

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

NAME: James A. Santucci

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

The Governor's Office's
Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire

Professional History

8. Year admitted to practice law in Washington: 1977

9. Employment History (in reverse chronological order):

a. Start Date: 1987 End Date: Present

Organization: The Lanz Firm, P.S.

Address: AGC Building, Suite 809, 1200 Westlake Avenue North

Phone No.: (206) 382-1827

Position/Title:

Supervisor: Bernard G. Lanz

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

Business, Real Estate and Investment areas encompass negotiation, transactional document preparation, foreclosure and civil litigation on a variety of issues.

Bankruptcy (personal and business) includes filing Chapters 7, 11 & 13, together with associated adversary trials, motions practice and evidentiary hearings.

Representation of clients in Municipal court DUI, Criminal traffic and Licensing matters.

Dissolution/Custody/Domestic Violence representation encompasses motions and trial work.

Personal injury claims representation.

In addition, my practice includes Appellate work from superior court; Administrative Hearings and Appeals; Mediations and Arbitrations.

Frequency of court appearances will vary with the type of case being worked, but usually no less than twice a month. At other times, more frequent.

b. Start Date: 1977 End Date: 1987 est.

Organization: Rölller, Vernon, Santucci & Powers, P.S.

Address: 1001 South 38th St, Tacoma, WA 98419

Phone No.: (253) 475 -1225

Position/Title: Partner

Supervisor:

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

Criminal traffic, DUI trials at the Municipal and District Court levels. Felony trial work at the Superior Court level.

Dissolution/Custody with an emphasis on custody trial work.

General civil matters and litigation including Appellate work and Arbitrations

Reason for leaving: It was time for a change of direction to other areas of practice.

c. Start Date: _____ End Date: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Position/Title: _____

Supervisor: _____

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances): _____

The Governor's Office's
Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire

Reason for leaving: _____

d. Start Date: _____ End Date: _____
Organization: _____
Address: _____
Phone No.: _____
Position/Title: _____
Supervisor: _____
Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

Reason for leaving: _____

e. Start Date: _____ End Date: _____
Organization: _____
Address: _____
Phone No.: _____
Position/Title: _____
Supervisor: _____
Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

Reason for leaving: _____

Please continue, if necessary, on a separate piece of paper in the above format as needed.

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.

U.S. District Court/Bankruptcy Court Western District of Washington 1977

The Governor's Office's
Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire

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.

Washington State Bar 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.

Yes.

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.

N/A

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. Southside Tabernacle vs. Pentecostal Church of God, 32 Wash. App. 814 (1982), attached hereto.

This was significant for me in that there were issues presented relative to the first amendment and the role of the court in deciding or not deciding property among religious groups.

2. Coleman v Hoffman, 115 Wash. App. 853 (2004), attached hereto.

This was significant in preventing the extension of liability to a lender to real property, attached hereto.

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.

1. In the early 1980's, in representing a Mother in a disputed custody matter in Tacoma, her child was kidnapped by the Father one week before trial. Using the Courts here and in Spokane, together with private investigators, we were able after weeks of pursuit, find and have the Father arrested in Spokane as he was preparing to leave the state. He was brought back to Tacoma. on a no bail warrant that I had issued. Later, the location of the child was disclosed and the child reunited with the Mother.

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 Washington

1971-1973

B.A. in Political Science

The Governor's Office's
Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire

-Shoreline Community College - First year of college. 1968-1969 then transferred to Seattle University.

-Seattle University – 1969-1970 - Left during my second of year college to join the Air Force Reserves and was sent to basic training and technical school for 5 months. Attended one more quarter at Seattle University upon my return from the Air Force while waiting to a transfer to the University of Washington. Finished my last two years at the University of Washington for my 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
School of Law
(now Seattle University)

1973 – 1976

J.D.

Professional Experience

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

My practice encompasses Business; Real Estate; Investment; Bankruptcy; Municipal Court matters; DUI; Criminal traffic; Licensing; Dissolution; Custody; Domestic Violence, Personal injury and General civil areas of practice.

Cases presented are handled at all levels including, negotiation, mediation, arbitration, administrative hearing, trial at the Municipal, District and Superior Court levels; and Appellate levels.

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

Clients who own businesses owners or investors. These clients have a special emphasis on secured transactions, real estate and bankruptcy matters.

Individual clients who present a wide variety needs in their personal finances involving real estate, bankruptcy, together with additional emphasis personal injury, criminal traffic, DUI, and general civil matters that arise on a day-to-day basis.

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.

N/A

The Governor's Office's
Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire

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

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:

Regularly Occasionally Infrequently

24. Career Experience

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

(1) Federal appellate courts	%
(2) Federal trial courts	%
(3) State appellate courts	2%
(4) State trial courts	35%
(5) Municipal courts	5%
(6) District courts	5%
(7) Administrative tribunals	8%
(8) Tribal courts	
(9) Federal Bankruptcy	45%
TOTAL	100%

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

(1) Civil litigation (excl. family law)	20%
(2) Criminal litigation	5%
(3) Family law litigation	10%
(4) Non-litigation	65 %
TOTAL	100%

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

(1) Jury trials	%
(2) Non-jury trials	100%
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.

The Governor's Office's
Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire

<u>Number</u>	<u>Court</u>	<u>% as Sole / Chief Counsel</u>	<u>% Jury</u>	<u>% as the Arbiter</u>
<u>15</u>	Municipal	<u>100</u>	<u>45</u>	<u> </u>
<u>15</u>	State Dist.	<u>100</u>	<u>10</u>	<u> </u>
<u>20</u>	State Superior	<u>95</u>	<u>25</u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Federal Dist.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u>10</u>	Administrative	<u>100</u>	<u>0</u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Tribal Courts	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u>10</u>	Bankruptcy	<u>100</u>	<u>0</u>	<u> </u>

(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>
<u>2</u>	State Superior Court	<u>100</u>	<u> </u>
<u>2</u>	WA. Div. I COA	<u>100</u>	<u> </u>
<u>3</u>	WA. Div. II COA	<u>100</u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	WA. Div. III COA	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	WA. Supreme Court	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	Fed. Cir. COA	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	U.S. Supreme Court	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

(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 answer in Supplemental Questionnaire regarding Appellate cases.

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

The Governor's Office's
Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire

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

The nature of my practice requires me to deal directly with clients in a wide range of issues, to analyze and understand their situations, adopt a solution and carry it to fruition. This has allowed me to develop a wealth of experience in analyzing law, people and situations. As a judge, I believe this experience will be useful in adapting to any situation and case presented, and hopefully allowing for well reasoned decisions to be made.

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.

N/A

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.

N/A

Judicial Interest and Experience

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

After 32 years of practice, the opportunity to take my career in another direction is energizing. My personality, temperament and experience are a very good fit for the position. The fact I can work for, and make a difference, in the city I've lived for so long is appealing.

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

Administer Municipal traffic court in a way to assure the public safety and to be cognizant of the times a judge can make a positive difference in someone's life by how the case is resolved.

The Governor's Office's
Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire

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.

No

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.

No

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.

N/A

Community and Civic Activities

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

N/A
