52. If you have previously submitted a questionnaire or application to this or any other judicial nominating commission, please give the name of the commission and the approximate date of submission.

N/A

53. Give any other information you feel would be helpful to the Commission in evaluating your application.

See attached

REFERENCES:

54. List the names, addresses and telephone numbers of ten persons who are in a position to comment on your qualifications for judicial position and of whom inquiry may be made by the Commission.

See attached

CERTIFICATE

I have read the foregoing questions carefully and have answered them truthfully, fully and completely. I hereby waive notice by and authorize The Florida Bar or any of its committees, educational and other institutions, the Judicial Qualifications Commission, the Florida Board of Bar Examiners or any judicial or professional disciplinary or supervisory body or commission, any references furnished by me, employers, business and professional associates, all governmental agencies and instrumentalities and all consumer and credit reporting agencies to release to the respective Judicial Nominating Commission and Office of the Governor any information, files, records or credit reports requested by the commission in connection with any consideration of me as possible nominee for appointment to judicial office. Information relating to any Florida Bar disciplinary proceedings is to be made available in accordance with Rule 3-7.1(l), Rules Regulating The Florida Bar. I recognize and agree that, pursuant to the Florida Constitution and the Uniform Rules of this commission, the contents of this questionnaire and other information received from or concerning me, and all interviews and proceedings of the commission, except for deliberations by the commission, shall be open to the public.

Further, I stipulate I have read, and understand the requirements of the Florida Code of Judicial Conduct.

Dated this 14 day of April, 2019.

TESHA S. BALLOU
Printed Name


Signature

(Pursuant to Section 119.071(4)(d)(1), F.S.), . . . The home addresses and telephone numbers of justices of the Supreme Court, district court of appeal judges, circuit court judges, and county court judges; the home addresses, telephone numbers, and places of employment of the spouses and children of justices and judges; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of justices and judges are exempt from the provisions of subsection (1), dealing with public records.

FINANCIAL HISTORY

1. State the amount of gross income you have earned, or losses you have incurred (before deducting expenses and taxes) from the practice of law for the preceding three-year period. This income figure should be stated on a year to year basis and include year to date information, and salary, if the nature of your employment is in a legal field.

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | \$24,433.71 | | |
| Current year to date | Jan. 2019-Present | | |
| | \$90,753.79 | \$88,110.48 | \$85,544.16 |
| List Last 3 years | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 |
| | | | |

2. State the amount of net income you have earned, or losses you have incurred (after deducting expenses but not taxes) from the practice of law for the preceding three-year period. This income figure should be stated on a year to year basis and include year to date information, and salary, if the nature of your employment is in a legal field.

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | \$19,598.21 | | |
| Current year to date | Jan.2019-Present | | |
| | \$79,928.24 | \$77,769.77 | \$77,922.33 |
| List Last 3 years | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 |
| | | | |

3. State the gross amount of income or losses incurred (before deducting expenses or taxes) you have earned in the preceding three years on a year by year basis from all sources other than the practice of law, and generally describe the source of such income or losses.

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Current year to date | \$60 | | |
| | \$220.02 | \$211.10 | \$199.71 |
| List Last 3 years | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 |
| | | | |

4. State the amount of net income you have earned or losses incurred (after deducting expenses) from all sources other than the practice of law for the preceding three-year period on a year by year basis, and generally describe the sources of such income or losses.

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Current year to date | \$60 | | |
| | \$220.02 | \$211.10 | \$199.71 |
| List Last 3 years | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 |
| | | | |

**FORM 6
FULL AND PUBLIC
DISCLOSURE OF
FINANCIAL INTEREST**

PART A – NET WORTH

Please enter the value of your net worth as of December 31 or a more current date. [Note: Net worth is not calculated by subtracting your *reported* liabilities from your *reported* assets, so please see the instructions on page 3.]

My net worth as of April 10, 2019 was \$552,785.64.

PART B - ASSETS

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS:

Household goods and personal effects may be reported in a lump sum if their aggregate value exceeds \$1,000. This category includes any of the following, if not held for investment purposes; jewelry; collections of stamps, guns, and numismatic items; art objects; household equipment and furnishings; clothing; other household items; and vehicles for personal use.

