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WEEKLY NEWS & UPDATES | October 17th

Miami-Dade Bar Letter To the Judicial Assessment Committee

Judge Jonathan Gerber:

As you are aware, some of our state's lawmakers presently propose to consolidate, combine, and redefine the circuit court system. As testament to our Chief Judge's hard work, that of her predecessors, and with appreciation for how each circuit is uniquely structured to meet the needs of the citizens it serves, please accept this letter from the Miami-Dade Bar Association ("MDB") as a resounding objection to the proposal to make such a change to the Eleventh Judicial Circuit. Reconfiguring this circuit will deleteriously impact our county's judicial process and will harm Miami-Dade citizens.

The Eleventh Judicial Circuit in and for Miami-Dade County is the largest judicial circuit in Florida, and the fourth largest trial court in the United States, serving over two and half million citizens. Whether handling civil or criminal disputes, our county relies upon the judiciary to fairly and efficiently handle all matters before the Court. While Florida's judicial circuits may share the same goals, the mechanism for delivery differs based on the needs of the people. Here in the Eleventh, we have specialized programs that have been implemented to assist with effective case management and to fairly resolve problems that impact our community and our citizens. Miami-Dade County was considered a trailblazer when initially instituting our drug court, domestic violence court, family and landlord/tenant mediations, parenting/child education classes, traffic court magistrates, witness coordination, and video jail arraignments/bond hearings. Today, many of these innovations have been adopted by our neighbors. However, these innovations may never have been put into action if the makeup of our circuit was different.

[READ THE FULL LETTER HERE](#)

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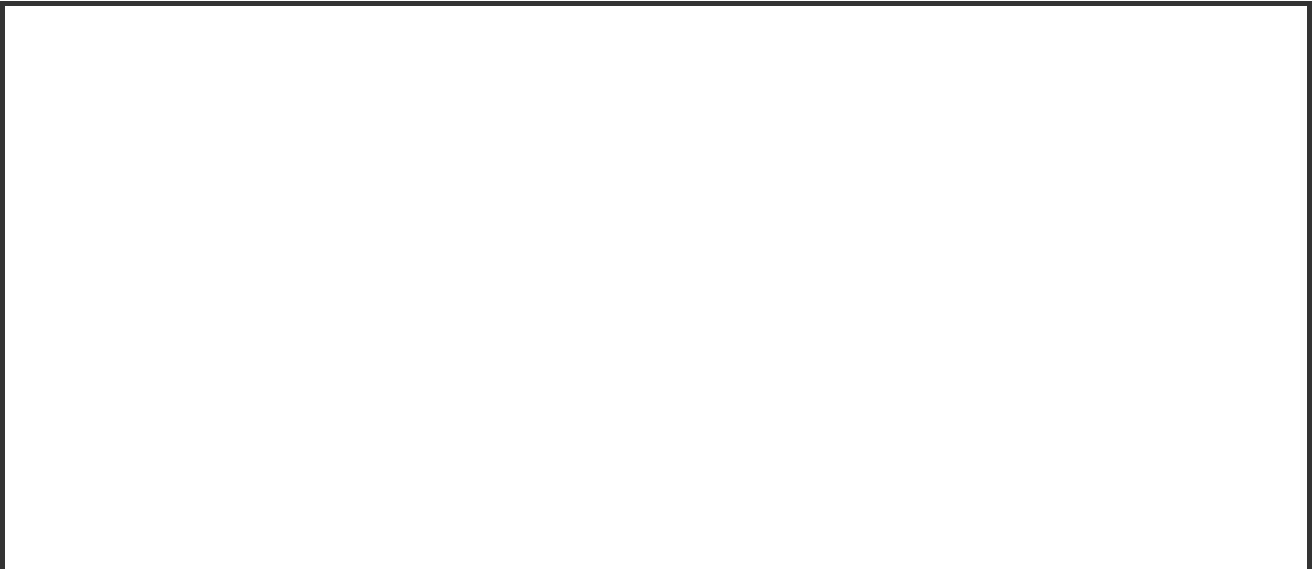
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We'd call \$3.6 billion dollars significant

That's how much lost to fraud annually, according to the ACFE's Report to the Nations from 2020. Data collection for their 2023 survey just closed, and we're anxious to see (and share) the new numbers when they come out in a few months. Anyone want to bet they'll be higher? Every industry is targeted, including professional firms.

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MIAMI-DADE BAR

123 NW First Avenue, Suite 214
Miami, Florida 33128
(305) 586 3660

Contact Us



Miami-Dade Bar | 123 NW First Avenue, Suite 214, Miami, FL 33128 305-371-2220

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