

Miami-Dade County
2012 County Court Judge Candidates
Candidate Qualifying Information

- QUALIFICATIONS:** [Constitution of the State of Florida, Article V, Section 8 and F.S. 34.021(1)]
1. Registered voter of the State.
 2. Resident of Miami-Dade County.
 3. No judge shall serve after attaining the age of seventy years except upon temporary assignment or to complete a term, one-half of which he or she has served.
 4. Member in good standing of Florida Bar for the preceding five (5) years prior to qualifying.
- TYPE OF ELECTION:** Nonpartisan [F.S. 105.011(2)]
- ELECTION AREA:** Countywide
[Constitution of the State of Florida, Article V, Section 8 and F.S. 34.021(1)]
- GROUPS TO BE ELECTED:** Please refer to the [2012 List of Judges to be Elected](#)
- TERM:** Six (6) years [Constitution of the State of Florida, Article V, Section 10(b)(3)(c)]
- The term for a County Court Judge shall commence on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January following his or her election (January 8, 2013).
[Constitution of the State of Florida, Article V, Section 10(b)(2)]
- SALARY:** \$134,280 Annual (Based on salary as of July 1, 2011)
- ELECTION DATES:** August 14, 2012 – Primary [F.S. 105.051(b) and F.S. 100.061]
November 6, 2012 – General [F.S. 105.051(c) and F.S. 100.031]
(Should a runoff election be required, the race will be included in the General Election)
- QUALIFYING DATES:** Noon, Monday, April 16, 2012, through Noon, Friday, April 20, 2012 [F.S. 105.031(1)]
- A qualifying office may accept and hold qualifying papers submitted not earlier than 14 days prior (April 2, 2012) to the beginning of the qualifying period, to be processed and filed during the qualifying period. [F.S. 99.061(8) and 105.031(6)]

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QUALIFYING REQUIREMENTS:

The following items must be submitted to the Miami-Dade Elections Department:

Qualifying Method – Qualifying Fee

1. State of Florida Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates ([Form DS-DE 9](#))*
2. Statement of Candidate for Judicial Office ([Form DS-DE 83](#))*
3. Statement of Candidate ([Form DS-DE 84](#))*
4. Receipt of Handbook and The Election Laws of the State of Florida ([Form MD-ED 2](#))*.
5. Campaign Treasurer's Report Electronic Filing Requirements for Miami-Dade County ([Form MD-ED 10](#))*
6. Declaration and First Amendment Waiver ([MDC Ethics Commission Waiver](#)) (optional)
7. Judicial Office Candidate Oath ([Form DS-DE 26](#))
8. Form 6 – Full and Public Disclosure of Financial Interest – 2011 (CE Form 6) along with any other applicable forms. Public officers who have filed financial disclosure with the Florida Commission on Ethics may file a copy with filing officer at time of qualifying. The 2011 CE Form 6 will be available after January 1, 2012, in the [Florida Commission on Ethics website](#).
9. Qualifying fee of \$5,371.20 is to be paid by means of a bank check drawn from the candidate's campaign account as prescribed in F.S. 106.11(1)(a), and made payable to the Board of County Commissioners. Qualifying fee is 4% of the annual salary as of July 1, 2011 (3% filing fee plus 1% election assessment fee). [FS 105.031(3)]
10. If you currently hold an elected or appointed position, please consult with your attorney to determine whether you are required to resign from the office you presently hold to run for this office.

** These forms must be submitted to the Miami-Dade Elections Department at time of announcing candidacy.*

Miami-Dade County 2012 County Court Judge Candidates Candidate Qualifying Information

Qualifying Method – Petitions

1. State of Florida Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates ([Form DS-DE 9](#))*
2. Statement of Candidate for Judicial Office ([Form DS-DE 83](#))*
3. Statement of Candidate ([Form DS-DE 84](#))*
4. Receipt of Handbook and The Election Laws of the State of Florida ([Form MD-ED 2](#))*.
5. Campaign Treasurer's Report Electronic Filing Requirements for Miami-Dade County ([Form MD-ED 10](#))*
6. Declaration and First Amendment Waiver ([MDC Ethics Commission Waiver](#)) (optional)
7. Judicial Office Candidate Oath ([Form DS-DE 26](#))
8. Form 6 – Full and Public Disclosure of Financial Interest – 2011 (CE Form 6) along with any other applicable forms. Public officers who have filed financial disclosure with the Florida Commission on Ethics may file a copy with filing officer at time of qualifying. The 2011 CE Form 6 will be available after January 1, 2012, in the [Florida Commission on Ethics website](#).
9. Candidate Petition ([Form DS-DE 104](#))
10. If you currently hold an elected or appointed position, please consult with your attorney to determine whether you are required to resign from the office you presently hold to run for this office.

** These forms must be submitted to the Miami-Dade Elections Department at time of announcing candidacy.*

Who Can Sign Petitions? [F.S. 99.095, F.S. 105.035, and F.S. 105.036]

Any registered elector in the geographical area of candidacy may sign a petition.

Signatures may not be obtained until the candidate has filed the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates pursuant to F.S. 106.021 and valid only for the qualifying period immediately following such filings.