The aggregate value of my household goods and personal effects (described above) is \$ 50,000

ASSETS INDIVIDUALLY VALUED AT OVER \$1,000:

DESCRIPTION OF ASSET (specific description is required – see instructions p. 3)

VALUE OF ASSET

| DESCRIPTION OF ASSET (specific description is required – see instructions p. 3) | VALUE OF ASSET |
|---|----------------|
| FRS: Florida Retirement Investment Account 100% | \$170,083.57 |
| Residence at [REDACTED] 100% | \$320,000 |
| PNC IRA 100% | \$23,696.69 |
| Franklin Templeton Growth Fund 100% | \$1275.28 |
| Kovacks Security CD 100% | \$9,828.50 |
| PGIM Investments Mutual Fund 100% | \$2,136.41 |

PART C - LIABILITIES

LIABILITIES IN EXCESS OF \$1,000 (See instructions on page 4):

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CREDITOR

AMOUNT OF LIABILITY

| NAME AND ADDRESS OF CREDITOR | AMOUNT OF LIABILITY |
|---|---------------------|
| Mr. Cooper P.O. Box 60516, City of Industry, CA 91716-0516-Mortgage | \$175,215.67 |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITIES NOT REPORTED ABOVE:

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CREDITOR

AMOUNT OF LIABILITY

| NAME AND ADDRESS OF CREDITOR | AMOUNT OF LIABILITY |
|--|---------------------|
| CarMax Auto Finance, P.O. Box 3174, Milwaukee, WI 53201-3174 | \$8,890.17 |
| | |
| | |

Form 6 Financial Disclosure

Assets

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|------|
| Nationwide | Money Market | \$1500 | 100% |
| Bank of America | Regular Savings | \$3,396.81 | 100% |
| Bank of America | Money Market | \$43,740.09 | 100% |
| Bank of America | CD | \$2,362.35 | 100% |
| Wells Fargo | Checking | \$3,261.55 | 50% |
| Wells Fargo | Checking | \$3,875.80 | 50% |
| Wells Fargo | Checking | \$1,669.33 | 50% |
| Wells Fargo | Checking | \$23,056.22 | 50% |
| Wells Fargo | Savings | \$219,486.48 | 50% |
| Wells Fargo | Savings | \$3,892.13 | 50% |
| Wells Fargo | Savings | \$2,720.18 | 50% |
| Wells Fargo | Savings | \$4,110.76 | 50% |
| Wells Fargo | Savings | \$1,442.28 | 50% |
| PNC | Checking | \$5,000 | 50% |

PART D - INCOME

You may **EITHER** (1) file a complete copy of your latest federal income tax return, *including all W2's, schedules, and attachments*, **OR** (2) file a sworn statement identifying each separate source and amount of income which exceeds \$1,000 including secondary sources of income, by completing the remainder of Part D, below.

I elect to file a copy of my latest federal income tax return and all W2's, schedules, and attachments.
 (if you check this box and attach a copy of your latest tax return, you need not complete the remainder of Part D.)

PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOME (See instructions on page 5):

| NAME OF SOURCE OF INCOME EXCEEDING \$1,000 | ADDRESS OF SOURCE OF INCOME | AMOUNT |
|---|---|-------------|
| Seminole County Board of County Commissioners | 1101 East First Street, Sanford, FL 32771 | \$90,753.79 |
| | | |
| | | |

SECONDARY SOURCES OF INCOME [Major customers, clients, etc., of businesses owned by reporting person—see instructions on page 6]

| NAME OF BUSINESS ENTITY | NAME OF MAJOR SOURCES OF BUSIENSS' INCOME | ADDRESS OF SOURCE | PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY OF SOURCE |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| n/a | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

PART E – INTERESTS IN SPECIFIC BUSINESS [Instructions on page 7]

| | BUSINESS ENTITY #1 | BUSINESS ENTITY #2 | BUSINESS ENTITY #3 |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| NAME OF BUSINESS ENTITTY | n/a | | |
| ADDRESS OF BUSINESS ENTITY | | | |
| PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY | | | |
| POSITION HELD WITH ENTITY | | | |
| I OWN MORE THAN A 5% INTEREST IN THE BUSINESS | | | |
| NATURE OF MY OWNERSHIP INTEREST | | | |

IF ANY OF PARTS A THROUGH E ARE CONTINUED ON A SEPARATE SHEET, PLEASE CHECK HERE

OATH

I, the person whose name appears at the beginning of this form, do depose on oath or affirmation and say that the information disclosed on this form and any attachments hereto is true, accurate, and complete.

