



Maroun G. Ajaka

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Greetings:

I am honored to be in this position to run for Monroe County Family Court Judge in November 2024. I am asking -once again- for your support and nomination.

I am a first-generation immigrant from Lebanon. I have been living the “American Dream” since my arrival to NYC in 1989. In 2001, I’ve chosen Monroe County to be my home. More importantly, I’ve chosen Monroe County to practice Law, and to raise a family. I am married to Katia for 17 years and we are blessed with 15-year-old daughter, Gabby.

Family Court Judges can truly make important differences in the lives of children, parents, and families. That is why I am running for Monroe County Family Court Judge. Family Court Judges keep children and family members safe and help strengthen families by providing mental health, addiction, parenting skills and other supportive services.

I have more than 22 years of experience representing parents and children in Family Court. I have listened to countless parents and children as they describe their struggles and their dreams. I understand their challenges.

When I left Lebanon as a young man it was torn apart by wars. Even though I had a law degree already, there was no future for me. Like my Family Court clients, I had a dream. My dream was to come to America. My dream came true when I arrived in New York City.

At first, I sold socks on the city streets, then I worked in restaurants and learned English. I became a United States citizen and went back to school to get an American law degree. Now I have law degrees from both Lebanon University and the University of Buffalo, giving me a broad multi-cultural legal perspective so vital for a court which serves families originally from many nations.

My professional and personal experiences have given me the compassion and knowledge needed to be a valuable Family Court Judge. I understand the problems that many families face today, including mental illness, poverty, drug addiction, physical abuse, and lack of extended family support. I have the ability to carefully listen to all sides and the skills and experience to look for, and find, effective solutions.

Our children deserve a Judge who knows not only the law, but who understands them and is a true public servant. My wonderful wife Katia, and our daughter Gabby, as well as my family still in Lebanon, have been my inspiration. They motivate me to work hard for a better future for the needy children of Monroe County.

My Family and I worked and learned so much from this past election. We are ready to do it all over again but we need your support and trust. My team knows how to run a successful campaign. I deserve a second chance.

I will cherish your nomination and I am honored to earn your vote.

If you have any question or Concern, please contact me at any time.

Very Truly yours,



Maroun G. Ajaka

Attorney At Law

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SUMMARY

Detail-oriented; conscientious and organized Attorney at Law with twenty (21) years of private practice experience, focusing on Family Law, Divorce, and Criminal Law. Extensive experience in Family Court representing parents and children in all proceedings, including custody, abuse and neglect and juvenile matters.

HIGHLIGHTS

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experienced litigator with extensive Family and Criminal trial experience.• Pro Bono representation through Volunteer Legal Services Project (Just Cause).• Admitted to practice in NYS.• Admitted to Practice Federal Court in Western District NY.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family Law Child Neglect and Abuse.• Criminal Law and Procedure.• Recipient of “<i>Robert J Connelly</i>” award in <i>Excellent in Trial Advocacy</i>.• Recipient of “William E. McKnight” Award from Volunteer Legal Services Project (Just Cause).• Member in good standing in the Appellate Division Attorney for Children program.
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EXPERIENCE

The Law Office of Maroun G. Ajaka: Solo practitioner August 2002 to Present.

- Family Law and Criminal Law, representing primarily indigent adults and children through court assignments or pro bono.
- Present and summarized cases to both judges and juries.
- Offer extensive case status explanations to each client with special attention to explanations to child clients. Argued appeals on behalf of children.
- Develop detailed litigation strategies for each case.
- Extensive trial and hearing experience in Family and Criminal Courts. Strategically examined witnesses in court and presented evidence. Interviewed and prepared witnesses for Family, criminal felony and divorce cases.
- Explored settlements when appropriate, by initiating dialogue between all parties involved in the case. Special sensitivity needed in cases representing children to assure their voices are heard in court.
- Select jurors, argue motions, and meet judges and attorneys during the course of the case.

EDUCATION

Bachelor and Law Degree from University of Lebanon: 1989.

JD received for University of Buffalo Law School: 2001; Passed NY. State Bar Exam at the first time.

AWARDS

Recipient of Robert J. Connelly award for 2001 for Excellence in Trial Advocacy, University of Buffalo Law School

William E. McKnight Award, Volunteer Services Award for 2003

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Fluent in English, French and Arabic.

All references are available upon request Except for the awards from Beirut, Lebanon.