

**Democratic Club of Boca Raton and Delray Beach**  
**Questions for Judicial Candidates August, 2020**  
**Adam Myron**

1. Please provide a short biography.

I'm a native Floridian. I grew up in Palm Beach County and was raised by my parents, a public school teacher and a small business owner. I attended public school in Palm Beach County and graduated from Suncoast High School's International Baccalaureate program. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy, *magna cum laude*, from Emory University and a Juris Doctor degree from The George Washington University Law School. Shortly after law school, I returned to Palm Beach County, where together with my wife Stephanie, we are raising our two sons, Arthur (3) and Alexander (1), only a few miles from where I grew up.

2. What experience do you bring to this position?

In terms of my professional experience, I have been practicing law for almost 18 years. In that time, I have served a broad range of individual and corporate clients who have been plaintiffs and defendants. My work has involved complex business and partnership litigation, professional malpractice liability, trust and estate litigation, non-competition law, employment litigation, personal injury, association law, and commercial and residential real estate transactions. I have handled multimillion-dollar business and commercial disputes, including the defense of a professional liability matter in which the plaintiff sought more than a billion dollars in damages from firm clients.

Key experience:

- Achieved a significant victory for two orthopedic implant sales representatives, who were sued by their former distributor to enjoin them from working for a new distributor based on claims that they violated the terms of certain non-compete agreements. The litigation resulted in the dismissal of all claims with prejudice and a release of the clients from the obligations of their non-compete agreements six months prior to the expiration of the term.
- Defended an international law firm from a legal malpractice claim brought by a formerly-reporting public company whose stock was delisted from a national exchange in the aftermath of accounting fraud at the company's foreign subsidiary.
- Successfully resolved a contentious legal malpractice claim during the pre-suit stages, avoiding contentious litigation surrounding an international law firm's preparation of documents to effectuate a multimillion dollar land-banking transaction.
- Successfully represented investors against two land development entities following their loss of a \$1.25 million investment to develop property where the defendants failed to repay the investment plus a contractually promised preferred return; despite defendants' assertion of a number of defenses, including an allegation that the two

**Democratic Club of Boca Raton and Delray Beach**  
**Questions for Judicial Candidates August, 2020**  
**Adam Myron**

individual investors had not signed the final version of the investment agreement which forced a reformation action, and following extensive investigation and discovery, the trial court entered a final summary judgment in favor of the investors on all claims for the full sum sought: \$5.53 million against the defendants.

- Successfully and cost-effectively aided in amicably resolving claims against an individual defendant who had been sued simply for receiving gifts that unbeknownst to her were allegedly purchased by a third party with funds derived from a multimillion dollar Ponzi scheme perpetrated against the plaintiff and other victims; negotiated a settlement that resolved the matter without the need for protracted litigation and required the plaintiff to pay a portion of the defendant's attorney fees.
- I frequently aid in "bridging the gap" for parties in contentious commercial and personal injury mediations
- Represented two sisters in guardianship litigation to aid them in reuniting with their incapacitated brother.
- Aided Holocaust survivors, pro bono, in applying to the German government for forced labor reparations.
- Successfully defended numerous claims brought by one sibling against another related to the estate of their deceased mother.
- Obtained a multi-million dollar judgment in a case involving the violation of a non-compete agreement prohibiting certain conduct in the marine lighting industry.

Just as important as the ability to understand and apply the law is having the presence of mind to apply a civil and professional demeanor to those I encounter in my career. This goes hand in hand with my work as a mediator, where I serve as an impartial facilitator of conflict resolution and apply active listening skills to try to better understand people, where they come from, and what values they hold dear.

Two experiences that dramatically shaped who I am as a person involved the human element of the law. The first pertained to two elderly sisters who feared that they would never see their brother again after their niece obtained a guardianship over their brother and moved him to a memory care facility. I was able to seek judicial relief for them which ultimately led to a resolution that brought my clients back together with their brother. The second experience was a pro bono project I participated in to aid Holocaust survivors applying to the German government for forced labor reparations. I met face to face with those who had persevered through humanity's darkest hours, and I was entrusted with their histories.

