

**CANDIDATE COVER SHEET FOR KCBA JUDICIAL SCREENING
Information Taken from Washington State Governor's Office
Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire**

NAME: David A. Larson

Position Sought: Federal Way Municipal Court

KCBA considers the responses to the following questions on the Washington State Governor's Office'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

Professional History

8. Year admitted to practice law in Washington: **1985**

9. Employment History (in reverse chronological order):

a. Start Date: **March 2008** End Date: **Present**

Organization: **City of Federal Way Municipal Court**

Address: **33325 8th Avenue South**

Phone No.: **253-835-3012**

Position/Title: **Judge**

Supervisor: **No supervisor, but Judge Michael Morgan is the Presiding Judge**

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

Judge in misdemeanor and traffic matters, daily court appearances, preside over approximately 250 hearings per week

Reason for leaving: **Not applicable**

b. Start Date: **June 2001** End Date: **February 2008**

Organization: **Williams Kastner**

Address: **601 Union, Suite 4100, Seattle, WA 98101**

Phone No.: **206-628-6600**

Position/Title: **Of Counsel**

Supervisor: **Bob Manlowe and Doug Hofmann**

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

Complex civil litigation, Construction defect litigation, National Coordinating Counsel team (Chair of National Discovery Team for 15,000 asbestos lawsuits), rare court appearances, only tried one jury trial. I tried approximately 70 civil jury trials, 250 arbitrations, was arbitrator in about 60 cases, and mediated approximately 40 cases from May 1985 to March 2008.

Reason for leaving: **Accepted position as judge for Federal Way Municipal Court**

c. Start Date: **June 1998** End Date: **June 2001**

Organization: **Litigation Alternatives, Inc.**

Address: **33801 1st Way South, Suite 261, Federal Way, WA 98003**

Phone No.: **253-874-5349**

Position/Title: **Owner**

Supervisor: **Self-employed**

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

Offered diverse methods of dispute resolution with 22 subcontract mediators

Reason for leaving: **To start employment at Williams, Kastner**

d. Start Date: **September 1991** End Date: **June 2001**

Organization: **David A. Larson, P.S.**

Address: **33801 1st Way South, Suite 261, Federal Way, WA 98003**

Phone No.: **253-874-5349**

Position/Title: **Owner**

Supervisor: **Self-employed**

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

Civil litigation, insurance defense, personal injury.

Reason for leaving: **To start employment with Williams Kastner**

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- e. Start Date: **October 1988** End Date: **September 1991**
Organization: **Richard J. Jensen, P.S. & Associates**
Address: **950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 720, Tacoma, WA 98402**
Phone No.: **253-272-8400**
Position/Title: **Associate**
Supervisor: **Richard Jensen**
Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):
Civil litigation, insurance defense, frequent court appearances
Reason for leaving: **To start my own law firm**
- f. Start Date: **May 1985** End Date: **October 1988**
Organization: **Safeco Insurance Companies**
Address: **4333 Brooklyn Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98185**
Phone No.: **206-633-1310**
Position/Title: **Staff Trial Counsel**
Supervisor: **Ken LeMaster**
Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):
Civil litigation, insurance defense, frequent court appearances
Reason for leaving: **To accept employment with Richard Jensen**
- g. Start Date: **September 1983** End Date: **May 1985**
Organization: **Burgess, Kennedy, Fitzer & Strombom (Now Burgess Fitzer)**
Address: **1145 Broadway, Suite 400, Tacoma, WA 98402**
Phone No.: **253-627-8928**
Position/Title: **Legal Intern**
Supervisor: **F. Ross Burgess**
Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):
Civil litigation, insurance defense, civil rights defense, police misconduct
Reason for leaving: **To accept employment with Safeco**
- h. Start Date: **October 1982** End Date: **September 1983**
Organization: **Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney, Civil Division**
Address: **930 Tacoma Avenue South, Tacoma, WA 98402**
Phone No.: **253-798-7400**
Position/Title: **Legal Intern**
Supervisor: **Karl Haugh**
Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):
Civil litigation, municipal liability, civil rights defense, police misconduct
Reason for leaving: **To accept employment with Burgess, Kennedy, Fitzer & Strombom**
- i. Start Date: **December 1981** End Date: **October 1982**
Organization: **Pierce County Prosecuting Attorney, Misdemeanor Division**
Address: **930 Tacoma Avenue South, Tacoma, WA 98402**
Phone No.: **253-798-7400**
Position/Title: **Case Controller**
Supervisor: **Gaylord Masters**
Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):
Managed case docket including witnesses, continuances, and other case management tasks
Reason for leaving: **Transfer to Civil Division**

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10. Please list all other courts and jurisdictions in which you have been admitted to practice law and the dates of admission. Please provide the same information for administrative bodies having special admission requirements.

