



Justice... Professionalism... Service... Since 1886

Dear Judicial Candidate:

This letter is a brief summary of the King County Bar Association judicial candidate evaluation process for both contested elections and for appointments.

The King County Bar Association uses the Governor's Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire as its primary screening tool. The questionnaire is available in word form on the Governor's website at www.governor.wa.gov/office/judicial/uniform_eval_questionnaire.doc. In addition to the Uniform Questionnaire, KCBA requests that you also complete the attached KCBA cover sheet and supplemental questionnaire, which includes the Waiver and Authorization to Release Information from the Washington State Bar Association. A copy of the KCBA Judicial Screening Committee rules and procedures governing the judicial screening process is also included with this packet of information.

Please provide us with one paper copy of your completed Uniform Questionnaire, supplemental cover questionnaire and writing sample as well as an emailed set of your materials. Please download the reference form (<http://www.kcba.org/judicial/pdf/JudicialScreeningReference.xls>) and use it to provide information on your references (Emails should be directed to Threesa Milligan, threesam@kcba.org; the hard copy should be sent to the King County Bar Association office at 1200 Fifth Avenue, Suite 600, Seattle, WA 98101. If there is a vacancy for appointment, you will have been advised of the deadline for submitting your questionnaire.

If you will be running for office in a contested election, please note Rule 9.3.8, which provides that the Committee shall rate candidates if it has sufficient information to do so, whether or not the candidate participates in the candidate evaluation process. Therefore, the Committee will attempt to rate all candidates in all contested elections.

IMPORTANT: Please do NOT provide us with your social security number (page 1 of the Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire).

Reasonable efforts will be made to reach all references you list in your questionnaire. References are advised of the confidential nature of the inquiry and their responses.

A quorum of the Judicial Candidate Evaluation Committee (at least twelve members) will be present at your interview. The interview will last between twenty and thirty minutes. You will have a total of five minutes for both an opening and a closing statement, so you will want to think about how to divide and use this time. You will be questioned informally by Committee members. Identical questions are not asked of each candidate; however, the Committee does try to cover the same areas of judicial qualification in each interview. You may also be asked to comment on concerns, if any, which have been brought to the attention of the Committee during the reference checking process. At the conclusion of the questioning, you will be given a few minutes (as time permits) for any closing comments you may wish to make. Immediately following your interview, those Committee members present during your interview will discuss your qualifications and vote on your rating.

The reference checks, your interview, and the screening deliberations are confidential and the information obtained is not disclosed. However, if you have requested a rating for appointment and you receive one of the top two ratings, KBCA does provide your completed questionnaire to the appropriate appointing authority for the position for which you were rated if requested.

KCBA considers the responses to the following questions on the Governor's Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire to be public information which may be disclosed to persons other than the Judicial Screening Committee and, in the case of judicial elections, will be publicly available:

Position Sought, Name, Business Address, Business email
Professional History: #8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,
Educational Background: #16, 17
Professional Experience: #18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32
Community and Civic Activities: #33

Please be advised that the Judicial Candidate Evaluation Committee may take into account the information provided in the questionnaire, the reference checks, the interview, and any other source of information available to it. Letters of recommendation will not be provided to the Committee and should not be solicited. Supplemental materials such as journal articles, legal research, motions, briefs or other documents that you have filed in court, other than those writing samples specifically called for in the Governor's Uniform Questionnaire, should not be included.

Please make every effort to include the telephone numbers and case names requested in the reference section of the questionnaires. It is helpful for the Committee if you number your responses to questions 49 – 53 of the Uniform Questionnaire. Candidates may request ratings for election and/or appointment for one or multiple levels of the court at a screening.

The Judicial Candidate Evaluation Committee has a diverse membership with regard to gender, race, age, type of practice, size of firm, geographic, and other factors considered relevant. Members at an individual screening session are selected ad hoc from the committee roster. A roster of the Judicial Candidate Evaluation Committee is available on request.

Contact information for other bar associations that evaluate judicial candidates is available on the Washington State Bar Association website (www.wsba.org) on the "Bar Leadership/Minority Bar Associations" tab at <http://www.wsba.org/Legal-Community/Committees-Boards-and-Other-Groups/Judicial-Recommendation-Committee/Minority-Bar-Associations-Judicial-Evaluations>.

Sincerely,



Andrew J. Prazuch
Executive Director