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## **Bar Association Finds Hayne's Statement Violates Judicial Campaign Conduct Rules**

SEATTLE, Washington (October 30, 2014) - The King County Bar Association has found that a statement made by judicial candidate Sarah Hayne in her campaign for election as a King County District Court judge violates the bar association's rules for fair campaign practices.

"KCBA admonishes judicial candidate Sarah Hayne for publishing misleading statements about her years of experience," said KCBA President Steven R. Rovig. "She states in her campaign materials that for the past 22 years she has worked as a pro tem judge, a prosecutor, and a defense attorney, yet she told KCBA that she worked on a limited or part-time basis during the bulk of that period. As a result, KCBA finds those written statements to be misleading."

Because preserving the integrity of judicial offices is vital if public respect for the law and the courts is to be preserved, the bar monitors judicial elections that take place in whole or in part in King County, and responds to complaints of unfair judicial campaign practices in those elections. The bar asks candidates to sign a pledge to fairly campaign so that contests for judicial office do not impair public confidence in the integrity and objectivity of the judicial process. Ms. Hayne signed that pledge. Unfair or potentially deceptive campaign conduct by judicial candidates can undermine public confidence in the courts unless the public is certain that such conduct will not be tolerated.

KCBA issued this finding after receiving a public complaint about the statement on October 23. The Association will forward the complaint and its finding of misleading conduct to the Washington Judicial Conduct Commission for further action.

Founded in 1886, the King County Bar Association is the largest voluntary bar association in the state of Washington, with over 5,500 members. As part of its mission it works with the judiciary to promote a just, collegial, and accessible legal system and profession, and to achieve excellence in the administration of justice.

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