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF Seminole

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this 13 day of April, 2019 by Testa Scalero Ballou

[Handwritten Signature]
 (Signature of Notary Public—State of Florida)

Cherie R. Campos
 (Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

Personally Known _____ OR Produced Identification ✓

Type of Identification Produced Florida Driver License
Cherie R. Campos
 State of Florida

[Handwritten Signature]
 SIGNATURE



INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING FORM 6:

PUBLIC RECORD: The disclosure form and everything attached to it is a public record. Your Social Security Number is not required and you should redact it from any documents you file. If you are an active or former officer or employee listed in Section 119.071(4)(d), F.S., whose home address is exempt from disclosure, the Commission is required to maintain the confidentiality of your home address if you submit a written request for confidentiality.

PART A – NET WORTH

Report your net worth as of December 31 or a more current date, and list that date. This should be the same date used to value your assets and liabilities. In order to determine your net worth, you will need to total the value of all your assets and subtract the amount of all of your liabilities. Simply subtracting the liabilities reported in Part C from the assets reported in Part B will not result in an accurate net worth figure in most cases.

To total the value of your assets, add:

- form;
- (1) The aggregate value of household goods and personal effects, as reported in Part B of this form;
 - (2) The value of all assets worth over \$1,000, as reported in Part B; and
 - (3) The total value of any assets worth less than \$1,000 that were not reported or included in the category of “household goods and personal effects.”

To total the amount of your liabilities, add:

- (1) The total amount of each liability you reported in Part C of this form, except for any amounts listed in the “joint and several liabilities not reported above” portion; and,
- (2) The total amount of unreported liabilities (including those under \$1,000, credit card and retail installment accounts, and taxes owed).

PART B – ASSETS WORTH MORE THAN \$1,000

HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND PERSONAL EFFECTS:

The value of your household goods and personal effects may be aggregated and reported as a lump sum, if their aggregate value exceeds \$1,000. The types of assets that can be reported in this manner are described on the form.

ASSETS INDIVIDUALLY VALUED AT MORE THAN \$1,000:

Provide a description of each asset you had on the reporting date chosen for your net worth (Part A), that was worth more than \$1,000 and that is not included as household goods and personal effects, and list its value. Assets include: interests in real property; tangible and intangible personal property, such as cash, stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, interests in partnerships, beneficial interest in a trust, promissory notes owed to you, accounts received by you, bank accounts, assets held in IRAs, Deferred Retirement Option Accounts, and Florida Prepaid College Plan accounts. You are not required to disclose assets owned solely by your spouse.

How to Identify or Describe the Asset:

— Real property: Identify by providing the street address of the property. If the property has no street address, identify by describing the property’s location in a manner sufficient to enable a member of the public to ascertain its location without resorting to any other source of information.

— Intangible property: Identify the type of property and the business entity or person to which or to whom it relates. Do not list simply “stocks and bonds” or “bank accounts.” For example, list “Stock (Williams Construction Co.),” “Bonds (Southern Water and Gas),” “Bank accounts (First

National Bank),” “Smith family trust,” Promissory note and mortgage (owed by John and Jane Doe).”

How to Value Assets:

- Value each asset by its fair market value on the date used in Part A for your net worth.
- Jointly held assets: If you hold real or personal property jointly with another person, your interest equals your legal percentage of ownership in the property. However, assets that are held as tenants by the entirety or jointly with right of survivorship must be reported at 100% of their value.
- Partnerships: You are deemed to own an interest in a partnership which corresponds to your interest in the equity of that partnership.
- Trusts: You are deemed to own an interest in a trust which corresponds to your percentage interest in the trust corpus.
- Real property may be valued at its market value for tax purposes, unless a more accurate appraisal of its fair market value is available.
- Marketable securities which are widely traded and whose prices are generally available should be valued based upon the closing price on the valuation date.
- Accounts, notes, and loans receivable: Value at fair market value, which generally is the amount you reasonably expect to collect.
- Closely-held businesses: Use any method of valuation which in your judgment most closely approximates fair market value, such as book value, reproduction value, liquidation value, capitalized earnings value, capitalized cash flow value, or value established by “buy-out” agreements. It is suggested that the method of valuation chosen be indicated in a footnote on the form.
- Life insurance: Use cash surrender value less loans against the policy, plus accumulated dividends.

