

**BUCKS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
MERIT SELECTION OF JUDGES COMMITTEE
Candidate Questionnaire**

Election Date: 5/19/09

Completed questionnaire must be returned to the BCBA Merit Selection Committee on or before 3/17/09

Notice: A candidate who chooses not to answer any question in whole or in part is requested to set forth the reason(s) for not answering so as to minimize or eliminate any adverse inferences that may otherwise be drawn.

I. PERSONAL DATA

1. Name and Address. State your full name, home address and any other name by which you have been known.

RESPONSE: **Robert Otjen Baldi, Esquire;
270 Iron Hill Road
Doylestown, Pennsylvania 18901**

2. Age.

RESPONSE: **59 years old**

3. Business Activities.

- (a) In the past ten years, have you been engaged in any occupation, business or profession, other than the practice of law or holding of judicial or other public office? If yes, state details, including name, address, description of activity and dates.

RESPONSE: **For the last nine years I have served as a Director on the Board of First Federal of Bucks County, a Savings and Loan Institution, in existence for 124 years. Currently, I am Vice-chairman of the Board of Directors.**

- (b) Are you currently an officer or director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise?

- (1) If yes, state the details, including the name of your enterprise, the nature of the business, the title or other description of your position, the nature of your duties and the term of your service?

RESPONSE: **I am President and founding partner of the law firm Baldi, Jenei & Cohen, P.C. As noted above,**

I also am the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors of First Federal of Bucks County.

(2) Is it your intention to resign such positions and withdraw from any participation in the management of any such enterprise if you become a judge? If no, state reasons.

RESPONSE: I will be resigning my position at Baldi, Jenei & Cohen, P.C. and will ask direction from the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania regarding whether or not I am able to retain my seat on the Board of Directors of First Federal of Bucks County.

II. EDUCATION BACKGROUND AND PUBLICATIONS

4. Education. State each trade school, college and/or law school attended, including the dates of attendance and the date and type of degree awarded.

RESPONSE:

University of Tulsa College of Law
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Juris Doctor, December 22, 1974

Lycoming College
Williamsport, Pennsylvania
Bachelor of Arts, June 6, 1971

LaSalle College
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Summer Session, 1970
-Principles of Economics I and II
-Principles of Accounting I and II
(all courses included in undergraduate degree)

Chestnut Hill Academy, Class of 1967
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Non-degree college courses:
-Bucks County Community College
Italian I and II, 1996-1997

-Temple University
Psychology, 1971

5. Teaching. Have you taught any law related courses after your admission to practice? If yes, state the name and addresses of the institution and the name and substance of the course taught and the date when it was taught.

RESPONSE: I have been a guest lecturer on trial tactics, trial advocacy and cross examination at Rutger's School of Law-Camden and the University of Pennsylvania Law School; I have lectured at Bucks County Community College and for paralegal courses on a variety of matters of law, and I have participated in Mock Trial demonstrations for community and secondary schools, colleges, and law schools. Unfortunately, I have no record of dates for these classes.

Additionally, I have lectured frequently for CLE presentations, but likewise, I have not kept a record of presentations and dates. Through the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education Board, I have identified the following programs in which I participated as a lecturer from March 2004 forward:

3/2/2004	"A Practical Guide to Federal Court Rules and Procedures in Pennsylvania"
4/8/2004	"UM/UIM Cases – How to Try Them, How to Win Them"
10/24/2005	"Issues Related to Voir Dire"
9/15/2006	"A Dialog with our Federal Judges"
11/27/2006	"Don't Worry, I know the Judge, or...does Familiarity Breed Contempt?"
5/21/2007	"Ethical and Legal Obligations in Supplementing Discovery"
12/18/2007	"(Supreme) Court Cases for Cocktail Conversation"
9/19/2008	"Top Ten Federal Appellate Opinions (Civil & Criminal) that Will Impact Your Practice"
11/24/2008	"Limits of Attorney-Client Privilege and the Work-Product Doctrines"
12/18/2008	"2 nd Annual (Supreme) Court Cases for Cocktail Conversation"

6. Publications. Are there any publications or articles of which you are the author or a contributing author? If yes, state the name and date of the publications or article and the publisher. Include any CLE publications and seminars.

