

Program Title			
Date Presented	Inn Year		
Presenting Inn	Inn Number		
Inn City	Inn State		
Contact Person	Phone		
E-mail Address			
Please consider this program for the Program Awards: Yes No (Submit within 60 days of presentation.)	This program is being submitted for Achieving Excellence:	Yes	No

### **Program Summary:**

Be concise and detailed in summarizing the content, structure, and legal focus of your program. Please attach additional sheets if necessary.

### **Program Materials:**

The following materials checklist is intended to insure that all the materials that are required to restage the program are included in the materials submitted to the Foundation office. **Please check all that apply and include a copy of any of the existing materials with your program submission:** 

Script	Articles	Citations of Law	Legal Documents	Fact Pattern	List of Questions	Handouts
PowerPoint Pr	esentation	CD	DVD	Other Media (Please spe	cify)	

### Specific Information Regarding the Program:

Number of participants required for the program	Has this program been approved for CLE?	Yes	No	
Which state's CLE?	How many hours?	Pendi	ing	Approved

### **Recommended Physical Setup and Special Equipment:**

i.e., DVD and TV, black board with chalk, easel for diagrams, etc.

### **Comments:**

Clarify the procedure, suggest additional ways of performing the same demonstration, or comment on Inn members' response regarding the demonstration.

### **Program Submission Form**

### **Roles:**

List the exact roles used in the demonstration and indicate their membership category; i.e., Pupil, Associate, Barrister or Master of the Bench.

Role	Membership Category

#### Agenda of Program:

List the segments and scenes of the demonstration and the approximate time each item took; i.e., "Introduction by judge (10 minutes)."

Item	Time

Program Awards: Please complete this section only if the program is being submitted for consideration in the Program Awards.

#### Describe how your program fits the Program Awards Criteria:

Relevance: How did the program promote or incorporate elements of our mission? (To Foster Excellence in Professionalism, Ethics, Civility, and Legal Skills)

Entertaining: How was the program captivating or fun?

Creative and Innovative: How did the program present legal issues in a unique way?

Educational: How was the program interesting and challenging to all members?

Easily Replicated: Can the program be replicated easily by another Inn? Yes No This program is: Original

### **Questions:**

Please contact Bry'an Azuekwu at (571) 319-4713 or by e-mail at programlibrary@innsofcourt.org.

Please include ALL program materials. The committee will not evaluate incomplete program submissions.

Replicated

# The Art of Judging

Pupilage Group I Samantha Ward Stann Givens, Cynthia Oster, Eliot Peace, Tina Dunsford, Mary Greenwood, Erik Johanson, Jordan Keegan October 12, 2017

Our Panel of Judges



## Judge Susan Rucklew





### Judge Anthony Porcelli





# Judge Marva Crenshaw





# Judge Dan Sleet





# Judge Emily Peacock





# Judge Ralph Stoddard





# Judge Herb Rerkowitz





**Judging 101** Likes/Dislikes Changes from "lawyering" Types of cases Challenges to being fair/impartial/neutral

# Relationships w/ Parties/Litigants

Use of social media Personal relationships/friendships/prior colleagues Disqualification? Disclosure?

Reputation of Parties/ Litigants Does it affect your decision-making? Do you look at the docket and see a name you dread? Good rep of litigants/Bd. Cert/Inn member? Extra "credit"? Discussion of attorneys with other judges? Interaction between appellate and lower court; "reputation of judges" to other judges?

### **Clorida Bar Obligations for a Judge** Canon 3(D)(2) "A judge who receives information or has actual

"A judge who receives information or has actual knowledge that a substantial likelihood exists that a lawyer has committed a violation of the Rules [] shall take appropriate action."

# The Court of Public Opinion

Elected v. Appointed Differences? "Politically charged issues" Media JQC? Family, friends, colleague criticism?