PART C—LIABILITIES

LIABILITIES IN EXCESS OF \$1,000:

List the name and address of each creditor to whom you were indebted on the reporting date chosen for your net worth (Part A) in an amount that exceeded \$1,000 and list the amount of the liability. Liabilities include: accounts payable; notes payable; interest payable; debts or obligations to governmental entities other than taxes (except when the taxes have been reduced to a judgment); and judgments against you. You are not required to disclose liabilities owned *solely* by your spouse.

You do not have to list on the form any of the following: credit card and retail installment accounts, taxes owed unless the taxes have been reduced to a judgment), indebtedness on a life insurance policy owned to the company of issuance, or contingent liabilities. A “contingent liability” is one that will become an actual liability only when one or more future events occur or fail to occur, such as where you are liable only as a partner (without personal liability) for partnership debts, or where you are liable only as a guarantor, surety, or endorser on a promissory note. If you are a “co-maker” on a note and have signed as being jointly liable or jointly and severally liable, then this is not a contingent liability.

How to Determine the Amount of a Liability:

- Generally, the amount of the liability is the face amount of the debt.
- If you are the only person obligated to satisfy a liability, 100% of the liability should be listed.

— If you are jointly and severally liable with another person or entity, which often is the case where more than one person is liable on a promissory note, you should report here only the portion of the liability that corresponds to your percentage of liability. *However*, if you are jointly and severally liable for a debt relating to property you own with one or more others as tenants by the entirety or jointly, with right of survivorship, report 100% of the total amount owed.

— If you are only jointly (not jointly and severally) liable with another person or entity, your share of the liability should be determined in the same way as you determined your share of jointly held assets.

Examples:

— You owe \$10,000 to a bank for student loans, \$5,000 for credit card debts, and \$60,000 with your spouse to a saving and loan for the mortgage on the home you own with your spouse. You must report the name and address of the bank (\$10,000 being the amount of that liability) and the name and address of the savings and loan (\$60,000 being the amount of this liability). The credit cards debts need not be reported.

— You and your 50% business partner have a \$100,000 business loan from a bank and you both are jointly and severally liable. Report the name and address of the bank and \$50,000 as the amount of the liability. If your liability for the loan is only as a partner, without personal liability, then the loan would be a contingent liability.

JOINT AND SEVERAL LIABILITIES NOT REPORTED ABOVE:

List in this part of the form the amount of each debt, for which you were jointly and severally liable, that is not reported in the “Liabilities in Excess of \$1,000” part of the form. Example: You and your 50% business partner have a \$100,000 business loan from a bank and you both are jointly and severally liable. Report the name and address of the bank and \$50,000 as the amount of the liability, as you reported the other 50% of the debt earlier.

PART D – INCOME

As noted on the form, you have the option of either filing a copy of your latest federal income tax return, including all schedules, W2's and attachments, with Form 6, or completing Part D of the form. If you do not attach your tax return, you must complete Part D.

PRIMARY SOURCES OF INCOME:

List the name of each source of income that provided you with more than \$1,000 of income during the year, the address of that source, and the amount of income received from that source. The income of your spouse need not be disclosed; however, if there is a joint income to you and your spouse from property you own jointly (such as interest or dividends from a bank account or stocks), you should include all of that income.

“Income” means the same as “gross income” for federal income tax purposes, even if the income is not actually taxable, such as interest on tax-free bonds. Examples of income include: compensation for services, gross income from business, gains from property dealings, interest, rents, dividends, pensions, IRA distributions, distributive share of partnership gross income, and alimony, but not child support. Where income is derived from a business activity you should report that income to you, as calculated for income tax purposes, rather than the income to the business.

Examples:

— If you owned stock in and were employed by a corporation and received more than \$1,000 of income (salary, commissions, dividends, etc.) from the company, you should list the name of the company, its address, and the total amount of income received from it.

— If you were a partner in a law firm and your distributive share of partnership gross income exceeded \$1,000, you should list the name of the firm, its address, and the amount of your distributive share.

— If you received dividend or interest income from investments in stocks and bonds, list only each individual company from which you received more than \$1,000. Do not aggregate income from all of these investments.

— If more than \$1,000 of income was gained from the sale of property, then you should list as a source of income the name of the purchaser, the purchaser's address, and the amount of gain from the sale. If the purchaser's identity is unknown, such as where securities listed on an exchange are sold through a brokerage firm, the source of income should be listed simply as "sale of (name of company) stock," for example.

