Broward County Court Judge Louis H. Schiff

General Information:

Born: June 3, 1955
Married 28 years; 2 children in college.
Home: Parkland, Broward County, Florida

Education:

Hamline University School of Law, St. Paul, Mn, 1980, Juris Doctor
University of Florida, Gainesville, 1977, B. Sc. Journalism
North Miami Beach High School, 1973

Judicial and Legal Experience:

Broward County Court Judge, 1997 - present (elected 1996, reelected 2000, 2006, 2012).
Broward County Traffic Court Magistrate, 1990 - 1996.
Administrative Magistrate, North Courthouse, 1994 - 1996.
Law Offices of Schiff & Bowman, 1995 - 1996, Tamarac.
Law Offices of Louis H. Schiff, 1983 - 1984; 1986 - 1995, Tamarac.
Florida New Motor Vehicle Arbitration Board, member 1994 - 1995.
Law Offices of Schiff & Schlissel, 1985 - 1986, Tamarac.
Mark Schechter, P.A., 1982, Ft. Lauderdale.
Barton, Cox & Davis, 1981 - 1982, Gainesville.
Member, The Florida Bar, 1981 - present.

Faculty & National Conference Presentations:

-Faculty, College of **Advanced Judicial Studies (Florida),** 2010, 2012.
The Media's Knocking – Are You Going to Let Them In? (2012)
How to Maintain Order When Dealing with Difficult People (2012)
Judicial Professionalism on the Bench and in the Community (2010)
-Faculty, **Florida Judicial College**, 2009, 2011.
Trial Skills Workshop, Tallahassee, 2009, Tampa, 2011.
Phase II, Orlando, 2009.
- Basic Criminal Law and Procedure
- Charging Documents.
- Right to Jury Trial.

-Faculty, **National Judicial College, University of Nevada**. 2005 – present.
Sentencing Younger Drivers, 2005 - 2009.
Overview of Sentencing Objectives and Philosophies, 2006 - 2009.
Judicial Ethics, 2008 and 2009.
Role of the Judge in Traffic Court Plea/Sentence Negotiations, 2005 - 2008.

Fine and Restitution Issues, 2008.

-Faculty, **Conference of County Court Judges of Florida**, **D.U.I. Traffic Adjudication Lab,** 2002 - 2010. (Cape Canaveral; Clearwater Beach; Ft. Meyers Beach; Sarasota; and St. Augustine)

Commercial Motor Vehicle Law, 2002 - 2010.
Criminal Traffic and Civil Infraction Law, 2002 - 2010.
Driver History Records, 2009 - 2010.

-Adjunct Professor, **Hamline University School of Law**, St. Paul, Minnesota. 2008 – .

"Law and Cinema: Are Lawyer's Still Our Heroes?", 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012.

-Adjunct Professor, **Broward College**, Department of Business Administration, North Campus, Coconut Creek, 2001 - present.

Legal Writing, 2010 - 2012.
Criminal Litigation, 2003 - 2012.
Civil Litigation, 2003 - 2012.
Probate and Guardianship, 2002 - 2003.
Corporate Formation, 2001 - 2002.

-Adjunct Professor, **Santa Fe Community College**, Gainesville, Department of Business.

Business Law, 1981 – 1982

-Presenter, **Lifesavers National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities**, Orlando, June 2012, Innovative Judges and Their Traffic Offender Programs.

-Presenter, **Ball State University,** College of Criminal Justice and Criminology, Muncie, Indiana, September 2011, Overview of Sentencing: Objectives and Philosophies

-Presenter, **Florida Creditors Bar Association,** Orlando, August, 2011, A View From the Bench.

-Presenter, **West Broward Bar Association,** Plantation, July 2011, Small Claims Court for Big Time Lawyers.

-Presenter, **Nova Southeastern School of Law**, Ft. Lauderdale, May 2011, Small Claims Court.

-Presenter, **New Mexico Municipal Judges**, **University of New Mexico,** Albuquerque, New Mexico, May 2011, Traffic Issues in the 21st Century.

-Presenter, **Michigan Judicial Institute, Supreme Court of Michigan,** Lansing, Michigan, July 2010, Ethics; Sentencing; and Elder and Youthful Traffic Offenders.

