

BIOGRAPHY OF JUDGE MARK A. SPEISER

Judge Speiser, a graduate of The American University in Washington, DC received his J.D. at the University of North Carolina and an L.L.M. (Tax) at Georgetown University. Following law school, Judge Speiser served as a Staff Attorney with the Securities and Exchange Commission, a Federal Prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice Organized Crime Strike Force, Senior Staff Counsel with the U.S. House Select Committee on Assassinations, and Chief Narcotics Prosecutor with the Broward County, Florida State Attorney's Office.

Since elected as a Circuit Court Judge in 1982, Judge Speiser has served in the Juvenile Division, the Criminal Division, (Where he served as Administrative Chief for six years) and the Probate Division (Currently serving as Administrative Chief). Judge Speiser has been a strong advocate for the creation of problem-solving courts. He implemented in Broward County's 17th Judicial Circuit the Drug Court, the Habitual Offender Court and the nation's first Mental Health Court.

Judge Speiser was appointed by the Chief Justice of The Florida Supreme Court to serve on the Supreme Court's Families and Children in The Court Subcommittee on Mental Health, the Supreme Court's Task Force on Substance Abuse and Mental Health and The Supreme Court's Expert Witness Ad Hoc Committee. He was also appointed by The Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives to two consecutive terms on the Florida Substance Abuse and Mental Health Corporation and by The Department of Children and

Family Services to a three year term on the Substance Abuse, Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council of Florida.

Judge Speiser has also lectured extensively abroad including ten trips to Moscow to lecture to the Russian Judges on a U.S. Department of Justice Grant after the breakup of the Soviet Union, as well as to judges and law students at various law schools located in the Ukraine, Estonia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Belarus, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Thailand and Kazakhstan.