



JUDICIAL PROFILE  
JUDGE DAVID FRANKLIN CROW  
by Yvette Trelles  
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Those who know Judge David Crow well, know that he bleeds orange and blue! He was born in Athens, Georgia. During that time, Judge Crow's father was in World War II. He has one brother who is four years younger and followed in his footsteps as a lawyer. Judge Crow's brother has been a life long prosecutor in St. Petersburg, Florida. When Judge Crow was only twelve years old, his father transferred to Jacksonville where I am sure his love for the Gators grew stronger and stronger.

As you might imagine, following high school, Judge Crow attended the University of Florida in received a Bachelor of Science and Business Administration in 1968. He still recalls today the president of Ryder Truck who was a friend of his dad's stating "tell David to go into accounting, he can't go wrong" ... and so, he did. After graduation, Judge Crow went into the US Army for two years that helped pay the way for his Law School career at the very prestigious University of Florida College of Law. He graduated with honors in 1972. His intent was to learn the law so he could perfect doing tax work. However, Judge Crow fell in love with the law and knew that his passion was to be a lawyer.

Following law school, Judge Crow visited friends with jobs in the Palm Beach County area. Judge Crow knew he would never leave. What's there not to love in Palm Beach County!!

Judge Crow's mother still lives in Jacksonville and he visits family there often. He has three children: David Jr. who is 32 living in Chicago as a financial analyst for Motorola; Cynthia who is 28 living in Atlanta and working as a clinical social worker; and Matthew who is 26 and will be attending law school at Florida International University in the fall. Judge Crow also has become a grandfather. His daughter, Cynthia, recently gave birth to a little girl, Abigail.

Did I mention Judge Crow is a Gator fan? Yes, he is a huge Gator fan. In fact, he tries to go to every home game. He grew up going to the Florida vs. Georgia games rooting for Georgia and somehow in there could not get away from the orange and blue. He is such a big fan that he drove an orange and blue van for quite some time. Other hobbies he has include boating and spending time with his dogs. Judge Crow also has enjoyed watching all his children playing sports through the years.

Becoming a Judge is something Judge Crow always thought about. In the mid nineteen eighties he applied and his name went up to the Governor. However, it was not the right time for him. Therefore, he put off applying until about a year ago. Judge Crow began his career at O'Connell & Cooper, PA where he left in 1974 to work for Joe Metzger at Walton, Lantaff, Schroeder & Carson until 1977. Following his practice with the Walton, Lantaff firm, Judge Crow started his own law firm that was then known as Paxton, Crow, Smith, Bosso-Pardo & Davis, PA. He continued his career in law and continued his law firm until he became a Circuit Judge just a short few months ago. His practice was always mainly in

insurance defense. It ranged anywhere from automobile negligence to products liability with some commercial litigation.

Judge Crow states it is quite a different perspective seeing cases from the bench. Before, in his practice, he felt he was always defending defendants and companies for the right reasons. Now, as a judge, he is learning not to be a lawyer anymore. He finds himself often taking a step back and looking beyond the lawyers that is a lot harder than he expected. He recalls Judge Hazouri stating “listen to what they are saying, do not prejudge and let the lawyers do their job.” He takes these words very seriously then applies the law to the facts trying to do what is right.

When asked what he likes least about sitting on the bench, Judge Crow states the lack of cooperation among attorneys and the bickering that goes back and forth. However, in the next breath, he mentions it is always wonderful when the true professionals come before him and argue the law. When asked what he likes most, Judge Crow states the intellectual stimulation. He feels it is almost as if he has gone back to school and it brings law to the next level for him. We wish you much success in this next level of your life.