

Dear Candidate:

Re: Judicial Screening Process

Thank you for contacting us to arrange a screening appointment with the King County Bar Association's Judicial Screening Committee. This letter is a brief summary of the judicial screening process for both contested elections and for appointments.

First, please contact Julie Gardner at 206-267-7013 or julieg@kcba.org for information on when the next screening session may be scheduled.

Beginning January 2007, the King County Bar Association will use the Governor's Office Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire as its primary screening tool. The questionnaire is available in word form on the Governor's website at http://www.governor.wa.gov/judicial/uniform_eval_questionnaire.doc. In addition to the Uniform Questionnaire, KCBA requests that you also complete the attached 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 enclosed.

The process begins when you deliver 15 copies of the completed Uniform Questionnaire and supplemental cover questionnaire to the King County Bar Association office. 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 Rules 9.4.5-7, which provide that the Committee may rate a candidate whether or not the candidate participates in the screening process. Please note 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 Screening 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 screening and vote on your rating. The President of the Association will notify you of your rating.

The reference checks, your interview, and the screening deliberations are confidential and the information obtained is not disclosed. However, if 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.

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

Please be advised that the Judicial Screening 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 Committees 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.

The Judicial Screening 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 randomly selected from the committee roster. A roster of the Judicial Screening Committee is available on request. At various times, groups not affiliated with KCBA have rated judicial applicants.

The KCBA Judicial Screening Committee's bylaws preclude the Committee from disclosing the names of applicants seeking a rating for appointment to these other groups. However, if you are interested in obtaining the names and addresses of such other rating groups to request this information yourself, you may contact Julie Gardner at the KCBA office, telephone: 206-267-7013.

Sincerely,

Alice C. Paine
Executive Director

Enclosures
ACP:jg