**Democratic Club of Boca Raton and Delray Beach**  
**Questions for Judicial Candidates August, 2020**  
**Adam Myron**

Those experiences humbled me, and they serve to remind me of the incredible impact attorneys have on other human beings. The actions and demeanor of a judge also have a direct impact on the lives of other people. Typically, the first time a person meets a judge is on one of the worst days of their life. So it is vitally important for a judge to set a tone of dignity, respect, and professionalism in the courtroom so that everyone knows that - win or lose - they were treated fairly and had a fair opportunity to be heard and present their case. Kindness, decency, and compassion are some of my core values. When combined with my legal skills, I know that I am prepared to be an excellent judge.

**3. Why are you running?**

I'm running for judge because I am passionate about ensuring public confidence in the justice system, and for me, this is a call to public service. In addition to my career as an advocate, I'm also a Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Mediator. I became a mediator because I love the idea of serving as an impartial facilitator of conflict resolution. Serving my community as a judge is another way that I will be able to accomplish those same goals. In addition to my legal skills, I also have the right temperament for the job and will treat everyone, regardless of who they are or where they come from, with civility and respect. It is my hope that by applying calmness, control, and common sense to the job, I will be able to strengthen public confidence in our judicial system and remind people that the system not only works, but that it works for them.

**4. What are the major influences in your life?**

My family is the most important influence in my life. My wife Stephanie Myron is a victim's rights attorney who has her own law practice. We both pursue our personal and professional goals, which takes honest communication and a clear understanding of our shared responsibilities. We have two young boys and we do our best to instill in them values of fairness, equality, and justice. They serve as a constant reminder of the impact that my actions have on others. I know that to be a good father, husband and son, I must lead by example.

My parents were also major influences in my life and remain so to this day. They taught me the importance of being decent, engaging in community service, and always displaying respect for others.

A third major influence in my life is an excerpt from *The Diary of Anne Frank*: "In spite of everything, I still believe people are really good at heart." Throughout my life, those words have stuck with me as a reminder that even among the worst of circumstances it is possible to retain hope and faith in humanity.

**5. What is your general judicial philosophy as it pertains to the court on which you will sit as a judge?**

**Democratic Club of Boca Raton and Delray Beach**  
**Questions for Judicial Candidates August, 2020**  
**Adam Myron**

One of my favorite quotes is from Philo of Alexandria, “be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a great battle.” That sums up what I perceive to be a perfect judicial philosophy: a recognition that most people meet a judge on one of the worst days of their life and that everyone brings with them their unique life experiences. A judge has to be fair and impartial, and make tough decisions; but at the same time a judge has to have empathy and compassion. A judge has to treat everyone the same way: with kindness, civility, and respect. A judge must set a tone of professionalism in the courtroom so that everyone will mirror that behavior. I recognize that every day should be lived with decency and respect for one’s fellow citizens. I view being a judge as a public service and aspire for the opportunity to serve and have a positive impact in our community.

6. Would there be any specific types of cases in which you might find it necessary to disqualify yourself? Can you give us an example?

Only if legal grounds exist for disqualification would I need to recuse myself from a case. As a constitutional officer sworn to faithfully and impartially uphold and apply the law, I would otherwise preside over any case that comes before me.

7. Why should voters support you rather than your opponent?

The Palm Beach County Bar Association conducts judicial evaluation polls in which respondents are asked to evaluate Judicial Officers before whom they have had at least one trial or three hearings in the preceding two years. The association notes that it “has a vital interest in retaining on the bench Judicial Officers of the highest possible qualifications so that our Courts may have the utmost confidence and respect of the public and the Bar.” In my race, I believe that where the incumbent judge has received the most “needs improvement” ratings in almost every category on not just one but two consecutive judicial evaluation polls, and where the percentage of “needs improvement” ratings has actually increased in a number of significant categories, a healthy democracy deserves a determination by the electorate as to whether the citizens of Palm Beach County want that judge to remain in office.

I offer needed change. I am the only person in my race that grew up in Palm Beach County, and during the course of my nearly 18-year legal career, I’ve handled many cases that have required the analysis of complex legal issues. I’m confident that I would be prepared to effectively analyze and apply the law to any issue that is presented to me as a Circuit Court Judge.