Federal District Court, Western District of Washington (1985)

11. Please list all bar associations and professional societies of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices that you have held in such groups.

I am presently in good standing as a judicial member of the WSBA. I am also a member in good standing of the District and Municipal Court Judges Association.

12. Are you in good standing in every bar association of which you are a member? Yes / No. If you answered "no", please explain.

I am presently in good standing as a judicial member of the WSBA. I am also a member in good standing of the District and Municipal Court Judges Association.

13. If you have ever been a judge, please identify any court committees on which you have served or administrative positions you have held. Please state the dates of service for each.

2008 to present DMCJA Education Committee

2008 to present DMCJA Rules Committee

14. Please list up to five of your most significant professional accomplishments. (If applicable, please provide the case and court name and the citation if a case was reported (and copy of the opinion).

1. **Becoming a well-respected judge within a short period of time on the bench**
2. **Achieving an "AV" rating from my peers through Martindale-Hubbell**
3. **Being nominated for "Mentor of the Year" in 2007 by the KCBA Young Lawyers**
4. **Training/mentoring younger lawyers**
5. **Being involved in litigation on a nationwide basis and managing cases with some of the finest lawyers in the country**

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15. Please summarize up to eight of the most significant matters that you participated in as an advocate. Please include the dates of your participation and the reason each was significant to you. Please provide the citation if a case was reported. If you have been a judge, please include some cases that have been tried before you.

As Counsel: When I was younger, I would have felt that my many defense verdicts, summary judgment victories, and other litigation triumphs were "significant". As I matured, I learned that "significant" to my clients was getting their problem solved quickly and justly.

My involvement in keeping the Seahawks in Seattle was significant to me, but is unknown to many. I brought suit on behalf of season ticket holders. I encouraged King County to add the tort of intentional interference with contractual relations against out of town buyers because there was still 10 years left on the lease between King County and the team. They added the claim and out of town buyers dried up for fear of the outcome of such a suit. Paul Allen was then able to purchase the team without out of town competition.

In 1999, I convinced the Federal Way City Council, through persuasion, not litigation, that their attempt to "lease" police officers to a country club community was not politically or legally correct. Police should go where the crime is, not where the money is. I felt that the agreement set a bad precedent because the incentive would be to provide police service to those who could afford it first, and to those who needed it are not necessarily the people who could afford it.

As a Judge: There is something everyday that is "significant" to a defendant, victim, counsel, clerk, or other person. I would sum it up by saying that my job allows me to touch people in ways that I hope are significant to them. What is significant to me is the opportunity to influence people's lives in positive ways, to try to change behavior, to provide a comfort, to provide firmness when needed, and to tell someone that I care about their success when I sentence them to do affirmative acts that will aid in their rehabilitation.

Educational Background

16. Please list all undergraduate and graduate (non-law school) colleges and universities attended, years of attendance, degree awarded and reason for leaving if no degree was awarded.

University of Puget Sound	1977 to 1980	BA, Public Administration
College/University	Dates of Attendance	Degree

17. Please list all law schools attended, years of attendance, degree awarded and reason for leaving if no degree was awarded.

University of Puget Sound (Seattle U)	1981 to 1984	Juris Doctor
Law School	Dates of Attendance	Degree

Professional Experience

18. Please summarize, briefly, the general nature of your current law practice.

I am currently a full-time judge who adjudicates misdemeanor and traffic matters. I cannot practice law.

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19. If you are in practice, please describe your typical clients and any areas of special emphasis within your practice.

Not applicable

20. If your present law practice is different from any previous practice, please describe the earlier practice, including the nature of your typical clients and any area of special emphasis within your practice.

Not applicable

21. Within the last 5 years, did you appear in trial court:

As a judge regularly. As a lawyer:

Regularly Occasionally Infrequently

22. Within the last 5 years, did you prepare appellate briefs and appear before appellate courts:

Regularly Occasionally Infrequently

23. Within the last five years, how often did you appear in the court for which you are applying:

As a judge regularly. As a lawyer:

Regularly Occasionally Infrequently

24. Career Experience

(a) What percentage of your appearances in the last five years was in:

I tried approximately 70 civil jury trials, 250 arbitrations, was arbitrator in about 60 cases, and mediated approximately 40 cases from May 1985 to March 2008.

