

2. If you ran for public office but were not elected, please list those races below:

Office Title	Year of Run

SECTION II

In this section, we are seeking responses that reflect the four ratings criteria: involvement, effectiveness, character, and knowledge. These are defined as follows:

- **Involvement:** What has the candidate done previously in family, neighborhood, community, volunteer work, employment or public life to suggest readiness to accomplish challenging objectives? How do these activities demonstrate readiness for the challenges unique to the office sought?
- **Effectiveness:** Has the candidate demonstrated promise of being productive in the office sought? Has the candidate shown the ability to work with other people?
- **Character:** Do the candidate's personal traits show the ability to take on the responsibilities of campaigning for and holding the public office she or he is seeking? Is the candidate a leader, participant or observer? Is the candidate trustworthy, reliable and candid?
- **Knowledge:** Has the candidate demonstrated the willingness and ability to learn and adapt? Does the candidate understand the duties and challenges of the office sought? Does the candidate have a firm grasp of the issues important to his or her constituency and their potential effects?

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1. In one page or less, why are you running for this office? (Note: the interview committee will be given a copy of this statement before your interview; at the beginning of your interview you will have the opportunity to expand on this statement in any way you wish.)

It has been my honor to serve the citizens of King County for the past 27+ years as a District Court Judge. I love my job, and desire to continue to serve until my retirement in 4 years.

When I first ran for this position in 1982, I dedicated myself to putting justice into the Courts. We were emerging from an era where the "good old boy" network controlled the justice system. Minority opportunities were limited, and racial and gender bias were rampant. Treatment for offenders was minimal, jails were substandard, and traffic cases were still criminal. I pledged to spend my career changing what I could. I am proud to say that I have significantly contributed to bringing about many structural and rule changes that created the efficient, effective and honorable system we have today. I am not finished with that work and have more important changes to implement.

I have been a leader for the Courts at both the County and State levels. I was the first Presiding Judge ever elected to the District Court, and have since served as Assistant Presiding Judge, Divisional Presiding Judge, and Executive Committee member for more than twenty years. I have served on almost every committee formed at one time or another, taught judicial classes for the State Judiciary, worked on many legislative efforts, and began the first Domestic Violence Court in the State. I have taught Domestic Violence classes to Judges, law student and counselors

When the 12 independent courts in King County proved to be inefficient and difficult to manage, I worked with the County to create a single district system. We established separate electoral districts, merged Courts, closed Courts, unified the probation system, centralized the management, and reduced costs dramatically. Later, in 2000, we were again facing budget difficulties, and I worked with the court leadership to implement cost savings through increased use of technology. We are now the most technological Court in the State.

I am a good judge, making sound decisions in difficult and hard cases. I am often called on to serve on panels of judges ruling on issues of county wide significance. I have been involved with State vs Amagh for the past 3 years, in which the State was forced to improve the operations of the State toxicology laboratory. I am seldom appealed, and rarely overruled in the appeal process.

I am a good judge who has worked in every Court and on every type of case handled by our system. I have done work for the Superior Court, Juvenile Court, and Inquest Hearings.

I am a good judge, who loves his work, works very hard, and tries to improve the court. I want to finish my career doing what I love.

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.

Diligence: I take the responsibility of judge very seriously, and try to lead by example. I always start court on time, remain on the bench until the calendar is concluded, answer correspondence promptly, set and hear motions quickly, research the issues, prepare the calendars ahead of time, and write my own Finding of Fact and Judgments. I try not to put off till tomorrow what can be done today.

Intelligence: I was well trained in the law at University of California, Berkeley. I have always enjoyed the intellectual interplay between the attorneys and the Judge. I comprehend legal theories, and the public policy behind legislation. I make sound decisions that litigants can rely on.

Hard work: I was raised on a farm, working as a boy with the animals and machinery. I got my first paying job at 12, and have never been out of work since. I paid my own way through college and law school while supporting a wife. Today, I am usually the first judge in the court, and often beat the clerks into the courtroom. I start my calendars at 8:00 so I can finish a jury trial in one day. This year we have been able to consolidate the Domestic Violence Courts from Seattle, the east side, and south into a single court, saving staff and time. This is in large part due to my ability to process large caseloads.