As a member of our Palm Beach County Bar Association Judicial Relations Committee, I have a deep understanding of the issues facing our judiciary here in Palm Beach County.

Legal skills, involvement, and commitment to community are just parts of the equation. If elected, voters will also get a judge who is calm and controlled, and who applies common sense. My demeanor is uniquely suited for a position as an impartial public servant.

**Democratic Club of Boca Raton and Delray Beach**  
**Questions for Judicial Candidates August, 2020**  
**Adam Myron**

8. Which justice of the Supreme Court, either alive or dead, would you like to meet and why?

There are many Supreme Court Justices that I would like to meet, such as Thurgood Marshall, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sandra Day O'Connor, and William Brennan, Jr. However, I would most like to meet Justice Robert H. Jackson. Not only was Justice Jackson the only person to ever be on the Supreme Court, serve as United States Solicitor General, and serve as United States Attorney General; Justice Jackson took a leave of absence from the Supreme Court to become involved in the prosecution of Nazi war criminals. He worked as the Chief United States Prosecutor at the Nuremberg Trials, operating not just on the national stage but on the international stage to seek justice in the aftermath of humanity's darkest hours. I would value the opportunity to hear first-hand accounts of his experiences.

9. What do you perceive as the greatest obstacles to justice, if any?

One of the main challenges facing our justice system is access to justice, which is impacted by gender, race, and socio-economic factors. Organizations such as the Legal Aid Society and Victim's Services promote access to justice; however, there are many individuals who may not qualify for the services of those organizations or may not even be aware that they exist. Even after an individual obtains access to the court system, equal treatment may be difficult to obtain. Educational programs on the topic of implicit bias, which are available through the Florida Association for Women Lawyers and the United Way's Racial Equity Institute, could help to educate individuals about some of the root causes of disparity and ideally pave the way for greater equity and fairness for those involved in the court system.

Safety is another challenge currently facing our justice system. The need to ensure the safety of court staff, attendees, and parties involved in a judicial proceeding should be of utmost concern in our post-COVID-19 world. We need to be able to ensure that court staff and members of the public are employing proper safety procedures in order to minimize the risk associated with being physically present during a court proceeding. Critically, we need to ensure that people are not deterred from serving for jury duty or seeking justice because they are fearful of the potential health risks associated with accessing the courts.

A third challenge facing our justice system is the conflict between insufficient funding and the need for implementation of new technologies. With the promotion of virtual court appearances, it is important to ensure that judges have the technology and equipment necessary to effectively conduct full virtual evidentiary hearings. During a live proceeding, a judge is able to consider the bearing, credibility, and demeanor of the parties and witnesses, but the judge's ability to do so is substantially diminished when the judge is conducting an evidentiary hearing or trial on a computer screen. The implementation of new technology is necessary to promote justice. As technology advances and becomes more available, adequate funding of the courts will be critical.

**Democratic Club of Boca Raton and Delray Beach**  
**Questions for Judicial Candidates August, 2020**  
**Adam Myron**

10. What is your vision for the future of our judicial system? What changes would you advocate and why?

As stated above, it is important to implement policies and procedures to ensure the safety of all involved in our court system. One such policy could involve providing and updating guidelines regarding the maximum number of people allowed in a courtroom (or a waiting area) to ensure proper social distancing guidelines are enforced. Such safety guidelines could be clearly placed at courthouse entrances and on courtroom doors, and they can be attached to trial orders and hearing notices. They can also be included as part of every judge's divisional instructions.

Additionally, the overall structure of how court proceedings are scheduled and conducted may need to be modified to reduce physical interaction. Currently, many hearings can be conducted over the phone or virtually, and should continue to be held virtually if possible. Sometimes, however, that is not possible. In criminal cases where physical appearance is required, adequate safety procedures involving limited numbers of people in the courtroom and proper social distancing should be maintained in order to protect the public and the accused, and ensure constitutional rights are protected.

Please return completed form to Kevin McGrath at: [akm\\_fil@yahoo.com](mailto:akm_fil@yahoo.com)