(1) Federal appellate courts	0%
(2) Federal trial courts	1%
(3) State appellate courts	0%
(4) State trial courts	30%
(5) Municipal courts	0% (100% as a judge)
(6) District courts	0%
(7) Administrative tribunals	0%
(8) Tribal courts	0%
(9) Other	69% (National Coordinating Counsel)
TOTAL	100%

(b) What percentage of your practice in the last five years was:

(1) Civil litigation (excl. family law)	98%
(2) Criminal litigation	0% (80% criminal & 20% traffic as a judge)
(3) Family law litigation	0%
(4) Non-litigation	2%
TOTAL	100%

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(c) What percentage of your trials in the last five years were:

(1)	Jury trials	100%
(2)	Non-jury trials	0%
	TOTAL	100%

(d) State the number of cases during your total career that you have tried to verdict or judgment (rather than settled) in the following courts, and indicate for each court the following percentages: trials in which you were sole counsel or chief counsel, jury trials, and trials where you were the arbiter/decision maker.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Court</u>	<u>% as Sole / Chief Counsel</u>	<u>% Jury</u>	<u>% as the Arbiter</u>
12 (est.)	Municipal	Judge (one bench trial)	92%	100% (judge)
0	State Dist.	_____	_____	_____
10 (est.)	State Superior	10% (1 jury trial)	10%	90% (arbitrator)
0	Federal Dist.	_____	_____	_____
0	Administrative	_____	_____	_____
0	Tribal Courts	_____	_____	_____
0	Other	_____	_____	_____

(e) State the number of appellate cases during your total career where you appeared as counsel of record in the following courts, and indicate for each court the following percentages: cases where you were sole counsel or chief counsel, and cases where you were the arbiter/decision maker (if applicable).

<u>Number</u>	<u>Court</u>	<u>% as Sole / Chief Counsel</u>	<u>% as the Arbiter</u>
0	State Superior Court	_____	_____
2	WA. Div. I COA	50%	_____
0	WA. Div. II COA	_____	_____
0	WA. Div. III COA	_____	_____
0	WA. Supreme Court	_____	_____
0	Fed. Cir. COA	_____	_____
0	U.S. Supreme Court	_____	_____

(f) Briefly describe no more than five significant litigation matters that you directly handled as the sole counsel. For each, please provide the name and telephone number of opposing counsel, the name of the judge or other judicial officer, and the citation (if applicable).

See Response to Question #15 and Question #50.

(g) State in detail your experience in adversary proceedings before administrative boards or commissions during the last five years.

None

25. Please briefly describe any legal non-litigation experience that you feel enhances your qualifications to serve as a judge.

See community and professional involvement attached.

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26. If you are now an officer or director of any business organization or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprises, please provide the following: the name of the enterprise, the nature of the business, the title of your position, the nature of your duties, and the term of your service. If you are appointed and do not intend to resign such position(s), please state this below along with your reasons for not resigning.

None, but I am on the board of non-profits (see community involvement)

27. Please list all chairmanships of major committees in bar associations and professional societies and memberships on any committees that you have held and believe to be of particular significance.

King County Bar Association Professionalism Committee – Co-Chair - 2005-2007

Federal Way School Board – President - 2007-2008

See community and professional involvement attached. I will also be teaching *Street Law* at Todd Beamer High School this fall and I am in the process of setting up Youth Courts in Federal Way.

Judicial Interest and Experience

28. In 50 words or less, please describe why you should be appointed / elected and are seeking a judicial position.

I want to continue working as close as I can with the people who need me most in my hometown of 42 years. My reputation among lawyers who appear before me and with other judges from around the state speaks for why I should retain this position.

29. In 50 words or less, please describe your judicial philosophy.

A municipal judge must rehabilitate where they can and punish where they must. I must treat all who come before me with dignity and fairness if my rulings are to be followed and respected. Human dignity is the by-product of my job, whether for victims, defendants, counsel, jurors, or employees.

30. Have you ever held a judicial office or have you ever been a candidate for such office? **Yes / ~~No~~**. If you answered "yes", please provide details, including the courts involved, whether elected or appointed, and the periods of your service.

I was appointed to serve as one of Federal Way's two municipal court judges in March 2008 and I am currently in that position.

31. Have you ever held public office other than a judicial office, or have you ever been a candidate for such an office? **Yes / ~~No~~**. If you answered "yes", please provide details, including the offices involved, whether elected or appointed, and the length of your service.

I was a member of the Federal Way School Board. I was appointed in June 2006 and elected in November 2007. I left the board in March 2008 to accept the appointment to the Federal Way court.

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32. Please briefly identify all of your experience as a neutral decision-maker (e.g. judge (permanent or pro tem) in any jurisdiction, administrative law judge, arbitrator, hearing officer, etc.). Give courts, approximate dates, and attorneys who appeared before you.

I have been a full-time judge since March 2008. I was an arbitrator in King and Pierce Counties for 18 years before being appointed to the bench. I was also appointed arbitrator on several uninsured motorist arbitrations. See response to Question #50 for names of lawyers who have appeared before me when I was acting in my present position.

