

REVISED DISCUSSION DRAFT

Disclaimer: This questionnaire is designed to provide voters with a better understanding of your background, temperament and qualifications for the bench and not to ferret out where you stand on particular hot button social or legal issues. In answering these questions, please feel free to address judicial issues and themes broadly, there is no need to provide specific details on cases or opinions on issues which may come before the court.

MODEL JUDICIAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Biographical Information

Candidate Name:

(Photo Optional)

Position Sought:

Candidate Website:

Town or County of Residence:

Educational Background:

Legal Experience:

Judicial Service:

Relevant Professional Experience:

Bar Affiliations:

Civic, Community or Other Relevant Affiliations:

Bar Evaluations:

Sample Judicial Candidate Questions

(please limit your responses to no more than 100 words)

1. What experiences have you had that give you the qualifications to be a judge?
2. How would you distinguish yourself from the other candidates in the race?
3. Around the country, we've heard people stress the importance of "a fair and impartial judiciary". How would you define a fair and impartial judge and how would you work to ensure your impartiality?

4. Voter turnout seems to go down with every election. This is most apparent in judicial elections, where the races often are not well publicized or covered by the media. How would you improve voter education and interest, particularly as it relates to judicial races?

5. In which instances is it appropriate and desirable for the judiciary to work in cooperation with the other branches of government? In which areas does the judiciary have the obligations to stand apart?

6. While most people are aware of the role of a judge as an arbiter of facts and law, many people do not know about the administrative duties of a judge to manage his or her courtroom efficiently.

A) What supervisory or administrative experience have you had in the past?

B) How would you maintain and/or improve the efficiency in your courtroom?

7. What can be done to improve access to justice?

8. As an incumbent or prospective judge, what do you consider your greatest strengths?

9. Judges have an obligation to improve public understanding of the role of courts? How should they carry out that obligation?

10. How do you deal with difficult people, including peers, lawyers, clients or litigants?

11. Please describe a situation in which you took a controversial position (no need to go into details on the position) that angered or offended people and explain how you handled it.

12. If you are currently engaged in private practice, please describe the nature of your current practice/position including types of clients and areas, if any, of specialization. State what percentage involves civil litigation, criminal litigation and/or non-litigation.

The candidate campaign finance reports are filed for public display at:
