

JUDICIAL CANDIDATES FORUM

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA

PRESENTED BY THE NORTH TAMPA BAR ASSOCIATION

13TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Group 31

GARY S. DOLGIN

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What is the source of your value system?

My parents. They instilled in me the responsibility to make the world a better place and to fight for justice and equality. In my 30 years of legal practice, I have always fought hard to obtain justice for my clients. As a judge, I will treat everyone equally and fairly and make sure that justice is done in my courtroom.

Why do you want to be a judge?

I was inspired by the late Judge Harry Lee Coe, III when he came to my American History class. I was further inspired when Justice Sandra Day O'Connor invited me to her chambers in Washington, DC. I want to be a judge because of my commitment to public service and my respect for the rule of law.

What have you done over the years to prepare yourself specifically for judicial service?

I have been practicing law for 30 years. I am a Board Certified Marital and Family Law expert. I have run a successful private law practice for over 27 years. I have been actively involved in the community including with Bay Area Legal Services, Rotary, several Chambers of Commerce, and past President of the Tiger Bay Club.

What distinguishes you from the other candidates?

I have practiced law for 30 years, longer than any other candidate in this race. I am the only candidate who has achieved Board Certification. I am the only candidate designated as a Super Lawyer. I have run a successful law practice for 27 years. I have served Florida as both an Assistant State Attorney and an Assistant Public Defender.

How do you describe your temperament and personality?

I believe that I possess the integrity, experience, excellence, expertise, compassion and empathy to be an excellent circuit court judge. I will make sure that every litigant who appears in my courtroom has the opportunity to be heard and is treated with dignity and respect.

What would make you a competent judge?

My 30 years of legal experience and expertise as a Board Certified Marital and Family Law expert (only one of 28 in this county), as well as my experience as a prosecutor and public defender will help me be an excellent judge.

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FORUM MODERATED BY ADRIA DICKEY & JARED KRUKAR