— If more than \$1,000 of your income was in the form of interest from one particular financial institution (aggregating interest from all CD's, accounts, etc., at that institution), list the name of the institution, its address, and the amount of income from that institution.

SECONDARY SOURCE OF INCOME:

This part is intended to require the disclosure of major customers, clients, and other sources of income to businesses in which you own an interest. It is not for reporting income from second jobs. That kind of income should be reported as a "Primary Source of Income." You will **not** have anything to report **unless**:

(1) You owned (either directly or indirectly in the form of an equitable or beneficial interest) during the disclosure period, more than 5% of the total assets or capital stock of a business entity (a corporation, partnership, limited partnership, LLC, proprietorship, joint venture, trust, firm, etc., doing business in Florida); and

(2) You received more than \$1,000 in gross income from that business entity during the period.

If your ownership and gross income exceeded the two thresholds listed above, then for that business entity you must list every source of income to the business entity which exceeded 10% of the business entity's gross income (computed on the basis of the business entity's more recently completed fiscal year), the source's address, the source's principal business activity, and the name of the business entity in which you owned an interest. You do not have to list the amount of income the business derived from that major source of income.

Examples:

— You are the sole proprietor of a dry cleaning business, from which you received more than \$1,000 in gross income last year. If only one customer, a uniform rental company, provided more than 10% of your dry cleaning business, you must list the name of your business, the name of the uniform rental company, its address, and its principal business activity (uniform rentals).

— You are a 20% partner in a partnership that owns a shopping mall and your gross partnership income exceeded \$1,000. You should list the name of the partnership, the name of each tenant of the mall that provided more than 10% of the partnership's gross income, the tenant's address and principal business activity.

PART E – INTERESTS IN SPECIFIED BUSINESS

The types of businesses covered in this section include: state and federally chartered banks; state and federal savings and loan associations; cemetery companies; insurance companies; mortgage companies, credit unions; small loan companies; alcoholic beverage licensees; pari-mutuel wagering companies; utility companies; and entities controlled by the Public Service Commission; and entities granted a franchise to operate by either a city or a county government.

You are required to make this disclosure if you own or owned (either directly or indirectly in the form of an equitable or beneficial interest) at any time during the disclosure period, more than 5% of the total assets or capital stock of one of the types of business entities listed above. You also must complete this part of the form for each of these types of business for which you are, or were at any time during the year an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or agent (other than a resident agent solely for service of process).

If you have or held such a position or ownership interest in one of these types of businesses, list: the name of the business, its address and principal business activity, and the position held with the business (if any). Also, if you own(ed) more than a 5% interest in the business, as described above, you must indicate that fact and describe the nature of your interest.

JUDICIAL APPLICATION DATA RECORD

The judicial application shall include a separate page asking applicants to identify their race, ethnicity and gender. Completion of this page shall be optional, and the page shall include an explanation that the information is requested for data collection purposes in order to assess and promote diversity in the judiciary. The chair of the Commission shall forward all such completed pages, along with the names of the nominees to the JNC Coordinator in the Governor's Office (pursuant to JNC Uniform Rule of Procedure).

(Please Type or Print)

Date: 4/14/19

JNC Submitting To: Eighteenth Judicial Circuit

Name (please print): Tesha S. Ballou

Current Occupation: General Magistrate

Telephone Number: 617-306-3552 Attorney No.: 88625

Gender (check one): Male Female

Male

Female

Ethnic Origin (check one): White, non Hispanic
 Hispanic
 Black
 American Indian/Alaskan Native
 Asian/Pacific Islander

County of Residence: Seminole

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

DISCLOSURE PURSUANT TO THE
FAIR CREDIT REPORTING ACT (FCRA)

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) may obtain one or more consumer reports, including but not limited to credit reports, about you, for employment purposes as defined by the Fair Credit Reporting Act, including for determinations related to initial employment, reassignment, promotion, or other employment-related actions.

CONSUMER'S AUTHORIZATION FOR FDLE
TO OBTAIN CONSUMER REPORT(S)

I have read and understand the above Disclosure. I authorize the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) to obtain one or more consumer reports on me, for employment purposes, as described in the above Disclosure.

Printed Name of
Applicant:

Tesha S. Ballou

Signature of Applicant:



Date: 4/14/19