-Presenter, **Conference of County Court Judges of Florida**.

Role of Judge as Bar Referee, Orlando, July 2010.
Sentencing Youthful Drivers, Amelia Island, January 2007.
Traffic Law Update, Amelia Island, January 2006.
Unlicensed Practice of Law, Amelia Island, January 2004.
Commercial Drivers Licenses, Amelia Island, January 2003.

-Presenter, **Broward County Bar Association Quadrennial Convention,**

Ft. Lauderdale, October 2009, Denny Crane Ethics.

-Presenter, **Mississippi Justice Court Judges**, Choctaw, Mississippi, October 2009, Ethical Considerations for Traffic Offense Proceedings.

-Presenter, **Georgia Council of Municipal Court Judges**, Savannah, Georgia, June 2009, Traffic Issues & Youth, Sentencing: Objectives & Philosophies.

-Presenter, **Ukrainian American Bar Association**, Fajardo, Puerto Rico, November 2008, Ethics and Justice: Is it Just a Dream?
-Presenter, **Michigan Association of District Court Magistrates**, Gaylord, Michigan, September 2008, Ethics for Michigan District Court Magistrates, Understanding Your Role in the Community.
-Presenter, **Hamline University School of Law**, St. Paul, Minnesota, October 2007, Philosophies of Sentencing: A View from the Bench, State and Defense.
-Presenter, **North Dakota Municipal Judges**, Mandan, North Dakota October, 2007, Traffic Issues & Youth, Sentencing: Objectives & Philosophies.
-Presenter, **United States Department of Transportation**, Federal Highway Administration, Speed Management Workshops; 2002 - 2003.
Boston, Massachusetts, March 2003.
Columbia, Missouri, November 2002.
-Presenter, **Conference on Evaluation of Regional Anti-Tobacco Programs**.
Orlando, Florida, May 1999.

Leadership: Conference of County Court Judges of Florida / Florida Supreme Court / The Florida Bar

- Conference of County Court Judges of Florida, 1997 – present.
  - Immediate Past President, 2011 – 2012.
  - President, 2011 – 2012.
  - President-elect, 2010 – 2011.
  - Chair, Education Committee, 2007 – 2010.
  - Vice-Chair, Education Committee, 2005 – 2007.
  - Traffic Court Rules Committee, 1999 – 2004; 2007 – present.
- The Florida Supreme Court
  - Trial Court Budget Commission, 2011 – 2012.
  - Unified Committee on Judicial Compensation, 2010 – present.
  - Judicial Branch Records Management Committee, 2008 – present.
  - Florida Court Education Council, 2007 – 2010 and 2011- 2012.
  - Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies, 2008 - present
    - Assistant Department Head, General Interest, 2009 – present.
    - Dean Selection Committee, 2008 - 2010.
  - Publications Committee, 2008 – present.
- The Florida Bar, 1981 - present
  - Traffic Court Rules Committee, 1996 – 2003, and 2007 - present.
  - Media and Communications Law Committee, 2010 - present.
  - Small Claims Rules Committee, 2002 - 2007.
    - Chairman, 2005 - 2006.
    - Vice-chairman, 2004 - 2005.
  - Grievance Committee, 1989 – 1992; 1996.
    - Chairman, 1990 - 1992.

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Awards:

Harvey Ford Award (Judge of the Year), presented by the Conference of County Court Judges of Florida, *2007*, "Dedicated Service to the Community, the Legal Profession and the Conference".
Civics in Action Award, League of Women Voters of Broward County, *2007*.
Adult Volunteer of the Year, Broward County Public Schools, *2005*.
Distinguished Alumnus, Ethical Leadership and Service, Hamline University, *2000*.
Businessperson of the Year, Tamarac Chamber of Commerce, *1989*.

