Completed forms are not confidential and will be published on-line

2022 Pierce County Democrats Endorsement Questionnaire

-Judicial Election-

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**\_\_\_\_

Position sought: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Date submitted: \_\_**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In judicial elections, the Pierce County Democratic Central Committee (Pierce County Democrats) seeks to endorse well qualified candidates with the education, experience, ability, and temperament to reach just decisions in the individual cases brought before them and who will also seek to make the justice system more understandable, accessible, and equitable for all. The Endorsements Committee screens candidates for and makes endorsement recommendations to the Pierce County Democrats.

The Pierce County Democrats may withdraw endorsement of any judicial candidate it determines has acted in conflict with the answers provided during the screening process or it determines has violated the letter or the spirit of the Code of Judicial Conduct or the Rules of Professional Conduct.

You may respond N/A (not applicable) if appropriate. Expand or decrease space as needed.

Questions

1. Why are you running for this particular position?
2. What are your qualifications for seeking this office, and what was the nature of your law practice?
3. If your past legal practice has emphasized one area of law, how will you prepare to decide other disputes and demonstrate to litigants that you can competently do so?
4. What are the most important issues for the jurisdiction you would serve or for the court you seek to join?
5. Why should the Pierce County Democratic Party support you for this position?
6. If you hold any Democratic Party values, how have you demonstrated them?
7. Please list any key endorsements.
8. Provide ratings from any Bar Associations, either in this election or a prior one.
9. Has any professional or disciplinary body made a finding that you violated any rule or code of judicial or professional conduct? If so, please provide a full explanation.
10. To what Bar groups or sections do you belong now or have belonged to in the past?
11. When in law school did you participate in a bar review publication? What was your final class rank?
12. How have you supported pro bono or low-cost legal services?
13. Do you have a judicial philosophy? If so, what is it?
14. How is being a judge different than being a lawyer, if it is?

IF ELECTED TO THIS POSITION…..

1. How would you educate and inform the public about your court and the justice system?
2. What would you do to provide greater access to the civil judicial system for non-wealthy people?
3. If you think that the judicial system improperly produces different results for certain groups or classifications, what would you do to remedy that problem?
4. Do you think there is a problem with the way in which legal financial obligations or other costs and fines are currently imposed on criminal defendants? If so, what would you do to remedy that problem?
5. Do you support or oppose alternatives to criminal prosecution, such as drug courts, mental health courts, diversion programs, etc.? What changes would you make, if any?
6. How would you approach any caseload or court congestion issues?
7. Is there anything else you would like to share with the Committee?