Empathetic personality: I am in the business of helping people to change and improve their lives. I choose to be a limited jurisdiction judge because the emphasis is on rehabilitation rather than retribution. I have an ability to read people, understand their motivations and needs, and find solutions that will help the problem. I am most rewarded when a defendant returns to court reporting being clean, sober and doing well.

3. Please describe, in sufficient detail, one to three accomplishments or contributions of which you are most proud. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities you think apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

1. When first elected to the bench, there were almost no Court Rules. There was no discovery process, no provision for public defense, and no jury trials for defendants. I believed strongly that these were needed. I sought the help of the Bar Association and the State Judges Association to draft and implement such. A committee was put together, and Judge Kessler and I spent every Saturday for over a year drafting proposed Rules for Superior and Limited Jurisdiction Courts. Ultimately they were adopted by the Supreme Court and exist today in essentially the same form as we drafted them. A huge improvement for justice in the State.

Prior to 1988, the District Courts were 12 independent, separate courts. Most were small, having only 1 or 2 judges. There was no centralized management, uniform rules or forms. Each judge was essentially a monarch rather than part of a team. This system was inefficient, expensive and hard to work in. Under great pressure from the County Council we were forced into a single District. I was elected as the first Presiding Judge. I set up a centralized office for budgeting, printing, court management and personnel. We consolidated several court facilities, merged management, eliminated duplicate or unnecessary functions, and negotiated our first union contract with the staff. Finally, I sought legislative approval and added an additional judge, created electoral districts, and submitted our first consolidated budget

I 1998 and 1999 the District Courts determined that it was in the best interests of the public the create a dedicated Domestic Violence Court. This was to be a therapeutic process not unlike Drug Court. I was selected to create the first one in the State. I was trained by the State and Federal governments in the principals of operation, and implemented it at MRJC. I have served in that capacity for 7 of the past 10 years. I have been able to consolidate the cases from the entire county, and apply punitive and therapeutic responses as necessary. I am proud that incidents of DV are falling in King county and believe the Court is part of the solution.

2. I have worked in all of the wide variety of jobs which the Court is expected to handle. I have done traffic infractions, Civil, Small Claims, Anti-harassment, Domestic Violence Protection Orders, Search warrants, criminal traffic, criminal, Domestic Violence, Mental Health, Inquest Hearings, and Motions of County wide significance.

The Superior Court has selected a few of the District Court Judges (5) to serve on the Superior Court bench for limited purposes. I am one of those selected. Thus, I have worked in Juvenile Court doing criminal reviews, in-custody reviews, and Dependencies. I have also worked handling Commissioner calendars for the Superior Court.

I travel to different Courts when necessary, and have worked in every court in the County. Because I am well trained and flexible, I get sent where ever there is a problem which cannot be addressed by the sitting Judge. This takes me all over the county and into Pierce and Snohomish Counties.

I can do every type of hearing, and do so efficiently and accurately. When we have had difficulty with a particular court, I have been sent there and directed to make such changes as are necessary to correct the problem. I approach such problems as a "systems" issue.

I have a good record of decision making, being seldom appealed, and usually upheld. I have never been investigated by the judicial Conduct Commission for any violation.

4. Please list or describe current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

I have always been active as a community volunteer. Sometimes using my legal skills, such as serving on the Planning Commission for the City of Kent, chairing the Juvenile Court Community Diversion Committee or the Board of Directors for Valley Cities mental Health.

Other times I use my skills as a teacher, coaching girls softball, teaching at many colleges and universities state wide, teaching Domestic Violence classes to lawyers and Judges.

I serve my Church as a teacher, preacher and worker.

I have been a member of community organizations such as Rotary and Masonic Lodge.

As a Judge we are severely limited in the roles we can play outside our Court. The Rules of Ethics restricts me from any type of fund raising activity, and thus my efforts have been restrict since taking the bench.

5. Please describe the duties of the office you seek. Which are the most important duties and why?

This has been partially answered in the previous questions. The most important duty is the case that is before me at the time. I need to do whatever is needed. Do it accurately under the law, fairly to the litigants, and efficiently for the public. Each case deserves my full attention and careful consideration. To the participants it is the most important thing in their world.