## We Endorse Jessica Ticktin for Circuit Judge

Posted on August 15, 2014 by Warren Redlich



West Boca News endorses <u>Jessica Ticktin</u> for Circuit Court Judge. Ms. Ticktin is running against the <u>incumbent Hon.</u> Diana Lewis.

There are a few reasons for our endorsement. The most compelling of those is the incumbent's record. The <u>Palm Beach County Bar Association evaluates judges</u> based on several factors. Lawyers in the county have consistently rated Judge Lewis the worst in the county.

Here are the 2013 ratings for Judge Lewis:

## 2013 PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION JUDICIAL EVALUATION RESULTS

JUDGE or HEARING OFFICER	Number of Responses		OWLED JCATI LAW	ON OF	IMPARTIALITY (FREEDOM FROM BIAS & PREJUDICE)						JUDICIAL DEMEANOR & COURTESY TO LAWYERS			CONTROL OF COURTROOM			CASE MANAGEMENT (EFFICIENCY IN HANDLING CASELOAD)						(USE CON:	OF PRA						
CIRCUIT JUDGES		E	s	N	E	s	N	Е	s	N	E	S	N	Е	s	N	E	s	N	Е	s	N	E	S	N	Е	s	N		
DIANA LEWIS	216	61	82	67	43	69	99	67	88	57	19	46	147	72	84	55	75	85	48	96	87	22	55	58	90	59	70	74		

A substantial majority of the lawyers responding rated her poorly for "Judicial Demeanor & Courtesy to Lawyers," by far the worst. Half the judges in the county are rated "needs improvement" on that factor by single digits. 147 lawyers gave her that rating. Only one other judge had half that many.

She had the worst ratings of the 34 circuit judges on most of the factors. You can see all of the Bar's judge ratings for 2013 here:

	280 PALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION ATSICEAL EVALUATION RESILETS															Rie Resolven Rie Resolveny Na/Versk Improvement													
HTGE - HEARING OFFICER	Number of Engances	KNOWLEDGE & APPLICATION OF LAW			DEPARTMENT O'REDOM FROM HAS & PREJUDICES			PREPAREMENS			JUDICIAL DEMEANOR & COURTESY TO LAWYERS			CONTROL OF CHARTROOM			(839)	CASE OCIDA ICHINI INDLP SELO	TEN NO	TIM RE	TT ALL BLIND NDER! LIND LIND	S IN NO	CON	DECK DECK	CTSCAL ISSONS ION	ENFORCEMENT OF STANDARDS OF PROPESSIONALISM			
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MOREX BAKER, IK.	20	27	111	2	177	139	3	28	12	1	31	-		28	111	1	18	20	1	13	17		21	14	2	28	10	1	
DESCRIPTION OF STREET	LTT	39	-	19	44		m	43	08	12	28	29	27	48	43	19	33	21	100	\$	48			322	17	4.5	10	25	
PETER D. HEAVE	346	-	14	4	82	18	1	49	111	:	88	114		er	111	1	32	23	2	-	18			18	7	-	12	1	
LUCY CHRONOW RECWY	148	91	10	19	87	27	81	100		11	96	29	22	99	20	7	333	26	8	20	28		8	386	21	104	28		
CATHORENS M. BRUNDON	129	29		48	62	30	122	100	40	27	-	22	4	34		20	27		2	ā	*	ñ	Ħ		13	*1	30		
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MARTIN B. CULIN	118	73	333	12	.xx		20		-	15	41	386	80	71	36	10	-	36	100	2	41	**		-	11	at.	31	10	
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ERRITA R. MARX	39		10	15	46	2	20	42	38	11	29	24	23	36	30		34		2	83					- 11	att	311	4	
INDIDITY F. MCCARTHY	142		84	32	29	<b>O</b> 1.	ex.	311	-	40	21	20	78	49	-	20	39	40	28	80	44	18	.80	441	338	23	83	23	
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ROBEY L. NORENBERG	192	94		17	48		177	100	-	*	1006	2	7	98	92	7	22	23	-	101	25	*	-	44	11	304	41	7	
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AND L SHIPE	95		-			-			-		-	12		-		I .	20	-		87	-		-	-					