RESPONSE: I have written the following articles for *The Writs*:

- 1998 "Technology – It's Not Just for Geeks"
Two untitled articles about the Technology Committee
- 1999 Untitled article about Bench Bar
- 2001 "The Battle of the Plebiscite"
- 2002 "Bucks County Bar Association Offers Help To Victims Of
September 11th"
"Senator Arlen Specter and Congressman James Greenwood
Address Attendees to the Bucks County Bench Bar"
- 2003 "Message From Your Courthouse Committee"
- 2004 "Be Kind to Your Fellow Practitioner – Maybe the Dog Did Eat His
Homework"
"9/11 Volunteer Program"
- 2005 "Message From Your Courthouse Committee"
"Bucks County Bar Association Members Admitted to the Bar of the
Supreme Court of the United States"
"Courthouse Update"
- 2006 "Courthouse Update 2006"
- 2007 "Federal Court Section's Sixth Annual Reception For Members of
the Federal Bench"
- 2008 "Courthouse Update"
- 2009 "A New Courthouse Is Actually Being Designed!! (Courthouse
Update)

7. Honors. State any honors, prizes or awards or other forms of recognition which you have received (including any indication of academic distinction in college or law school) other than those mentioned in answers to the foregoing questions. Include any lectures delivered or symposia in which you have participated in the past five years.

RESPONSE:

AV rating with Martindale-Hubbel

"Super Lawyer" in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2009.

Recipient of the Bucks County Bar Association's 2001-2002 President's Award.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

8. Current Professional Occupation.

(a) State the name and address of your principal office.

**RESPONSE: Baldi, Jenei & Cohen, P.C.
123 W. Bridge Street
New Hope, Pennsylvania 18938**

(b) Describe your present professional position.

firm
 sole practitioner
 partner or shareholder
 associate
 public defender
 district attorney
 other (describe)

(c) How long have you practiced law in Pennsylvania?

RESPONSE: Since 1975

9. Courts.

(a) State all the courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission.

RESPONSE:

**1974 Legal Intern, Supreme Court of Oklahoma
1975 Supreme Court of Pennsylvania
1978 Supreme Court of the United States of America
1978 United States Court of Claims
1979 United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
1985 United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
1997-2003 United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, Pro Hac Vice**

(b) Have you ever been disciplined by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Disciplinary Board or a disciplinary agency in any other jurisdiction? If so, please explain the circumstances.

RESPONSE: No

10. Employment History. State chronologically your legal experience from law school, including:

(a) Whether you served as a clerk to a judge and, if yes, the name of the judge and the court and the date of your clerkship;

RESPONSE:

**Honorable Edmund V. Ludwig (1975-1976)
Bucks County Court of Common Pleas
Doylestown, Pennsylvania
Law Clerk**

(b) Whether you practiced alone, and, if yes, the addresses and dates of your solo practice:

RESPONSE:

**Robert O. Baldi, P.C. (1981-1984)
New Hope, Pennsylvania
Sole Practitioner**

(c) The dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been connected and the nature of your connection with each;

RESPONSE:

**Public Defenders Office (Juvenile Court) (1974)
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Volunteer, Supervised Trial Attorney (third year law student)**

**Bucks County Public Defender Office (1976 – 1979)
Doylestown, Pennsylvania
Trial Attorney**

**Cordes, King & Associates (1979 – 1981)
Newtown, Pennsylvania
Trial Attorney**

**Baldi, Cepparulo & Williams, P.C. (1984 – 2004)
New Hope, Pennsylvania
Founding Partner (Seven Attorneys)**

**Baldi, Jenei & Cohen, P.C. (2004 – Present)
New Hope, Pennsylvania
Founding Partner (Four Attorneys)**

- (d) Any other relevant information

RESPONSE:

Solicitor for the Department of Consumer Protection and Weights and Measures, 1981 - 1984.

Solicitor for Bucks County Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, 1979 to the present.

Solicitor to the Warrington Township Zoning Hearing Board, 2005 to the present.

I also have served as special counsel to several municipalities on various matters, including zoning issues, land development issues, vendor contracts, and employee litigation. Townships that have retained my services during the past several years include: Buckingham Township, Penndel Borough, and Upper Southampton Township.

Areas of Practice.

- (a) What has been the general character of your practice?

RESPONSE: The general character of my practice has been litigation.

- (b) State by percentage the approximate amount of time you spend in your practice in the following areas:

RESPONSE: Approximate current percentage of practice

<u>4%</u> Business	<u>.5%</u> Criminal
<u>1%</u> Domestic	<u>.5</u> Estates (non-litigation)
<u>72%</u> Civil Litigation	<u>2%</u> Real Estate
<u>5%</u> Municipal	<u>15%</u> Other (specify)

Pro Bono Legal Services

Throughout the year I volunteer my time to represent victims in Protection from Abuse actions. Additionally, I recently have undertaken representation of a family who qualifies for legal aid with respect to a personal injury type claim; in this situation there is no insurance, and the claim is asserted primarily against the family's minor child with supplemental claims against the parents. I am defending the family Pro Bono, because I believe the family deserves a defense.

Neutral Arbitrator

For the last twenty years and on a regular basis, I have provided services as a mediator and have been appointed to sit as the neutral arbitrator in insurance contract disputes and alternative dispute resolutions, averaging approximately 50 appointments per year.