Community and Civic Activities

33. Please list your community and civic activities, including dates and leadership roles held, over the last 10 years.

See attached

Professional Involvement

- "AV" peer rated lawyer – Martindale–Hubbell
- District and Municipal Court Judges Association 2008–present
 - Education Committee 2008–present
 - Rules Committee 2008–present
- Federal Way Community Coordinated Response to Domestic Violence Steering Committee 2008–present
- Washington State Bar Association 1985–present
 - Court Rules and Procedures Committee 1996–2003
 - Professionalism Committee 2001–2002
 - Litigation Section 1985–2008
- Federal District Court – Western District of Washington 1985–present
- Washington Council of School Law Attorneys 2007–2008
- King County Bar Association 1985–2007
 - Finalist –Mentor of the Year 2007
 - Professionalism Committee – Co–Chair 2005–2007
 - Councils of Law – Co–Chair 2005–2007
 - Youth and the Law Committee 1986–1987
- Tacoma/Pierce County Bar Association 1985–2001
 - CLE Committee 2001
 - Judicial Liaison Committee 1998
 - Mandatory Arbitration Committee 1990–1992
 - Doctor–Lawyer Liaison Committee 1989–1991
 - CLE Committee 1991
 - Professional Improvement Committee 1990
- "Super Lawyer" by *Washington Law & Politics* 2000
- Municipal Court Task Force – House of Representatives 1999–2000
- Settlement Now (Mediator) 1990–98
- National Institute for Trial Advocacy (Graduate) 1988
- Instructor at Numerous Litigation Seminars 1990–present

Community Involvement

- Federal Way Public Schools
 - School Board Director 2006–2008
 - Board President 2007–2008
 - Board Vice–President 2006–2007
 - Washington State School Director's Association 2006–2008
 - School Board Legislative Delegate (WSSDA) 2006–2008
 - Diversity Award – WSSDA 2006
 - Todd Beamer High Booster Club 2005–present

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- Todd Beamer High – Titan Advisory Committee 2005–2006
- Illahee Middle School PTA 2003–2008
- School Construction Oversight Committee 2001–2004
- Panther Lake Elementary PTA 1996–2004
- Panther Lake Elementary PTA – Co-Chair
 - Community Services 2000–2004
- Panther Lake Elementary – Site Leadership Team 2000–2001
- Panther Lake K–Kids (Kiwanis) (Founder) 1999–2003
- Board Recognition for volunteer activities 1999
- City of Federal Way
 - Board of Ethics – Chair 1991–1994
 - Human Services Commission 1999–2004
 - Federal Way C.E.R.T. 2003
- Pacific Ballroom Dance 2008–present
 - Chair 2009–present
- Kiwanis Club of Federal Way 1998–present
 - Hixson Fellow 2000
 - Kiwanian of the Year 1998–1999
 - Everyday Hero Award 1998
 - Kiwanis Foundation of Federal Way
 - Founding Member 2003–present
 - Distinguished Past President 2003
 - Immediate Past President 2002–2003
 - President 2001–2002
 - Young Children Priority 1 Chair 2000–2002
 - President–Elect 2000–2001
 - Panther Lake K–Kids (Founder) 1999–2003
 - Community Service Chair 1999–2000
 - Vice–President 1999–2000
 - Program Chair 1998–1999
 - Board Member 1998–1999
- Washington State Department of Transportation
 - Aviation Division – Air Search & Rescue
 - Search Management Team Member 2004–present
- Civil Air Patrol (U.S. Air Force Auxiliary) 2002–2008
 - Rank – Major 2004–2008
 - Instructor – National Legal Officer's College 2005–2008
 - McChord Composite Squadron (Commander) 2005–2008
 - National Commander's Commendation 2007
 - Washington Wing
 - Assistant Wing Legal Officer 2002–2008
 - Wing Emergency Services Officer 2005–2006

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- Deputy Wing Homeland Security Officer 2003–2006
- Liaison–Region V Homeland Security
(Pierce Co.) Exercise Committee 2004–2006
- Liaison–Region V Homeland Security
(Pierce Co.) Training Committee 2004–2006
- Liaison–Asymmetric Warfare
Exercise Committee 2004–2006
- Member–Washington State Department of
Transportation–Aviation Division –
Air Search/Rescue Coordination Committee 2005–2006
- Federal Way Helmet Coalition – Founding Board Member 2002–04
 - “Outstanding Community Partner” Award 2004
- Cub Scouts Pack 366 – Den Leader 2001–2005
- Columnist – Federal Way Mirror “On Community” 1999–2001
- Federal Way Hawks Junior Football – Coach 1999
- Federal Way National Little League – Manager/Coach 1996–2005