	2003 FALM BEACH COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION JUDICIAL EVALUATION BENELTS														NaConth Separtment														
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MARNI REYSON	29		36	13	12	30	27	14	38	•	13	111	23		17		20	14		23	19		14	11		ш	23	7	
PEANES, CASTOR	4	17	36	- 8	17	12	- 12	23		2	29			3	22	0	23	18	- 1	217	2	0	19	17		23	14	1	
BARRY M. COREN	•	64	2	9	40		- 1	6.5	1		43	2	0	81	10	1	30	111	2	81	14	0	89		1	28	4	1	
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GREATE D. CLINOSWERLON	48	26	14	4	28	12	4	27	23	4	37		3	22	10	1	30	101	3	27	14		31	10	4	29	30	1	
MULA, DAMECO		36	- 11	1	48	7	2	42	7		67	2	0		4	0	41	1	2	29	*	- 1	62		1	48	1		
MARK T. BESSEY		п	23		28	24		277	-	1	34				12	1	21	12		34	7		10	11		23	11		
PETER M. BYANK		26	12		16	14	87	20	- 14	13	14		24		18		28	17	- 11	21	19	10	18.	10	- 11	19	18		
LIEDVARD HANSER	28	18	30		21	81		22	22		27			20	12		28		10	20	12	4	18.	11	7	25	30	2	
LAURA S. HORDSON		21	21		39	22	-	34	17		67		3	41	13	1	268	14	7	34	12	*	37	14		41	12	1	
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NANCY PIECE		23	17	7	30		*	28	17	2	28.	10	-	29	19	1	26	18		28	11		27	12		33		2	
CAROLDII C. MIDTERD	29	20	11		21		*	23		2	30	1	4	27	7	1	23		2	23	7		23		4	21	*	2	
DRIBKA MORRIS STOPPROS		20	23		23	23	30	22	14		24	11	-	21		4	21	14	7	23	12	*	24			21	14	4	
BALLAN WEEKS	21	23		1	211		- 2	23			28.	2		3		:	20		3	23		- 1	22		•	26	4		
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LINDA & GOODWIN	22	111	,	1	111	3	4	11	7		14	4	1	14		0	23	1	- 1	23	4	0	12		_	ш	7		
DIANEM, KIRKIN	20	22	1	1	29	*		27		1	29			28		0	29	13	1	11	•	29	32			28	4		
LAKET & WEAVER		14			17		4	18	7	4	19			111	14		122	12	- 1	14	12		10	111	1	10	30	2	
MAXINE WILLIAMS	17				7		4			-		4		-		,			1		7	1	10	1	1		4	-	
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COMPLEXATION CLADES																													
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MARY A. D'AMERORO			-	1	7	,	,	1	4				,					-	-		-		7	1				-	
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Strong pluralities also rated her poorly for impartiality, common sense, and enforcing professionalism. Put more bluntly, Judge Lewis on the bench is rude, biased, unprofessional, and lacking in common sense.

The Florida Constitution requires that judges face reelection. If that means anything it means that the worst judges should be voted out.

There's another key reason for our endorsement. We met <u>Jessica Ticktin</u>, she impressed us, and we think she'll make a good judge. We're not alone. The <u>Sun-Sentinel</u> ("the steady, fair temperament she would bring to the Circuit Court bench") and <u>Palm Beach Post</u> ("Ticktin's experience and demeanor make her a more than capable replacement.") both endorsed Ticktin.

Two other minor details deserve mention. First, Ticktin lives in West Boca. The legal community in this county tends to center on West Palm Beach. For those who live in West Boca, it doesn't hurt to have a judge who knows our community.

Second, the incumbent's campaign did not respond to our requests for an interview in West Boca. We were included on a mass e-mail campaign event invitation sent to people who had "expressed an interest in ReElect Judge Lewis," but never received any response to our direct requests. One of our volunteer reporters, Jeff Van Treese, was able to attend the event in East Boca. Lewis did <u>interview with him</u> and made a favorable impression. Still the lack of response from the campaign for a more complete interview bothered us. All the other judicial candidates responded to our requests and agreed to meet with us in West Boca.

The election day for this race is August 26th, but early voting has already begun at the West Boca branch library on the west side of 441 north of Yamato.

We should also note that we are not making any endorsement in the other judicial race. We like all three of the candidates: <u>Jaimie Goodman</u>, <u>Peggy Rowe-Linn</u>, and <u>Maxine</u> Cheesman.