Petition signatures of at least 1% (12,058) of the total registered electors (1,205,770) in the geographical area represented by the office sought for the immediately preceding general election are required. Each signature shall be dated when made and shall be valid for a period of 2 years following such date. [F.S. 105.036(2)]

Deadline for Submitting Petitions: [F.S. 99.095 and F.S. 105.035]

Candidates must submit petitions for verification to the Miami-Dade Elections Department no later than noon on the 28th day preceding the first day of the qualifying period (Monday, March 19, 2012).

Petition Verification: [F.S. 99.097]

There is a charge of 10 cents per name for verification of signatures, which must be paid to the Miami-Dade Elections Department upon submission of petitions. The candidate may file an "[Affidavit of Undue Burden](#)" with the Miami-Dade Elections Department to waive the cost of verification. [F.S. 99.097(4)]

If any person is paid to solicit signatures on a petition, an undue burden oath may not subsequently be filed in lieu of paying the fee to have signatures verified for that petition. If an undue burden oath has been filed and payment is subsequently made to any person to solicit signatures on a petition, the undue burden oath is no longer valid and a fee for all signatures previously submitted to the supervisor of elections and any that are submitted thereafter shall be paid by the candidate who submitted the undue burden oath. [F.S. 99.097(6)]

The Supervisor of Elections must certify the number of valid signatures no later than the 7th day before the first day of the qualifying period (Monday, April 9, 2012) and submit such certification to the Division of Elections. [F.S. 105.035(4)(b)]

If the candidate is unable to collect the required number of signatures, he/she may still qualify by paying the qualifying fee.

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Qualifying Method – Write-In Candidate

1. State of Florida Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates ([Form DS-DE 9](#))*
2. Statement of Candidate for Judicial Office ([Form DS-DE 83](#))*
3. Statement of Candidate ([Form DS-DE 84](#))*
4. Receipt of Handbook and The Election Laws of the State of Florida ([Form MD-ED 2](#))*.
5. Campaign Treasurer's Report Electronic Filing Requirements for Miami-Dade County ([Form MD-ED 10](#))*
6. Declaration and First Amendment Waiver ([MDC Ethics Commission Waiver](#)) (optional)
7. Judicial Office Candidate Oath – Write-In Candidate ([Form DS-DE 26A](#))
8. Form 6 – Full and Public Disclosure of Financial Interest – 2011 (CE Form 6) along with any other applicable forms. Public officers who have filed financial disclosure with the Florida Commission on Ethics may file a copy with filing officer at time of qualifying. The 2011 CE Form 6 will be available after January 1, 2012, in the [Florida Commission on Ethics website](#).
9. No qualifying fee required; a blank space will be provided on the general election ballot for names of write-in candidates. [F.S. 105.041(4)]
10. If you currently hold an elected or appointed position, please consult with your attorney to determine whether you are required to resign from the office you presently hold to run for this office.

** These forms must be submitted to the Miami-Dade Elections Department at time of announcing candidacy.*

Miami-Dade County 2012 County Court Judge Candidates Candidate Forms and Additional Resources

CANDIDATE FORMS

The following list is a compilation of forms to be used by County Court Judge candidates and their campaign treasurers who qualify with the Miami-Dade Elections Department. For your convenience, a hyperlink has been provided for each form.

Opening of Account	
DS-DE 9	State of Florida Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates
DS-DE 83	Statement of Candidate for Judicial Office
DS-DE 84	Statement of Candidate
MD-ED 2	Receipt of Handbook and The Election Laws of the State of Florida
MD-ED 10	Campaign Treasurer's Report Electronic Filing Requirements for Miami-Dade County
MDC Ethics Commission Waiver	Declaration and First Amendment Waiver – Optional
Qualifying	
DS-DE 104	Candidate Petition
Affidavit of Undue Burden	Affidavit of Undue Burden (if unable to pay for the verification of the signatures)
DS-DE 26	Judicial Office Candidate Oath
DS-DE 26A	Judicial Office Candidate Oath – Write-In Candidate (only if applying by write-in method)
CE Form 6	Form 6 – Full and Public Disclosure of Financial Interest - 2011; along with any other forms, if applicable. The form will be available after January 1, 2012, in the Florida Commission on Ethics website.
Campaign Reporting	
DS-DE 12	Campaign Treasurer's Report Summary
DS-DE 13	Campaign Treasurer's Report – Itemized Contributions
DS-DE 14	Campaign Treasurer's Report – Itemized Expenditures
DS-DE 94	Campaign Treasurer's Report – Fund Transfers
DS-DE 87	Waiver of Report
DS-DE 86	Request for Return of Contribution
DS-DE 2	Contributions Returned
Termination Reports	
DS-DE 73	Campaign Loans Report
DS-DE 73A	Campaign Loans Report Itemized
Elected Officials – Opening an Office Account	
DS-DE 48	Office Account Report
DS-DE 48A	Office Account Disbursement or Deposit Information

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [2012 Reporting Dates for Campaign Treasurer's Reports](#)
- [2011 Election Laws of the State of Florida](#)
- [Code of Judicial Conduct Supreme Court of Florida](#)
- [Memorandum from the Supreme Court of Florida Regarding the 2012 Election](#)
- [2012 Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook](#)
- [Candidate Petition Handbook](#)
- [Year on Ballot/Terms for Judges](#)
- [2012 List of Judges to be Elected](#)