

PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE FOR LAWYER CANDIDATES

FOR JUDICIAL OFFICE IN LUZERNE COUNTY

All candidates for judicial office in Luzerne County are being asked to complete this questionnaire. The information that you provide will be used by the Pennsylvania Bar Association to enable it to inform the public of your qualifications for judicial office. The PBA will make this questionnaire public by posting it on this Web site: www.pavotesmart.com.

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

- a. Full Name: C. J. Bufalino
- b. Have you ever been know by any other name? yes no
If so, please state other name: _____
- c. Firm Name: C. J. Bufalino Law Offices P.C.
- d. Firm Address: 12 Main Street
Dallas PA 18612
- e. Date of Birth: 4/7/60
- f. Law school where you obtained your law degree (Juris Doctor or equivalent):
Dickinson School of Law
- g. Date you obtained your law degree: 1985
- h. Are you a citizen of the United States? yes no
- i. Have you ever had any military service? yes no
If so, have you ever been rejected or released from any of the armed services for reasons other than honorable? yes no
If so, give all details. _____

2. **PERSONAL BACKGROUND:**

a. Are you now or have you ever been an officer or director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise? _____ yes no

i. If so, give details, including the name of the enterprise, nature of the business, the title of your position, the nature of your duties and the term of your services:

b. Have you ever held any level of judicial office? _____ yes no

If so, give dates and details, whether elected or appointed and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court:

c. Have you ever held public office other than a judicial office? _____ yes no

If so, give details: _____

3. **PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:**

| a. | <u>Firm Name</u> | <u>Start Date/End Date (mo/yr)</u> |
|------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| i. | <u>Charles J. Bufalino, Esq.</u> | <u>1985-1999</u> |
| ii. | <u>C.J. Bufalino Law Offices P.C.</u> | <u>1999-Present</u> |
| iii. | _____ | _____ |
| iv. | _____ | _____ |

b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and dates of admission.

(1985 - Present) Luzerne County / State Courts
(1985 - Present) Federal Court

4. **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

a. List each college, university and law school you attended, including dates of attendance and degrees awarded:

| <u>School Name</u> | <u>Start Date</u> | <u>Graduation/End Date</u> | <u>Degree/Certificate Awarded</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>Villanova University</u> | <u>1978</u> | <u>1982</u> | <u>Bachelor of Science</u> |
| <u>Dickinson School of Law</u> | <u>1982</u> | <u>1985</u> | <u>Juris Doctor</u> |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

5. **TRAINING AND BACKGROUND:**

- a. Describe in the space below any judicial-related training that you have received, including internships, clerkships, arbitrations, mediations, CLE course study, etc.

Law Clerk (1985-1995) Honorable Gifford
Cappellini.
Law Clerk (2002-2008) Senior Visiting
Judges

- b. State whether you are a special trial master in the Common Pleas Court of Luzerne County or a certified mediator for the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania:

Special Trial Master
Certified Mediator

_____ yes
_____ yes

no
 no

- c. Do you currently devote full time to the practice of law?

yes

_____ no

If not, how much time do you devote to the practice? _____ (hours per week)

- c. What is the general nature of your practice and if it has changed during the years?

General practice with emphasis on
Family Law.

- e. Describe your practice with particular areas of concentration, if any. _____

Family Law.

f. With respect to the last five years:

i. Did you appear in court regularly, occasionally or not at all?

Regularly

ii. The percentage of these appearances was the following:

Federal Court

1%

State Courts of Record

99%

Other courts/administrative agencies or other forums

0%

iii. The percentage of your litigations was the following:

Civil

80%

Criminal

20%

6. **LITIGATION:**

Whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel or associate counsel within the last five years, state the following:

- a. The number of civil jury trials you have tried to verdict. 0
- b. The number of civil bench trials you have tried to verdict. 2
- c. The number of mandatory arbitrations you have tried to verdict. 0
- d. The number of underinsured motorist cases you have tried in arbitration. 0
- e. The number of civil cases that you settled. 200
- f. The number of criminal jury trials you have tried to verdict. 0
- g. The number of criminal bench trials you have tried to verdict. 0
- h. The approximate number of hearings in which you have participated, either criminal or civil, before a district justice. 100
- i. The number of administrative hearings that you have presented before any administrative judge or board. 0
- j. The number of cases you have presented to a U. S. Bankruptcy Judge. 0
- k. The number of cases you have presented to award before a Workers' Compensation Judge. 0
- l. The number of Orphan's Court proceedings resulting in litigation. 500
- m. The number of juvenile proceedings in which you have participated. 5

7. **CORPORATE BACKGROUND:**

a. Do you have any business background or corporate experience?