# Diversity Considerations

Religious/cultural beliefs Gender identity/Sexual orientation Accommodations you have been asked to make or would make

# Questions???? And thunderous applause for our guest panelists...7hanks!



### THE ART OF JUDGING

### **FERGUSON-WHITE AIOC**

### **OCTOBER 12, 2017**

### Pupillage Group I: Samantha Ward

### Stann Givens, Cynthia Oster, Eliot Peace, Tina Dunsford, Jaret Fuente, Mary Greenwood, Erik Johanson, Jordan Keegan

### 1. JARET FUENTE: JUDGING 101

What do you like most about being judge; if served on different levels/courts; which did you like most/least

What do you like least about being a judge?

What's changed the most for you personally as a judge from when you were a practicing attorney...examples if possible....

Favorite/most enjoyable cases? Least enjoyable cases/types of cases?

Most challenging part of being a "fair/impartial & neutral" jurist??

### 2. STANN GIVENS/ELIOT PEACE: <u>RELATIONSHIPS W/ PARTIES/LITIGANTS: Disqualification or</u> <u>Disclosure?</u>

Facebook? Linked-In? Pros and cons? Do you/Don't you?

Sometimes go to dinner with lawyer and his/her spouse? Other situaions: holidays, vacations?

Neighbor?

Tried many cases with or against lawyer before you took the bench.

Former colleagues/ peers/ law partners: what the Canons require vs. what you "should"/"shouldn't do"

Do these relationships affect your decision-making? Anyone ever "inappropriately" asked you about a ruling you made?

### 3. ERIK JOHNSON: REPUTATION OF LITIGANTS/PARTIES: DOES THIS AFFECT DECISION-MAKING

When you look at the upcoming docket and see a name you just dread...what do you think/do...does it change how you interact with him/her in court?"

Revolving-door litigants? View them differently?

Good rep (Bd. Certified; member of your Inn)...Give them an "upper hand" or presumption at all?

Do you and other judges share experiences/discuss good AND bad behavior? Give examples....

Appellate judges: Do you look at name of judge/attorney you're reviewing? Does it matter?

Been uncomfortable reversing then seeing that judge socially soon thereafter?

County/Circuit Judges: do you ever want to say....WHAT???? WHY???NO WAY?? To the appellate ct?

### 4. CYNTHIA OSTER: OBLIGATIONS ON REPORTING ATTY CONDUCT TO FLA. BAR

Canon 3(D)(2) of the Code of Judicial Conduct states that, "A judge who receives information or has actual knowledge that a substantial likelihood exists that a lawyer has committed a violation of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar shall take appropriate action."

How do you determine or make an assessment of whether there is a substantial likelihood that a lawyer who has appeared before you has committed such a violation?

What do you deem to be appropriate action? How has such action impacted the case before you, if at all?

Have you had such an experience? Or, in hindsight had an experience you might have handled differently if you did nothing at the time?

### 5. TINA DUNSFORD: <u>HOW DOES THE "COURT OF PUBLIC OPINION" PLAY INTO DECISION</u> <u>MAKING?</u>

Different between elected and appointed (for those of you who have been both?)

Bad press/ "unpopular" decisions....does it play into your decision? Do you think about it?

Do you read news stories about you/your cases? While pending or after? Or both?

JQC: thoughts? Necessity?

Friends/family/ co-workers/ others ever res

### 6. MARY GREENWOOD: DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS RE LITIGANTS AND PARTIES

In what circumstances do you think it is necessary for the court to be aware of a litigant's religious beliefs or other cultural uniqueness?

In what circumstances do you think it is necessary for the court to be aware of a litigant's gender identity status and/or sexual orientation?

Have you ever experienced the mis-gendering of a litigant, witness or court official during a hearing or trial? How did you (or would you) handle this?

Have you implemented any program or procedure to educate court staff on the proper handling of cases involving LGBT or other culturally diverse litigants?

What measures have you taken to insure you stay up to date on the case law involving diverse litigants, such as people of specific religious beliefs, LGBT individuals, polyamorous groups?

What role do you expect lawyers who appear before you in a case to play in keeping you informed of diversity issues involved in the case, and how/when should they communicate this information to you?

RELIGIOUS PREFERENCES: in jury trial but Jewish Sabbath is on Friday and courthouse is not closed; attorney wants holiday off....What do you do?

New "RULE" proposed that required judges to continue cases for attorney declaring maternity/paternity leave???

Attorney needs time for breast feeding/pumping?