Community Activities:

-Founder and Jazz Band Director, Sawgrass Springs Middle School, Coral Springs, 1999 - present.
-Founder, Teen Tobacco Court, Broward County, 1997 - present.
-Member, Red Rocket Big Band (formerly Parkland Community Jazz Band), 2006 – 2011.
-Coach, Parkland Basketball Club, 2000 – 2005; 2007 - 2008.
-Oratorical Contest Judge, Florida American Legion, 1996 – 2006; 2009 - present.
-Manager, Parkland Little League, 1997 - 2002; 2004.
-President, Tamarac Chamber of Commerce, 1985 - 1987; 1989 - 1990.
-Member, Broward Economic Development Board, 1984 - 1989.
-President, Kiwanis Club of Tamarac, 1987 - 1988.
-Radio Talk Show Host, WNWS and WIOD, "Ask the Attorneys", 1985 - 1989.
-Chairman, MDA Telethon, Gainesville, 1981.
-Secretary, Alachua County American Heart Association, Gainesville, 1981 - 1982.
-Director of Public Relations, Ft. Lauderdale Yankees, 1975 - 1976.
-Founder and Jazz Band Director, City of Sunrise Jazz Band, 1974 - 1979.

Featured Print Media:

"Interpreters Telecommute to Court" **Sun-Sentinel** by Lisa J. Huriash, January 17, 2010.
"Out of Court. Judge Goes on the Road to Inspect Homes and Cars, Help Settle Claims" **Sun-Sentinel** by Lisa J. Huriash, September 14, 2009.
"Young Offenders Study Crosses on the Highway" **The News Herald** (Panama City, Fla.) by S. Brady Calhoun, June 28, 2008.
"Parents Who Make School Better" **USA Weekend**, (Cover story) by Dennis McCafferty, August 11-13, 2006
"In Traffic Court, It Sometimes Pays to Dress for Success" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Joe Kollin, July 7, 2006.
"Traffic Ticket Identity Theft Growing Fast" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Joe Kollin, March 20, 2006.
"Broward Judge Puts Sense into Sentences 'Eye-Opening' Tactics Taught at National Jurists'

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Symposium" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Joe Kollin, October 8, 2005.
"Order in the Chord. County Court Judge Trades Gavel for Band Director's Baton." **Sun-Sentinel**, by Sallie James, August 21, 2005.
"Judge Makes the Punishment Echo the Crime" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Joe Kollin, August 5, 2005.
"Minibikes Ride into Danger Zone Young Drivers Breaking Law, Getting Hurt" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Joe Kollin, July 31, 2005.
"Fast Learners A Highly Unusual Court 'Homework' Program Gives Speeders and Teen Smokers a Quick Dose of Reality" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Joe Kollin, July 21, 2005.
"Judge Top Broward Volunteer" **Miami Herald**, March 24, 2005.
"Rowdy Rottweiler Unleashes a Furor" **Miami Herald**, by Hannah Sampson, July 24, 2004.
"Teen Court Aims at Peril of Puffing" **Miami Herald**, by Hannah Sampson, January 11, 2004.
"Crisp and Clean for Flag Day, Broward Courthouse Replaces Stars and Stripes, State Banner" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Jonathon King, June 15, 2004.
"In Tune with the Kids" **Miami Herald**, by Diana Moskovitz, June 9, 2003.
"Strictly For the Bird" **Miami Herald**, by Hannah Sampson, May 20, 2003.
"Couple Fined Over Noisy Rooster But Parkland Pair Can Keep Bird Under New Law" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Robert Nolin, October 14, 2002.
"Unusal Punishment. Judge Drives Home Safety Message to Teens." **Miami Herald**, by Hannah Sampson, August 4, 2002.
"Pianist, Harpist Dogged by Dispute Musicians Take Their Discord to Court Over Who was to Perform What at Canine Wedding" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Terri Somers, October 23, 1999.
"*Lungs & Order, a Teen Smoking Courts Attempts To Educate Young Offenders"* **Sun-Sentinel**, by Alan Gomez, August 29, 1999.
"Judgment Play Judge Rules Courtroom Makes Great Classroom" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Oscar Sanchez, May 10, 1998.
"Judge Squelches Noise Ordinance Coral Springs Must Rewrite Code Regulating City's Business Activity" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Kathy Bushouse, March 18, 1998.
"Scared Smokeless Coral Springs' Teen Anti-Smoking Program Takes a Serious Approach" **Sun-Sentinel**, by Kathy Bushouse, March 8, 1998.

Last revised: June 16, 2012