11. Litigation Experience. With respect to the past five years.

(a) How often have you appeared in a court proceeding?

RESPONSE: I have appeared in Court regularly.

(b) What percentage of your appearance in court was in:

20% federal courts
65% state courts of record
15% administrative hearings

(c) What percentage of your litigation was:

99% Civil less than 1% Criminal

(d) What percentage of the cases in 12(a) above were:

20% jury 5% nonjury
65% arbitration 10% administrative hearings

(e) If part of your practice has been before appellate courts in the past five years, identify the appellate courts before which you have practiced.

RESPONSE: I have appeared before the following Appellate Courts during the last five years:

Superior Court of Pennsylvania
Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania
United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

12. Judicial or Public Office Experience

(a) Have you ever held judicial office? If yes, give dates and details, including the courts involved, whether elected or appointed, periods of service and a description of the jurisdiction of each of such courts with any limitations upon its jurisdiction.

RESPONSE: No

(b) Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If yes, give details, including the office involved, whether elected or appointed, and the length of your service, giving dates.

RESPONSE: Committeeman elected 4 terms, 1978 - 1984.

Governor's Trial Court Nominating Commission
for the appointment of a Common Pleas Judge
for Bucks County. The appointments (made by

Governor Robert P. Casey) were February 11, 1991 and January 22, 1992.

13. Other Relevant Information. Please provide any other information such as military experience, membership in professional organizations or community involvement which you would like the committee to consider.

RESPONSE:

Professional Affiliations:

1975 to Present Bucks County Bar Association
-Past Member of the Board of Directors
-Past Secretary of the association
-Chairman of 9/11 Pro Bono Legal Services Program
-Member of the 2005 Judicial Merit Selection Committee
-Chairperson of the New Courthouse Committee
-Co-Chairman of the Federal Courts Section
-Recipient of the 2001-2002 President's Award
-Trustee of The Charitable Foundation of Bucks County Bar Association

1975 to Present American Bar Association

1975 to Present Pennsylvania Bar Association

1980 to 2000 American Trial Lawyers Association

1980 to 2004 Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association

1980 to Present Frequent lecturer of CLE presentations

2000 to Present Bucks County American Inns of Court
-Founding Director (one of four)
-Treasurer

2006 Member, Magistrate Merit Selection Committee
Appointed by President Judge Harvey Bartle of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Civic Organizations:

1975 to 1985 Probational Volunteer Services
-Member of the Board of Directors
-Past President

1976 to 1983 Big Brother of Bucks County
-Volunteer (Big Brother to two boys)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Member of the Board of Directors -Past Vice-President
1980 to 1991	Friends of Jim Greenwood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Treasurer
1981 to 1983	Big Sisters of Bucks County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Member of the Board of Directors
1985 to 2000	A Woman's Place <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Volunteer/Magician (Performer) at Annual Christmas Party
1987 to 1990	Buckingham Athletic Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Assistant Soccer Coach -Soccer Referee
1988 to 1994	Buckingham Friends School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Member of School Committee
1991 to Present	VITA (Volunteers In Teaching Alternatives) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Past President -Past Member of the Board of Directors -Emcee for Annual Spelling Bee and special events volunteer
1992 to 2005	Greenwood for Congress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Treasurer
1995 to 2004	Wolfgang (ensemble); Bucks County Community Orchestra: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Narrator of <i>Peter and the Wolf</i>, <i>Petruska</i>, <i>Carnival of the Animals</i>, and <i>The Nutcracker</i> for area schools and civic organizations
1996 to 2002	George School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Parents Annual Fund Committee
2003	Cepparulo for Judge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Treasurer
2005 to Present	The Charitable Foundation of the Bucks County Bar Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Trustee


III. CHARACTER INVESTIGATION

14. Criminal Convictions. Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony offense in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any other jurisdiction? If yes, state the details.

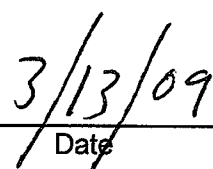
RESPONSE: **No**

15. Authorizations. I agree to authorize, as indicated below, the Bucks County Bar Association Merit Selection of Judges Committee to solicit disciplinary and/or conviction information about me from the entities stated below and agree to execute the authorizations attached hereto authorizing the entities, as indicated below, to release all information to said Committee.

<u>Entities</u>	<u>Granted</u>	<u>Denied</u>
(1) Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and any other jurisdiction stated in Paragraph 15	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
(2) Federal or State governmental agencies	<u>X</u>	<u> </u>



Signature




Date

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

The undersigned certifies that all statements made in this questionnaire are true, complete and correct to the best of his/her knowledge and belief and are made in good faith and done so with the understanding that will be made public.

3/13/09
Date


Candidate

Revised and adopted by the ad hoc Merit Selection Committee, January 2009.