

2010 Candidate Questionnaire

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
David	E.	Meyer

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number):

Southeast District Court, Position No. 2

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city?

5 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

54 years

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan? Partisan Nonpartisan

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: **Committee to Elect David Meyer Judge**

Address: **P.O. Box 60047**

City/State/Zip: **Renton WA 98058**

Campaign Phone: **425-277-7990**

Campaign Fax: **None yet**

Campaign E-mail: **info@davidmeyerforjudge.com**

Campaign Website: **Davidmeyerforjudge.com**

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

1. Beginning with the most recent position, please list public offices you have held. Include positions on appointive boards or commissions.

Public Office	Elective or Appointive?	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)
n/a			

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

Office Title	Year of Run
n/a	

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 privilege for more than 25 years to serve ordinary people in a range of legal matters. Helping people understand, negotiate and survive the legal system has been my life's work. I have represented 1000's of clients, including more than 100 jury trials, in King County Superior Court, all county District Courts, most municipal courts, the Court of Appeals and Federal District Court. I have presided over cases as a *pro tem* King county Superior Court and King County District Court Judge and served as an Arbitrator for years. I wish to give back to the community and have the public benefit from this experience by serving as a judge.

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

I am known and respected for my fairness, integrity, knowledge of the law, diligence, patience, and ability to listen. I am highly principled, strongly believe in equality and basic human dignity for all, and genuinely enjoy dealing with people. All of these are traits that all judges should have.

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.

In the early 1990's, I was able to prevail on behalf of my client in the Court of Appeals in Marriage of Hurd, 69 Wash.App. 38, (1993). This decision established significant positive changes in dissolution law which are still applied today, as well as rectified an extreme disparity in a property settlement in favor of the husband.

In 2009, I represented a young black man accused of a Drive-by Shooting. Through a difficult but successful search for witnesses to the event, four people, whom the police had not interviewed, were found and brought forward to testify that my client was not responsible for the shooting; all charges against him were dismissed.

I put myself through college by working full-time and attending school full-time; it did take me five years to get my degree. I worked part-time in law school, but I was able to graduate in 2 and 1/2 years rather than 3.

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.

Throughout the 1990's, I presided over cases as a *pro tem* judge in Seattle District Court and King County Superior Court. During that time, I also served as an Arbitrator in the King County system. To my knowledge, none of my cases were ever appealed.

For the last nine years, I have foregone employment in the private sector and have served as a Public Defender with Northwest Defenders Association. I have represented indigent defendants facing charges from misdemeanors to murders.

From 1992 to 1995, I served on the Boards of the Council for Child Abuse and Neglect (CPCAN) and on the Lawyers' Campaign for Hunger Relief, for which I was also Treasurer.

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

A District Court Judge will perform a variety of tasks, depending on his or her assignment. Judges will preside over all stages of criminal matters, from arraignments to trials to sentencings. They will conduct review hearings to monitor probation and other conditions of sentences. They will preside over Anti-harassment and Domestic Violence calendars, Small Claims (up to \$5,000) and civil litigation (up to \$75,000). They will set bail and impose conditions of release for criminal defendants. They will rule on, and issue search warrant applications by law enforcement. They will preside over inquests.

All of these duties are the most important duties they perform...to the citizen before them at the time. From a Public Safety perspective, the bail hearings, sentencings and probation supervision are the most important, to protect the general public from people who put us all at risk.