_____ yes

no

b. If so, please explain. _____

c. Does your practice include business or corporate litigation?

_____ yes

no

8. **LICENSE:**

a. Has your license to practice law ever been suspended or revoked?

_____ yes

no

If so, please explain, including the date that your license was reinstated.

b. Has any other professional entity or body with licensing authority denied, suspended, or revoked your registration or license (i.e. real estate, insurance, investment, etc.)?

_____ yes

no

If so, please explain in detail. _____

- c. Have you ever been a party or otherwise involved in civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give the particulars. **Do not** list any proceeding in which you were merely a guardian ad litem or shareholder. Include all legal proceedings in which you were a conspirator, co-respondent/defendant, and/or in which you figured as a subject or appeared as a witness in any grand jury investigation.

NO

9. **CRIMINAL BACKGROUND:**

- a. Have you ever been arrested for a felony or misdemeanor (excluding motor vehicle violations)?
- _____ yes no

If so, please explain in detail including the outcome of such proceeding.

- b. Are you now the subject of any complaint, investigation or proceeding that may have criminal ramifications or adversely affect your professional license?

_____ yes no

If so, please explain in detail.

c. Have you ever been the subject of any complaint or proceeding that alleged sexual harassment or any form of discrimination?

_____ yes

no

If so, please explain in detail. _____

d. Have you ever been charged with DUI? _____ yes

no

If so, when did this happen and what was the outcome in detail?

10. PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNAL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATIONS:

a. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are or have been a member. Provide the titles and dates of any office(s) that you have held in such groups and list chairmanships of any committee or memberships on any committee that you believe to be of particular significance.

Family Law Committee

b. I have lectured or taught for the following law schools or bar/professional organizations:

N/A

c. I have lectured on or taught about the following subjects:

N/A

d. I have written for the following publications and the topics were as follows:

N/A

e. List any honors, prizes, awards or other forms of recognition that you have received other than those mentioned above.

N/A

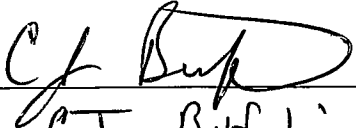
11. **PERSONAL POSITION**

Please fully describe below or on a separate sheet the reasons why you consider yourself qualified to be a judge and how you would improve our current system of practice.

See Attached.

THE APPLICANT MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING AFFIRMATION

I swear or affirm that I have read and understand the preceding questions and that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I assume the responsibility of promptly informing the Pennsylvania Bar Association of any changes to the answers provided for the questions contained on this form.

SIGNATURE: 
PRINT NAME: CJ Bufalini
DATE: 4/27/09

11.) The greatest problem facing the county judiciary is the lack of public confidence in the courts ability to administer fair and impartial justice. It has been said that "A fair and impartial system of justice is the foundation of any free society. Fundamental to this justice system is the public's confidence in the integrity of court decisions and the impartiality of its judges. Courts and judges should be accountable to the Constitution and laws of the United States and their respective states and not to political parties, special interests, elected officials or those in pursuit of self-serving partisan interest." I echo these comments and pledge to improve our current system by leading by example and faithfully and impartially performing the duties of a judge both on and off the bench. The public's confidence in our justice system can only be restored by judicial candidate's who take the oath of office and adhere to the standards of conduct outlined in the Code of Judicial Conduct.

My 24 years of experience in the civil and criminal courts, my reputation for fairness and integrity and my commitment to mentor and protect children as a Guardian Ad Litem, coach and father speaks to the future as well as my present qualifications for judge. Further, I would point to my life experiences over the past forty-nine (49) years which include a respect for the ideals of our justice system which respect was learned and ingrained in me as a proud member of a family of lawyers which began offering legal services in Luzerne County in the 1930's.