

## Comparison of KCDC Southeast Division Judicial Candidates – Selected Criteria<sup>1</sup>

	<b>Bobbie Edmiston</b>	<b>Jason Poydras</b>	<b>Krista Swain</b>	<b>Renee Walls</b>	<b>Matthew York</b>
<b>Year admitted to practice law in Washington</b>	2006	2006	1996	2000	2002
<b>Experience practicing law</b>	11 years	2 years	20 years	17 years	15 years
<b>Jury trials as lead attorney</b>	13	10	14	34	36
<b>Judicial experience</b>	none	9 years	4 years	9 years	9 years
<b>Legal education</b>	J.D. 2006, University of Washington Law School	J.D. 2005, Seattle University School of Law	J.D. 1996, California Western School of Law	J.D. 1999, Lewis and Clark Law School	J.D. 2002, Willamette University, College of Law
<b>Undergraduate education</b>	B.A. 2003, University of Washington	B.S. 2002, Xavier University of Louisiana	B.A. 1992, University of Washington	B.A. 1995, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	B.A. 1999 University of Nevada, Reno
<b>“Why you are seeking a judicial position” (in 75 words or less)</b>	“Maintaining the humanity and dignity of participants in the court system starts with the judge. Judges must be	“Courts are where people go to lawfully seek relief and protection when all else has failed, and they	“I am seeking a judicial position because I truly enjoy the work. It feels like a natural progression in my work, having	“My entire legal career has been in service to my community. I have had the privilege to serve the citizens of King	“I want to be a judge to provide fair and just contacts with the legal system. I was raised to give back to the community and I

<sup>1</sup> Excerpted from candidates’ Judicial Evaluation Questionnaires

	<p>committed to maintaining the dignity of all participants in the system by treating them with respect, listening actively, exercising patience, acknowledging issues such as implicit racial bias, and addressing significant systemic issues such as the need for bail reform. I want to be a judge because I possess the appropriate skills, experience, and temperament to do this.”</p>	<p>are unable to resolve problems on their own. I have dedicated my career to serving the public, and I desire to become a District Court Judge based on the belief that it will allow me to broaden the reach and impact of my commitment to service by assisting the public where they need it most, in court.”</p>	<p>started as a defense attorney, adding in prosecution, and now being able to fairly hear both sides.”</p>	<p>County as a prosecuting attorney, and for the last eight years as a Judge Pro Tempore at both the District and Municipal court level. It is as a judge where I have obtained a renewed passion for the law and the ideals of justice. I am cognizant that the decisions I make not only impact the individual before me, but impact their family and their community as well. Both my personal and professional experience will allow me to serve my community best in the role of a neutral arbiter of justice.”</p>	<p>firmly believe that as a judge I can improve the quality of life for not only those that appear in front of me, but also those who may never appear in a court of law. I want to help people to trust the system.”</p>
<p><b>“The type of judge you</b></p>	<p>“I aspire to be a judge who is not</p>	<p>“A judge that is honest and fair,</p>	<p>“I aspire to be a fair,</p>	<p>“I aspire to be a judge who</p>	<p>“A good judge is consistent,</p>

<p><b>aspire to be” (in 75 words or less)</b></p>	<p>afraid to follow the law, even when it is difficult or unpopular, sees the humanity of the litigants and is committed to social justice, maintains respect for all others as a core value, and listens actively. I aspire to be a judge with thorough knowledge of the law and who balances the needs of the community with the needs of the litigants to achieve justice.”</p>	<p>and treats all parties with respect and dignity. That fosters the public’s confidence in the judicial system and creates an environment where all parties feel as though they were heard and able to meaningfully participate in the judicial process, regardless of the outcomes in their cases. I additionally aspire to be well versed in law and procedure and efficiently run my courtroom without sacrificing due process.”</p>	<p>compassionate and positive judge. My wish is that all people that come before me feel that they have been heard, and that their case was fairly considered.”</p>	<p>understands the difference between the law and justice and should they conflict will err on the side of justice. I continually seek to improve myself, and my understanding of the important responsibility with which I have been tasked. I aspire to ensure that individuals have an opportunity to be fully and fairly heard, that they have access to our courts and the resources needed to resolve their legal conflicts, and that they are confident that I am a good steward of the public trust and resources.”</p>	<p>professional, compassionate, and fair. I want to embody these qualities by never forgetting what it is like to not be a judge. I want to be a judge that hears all the arguments before making their decision. I want to provide a court that is aware of implicit bias and works to combat it. I want to strive to be the best judge that I am capable of being.”</p>
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