

Subject: Judicial Races - June 3 Election

From: Bob Longstreth <[rlongstreth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rlongstreth@sbcglobal.net)> Date: May 20, 2014, 11:43:31 PM PDT To: Bob Longstreth <[rlongstreth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rlongstreth@sbcglobal.net)> Cc: Bob Longstreth <[rlongstreth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rlongstreth@sbcglobal.net)> Subject: Judicial Races - June 3 Election Reply-To: Bob Longstreth <[rlongstreth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rlongstreth@sbcglobal.net)>

Dear Friends and Voters,

With the absentee voting underway for the June 3 election, I have been getting questions about who to vote for in the judicial races. Because of the difficulty in running countywide for Superior Court and the relative lack of resources devoted to the judicial races, information is hard to come by, even for experienced lawyers, and the candidates must often rely on word of mouth, a network of friends, and inexpensive grassroots efforts. Because the makeup of the state trial court bench is so important to the administration of justice, I would like to provide the following information for you to consider as you cast your vote.

Four of my colleagues have been challenged and are seeking to continue serving the Court: Michael Popkins, Ron Prager, Lisa Schall and Jackie Stern. I believe that all of them should be re-elected.

In Office # 9, Judge Ronald S. Prager has 25 years of experience on the bench. For more than 18 years Judge Prager has been a civil independent calendar judge presiding over a wide spectrum of civil cases, including complex statewide coordinated tobacco class actions and natural gas antitrust cases. He is a frequent panelist on civil litigation topics before various bar associations, and also serves as a judicial advisor to the Executive Committee of the Litigation Section of the State Bar of California. Judge Prager is a graduate of the Gould School of Law of the University of Southern California. He has received the highest rating of Well Qualified by the San Diego County Bar Association. The State Bar of California has recommended that his opponent, who has been rated by the County Bar as Lacking Qualifications, be suspended from the practice of law.

[www.pragerforjudge.com/](http://www.pragerforjudge.com/)

In Office # 19, Judge Michael J. Popkins is a highly respected jurist with more than 37 years of experience in the criminal justice system. Judge Popkins graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration with a major in Accounting from Villanova University in 1973. He earned his J.D. from the University of San Diego Law School in 1976. He went to work for the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office, where he worked until 1985. At that point he joined the San Diego Public Defender and stayed there until his appointment to the bench in 2013. He has tried over 100 cases to verdict, and was tapped by the Public Defender's Office to represent John Albert Gardner in the Chelsea King case. Judge Popkins has also received a rating of Well Qualified from the County Bar. His opponent -- who agrees that Judge Popkins is an excellent judge and should remain on the bench (stating that should he win, Gov. Brown will reappoint Judge Popkins) -- has little if any experience in state court, and has not even been an active member of the California Bar for the 10 year period for which a lawyer must remain in good standing to be eligible for judicial office. Judge Popkins has received the County Bar's highest rating of Well Qualified. <http://www.electjudgepopkins.com/>

In Office # 20, Judge Lisa Schall has been both a Municipal and Superior Court Judge after a highly successful career in the District Attorney's Office. She has been on the bench for over 28 years and has served in all divisions of the San Diego Superior Court. She was the first graduate of Thomas Jefferson School of Law appointed to the Superior Court bench, and is one of the school's Distinguished Alumni. She is endorsed by law enforcement and community leaders,

including City Attorney Jan Goldsmith and Public Defender Henry Coker, as well as all 125 sitting judges and over 15 retired judges.

career, she has made decisions based on what she believes is right, not on what is politically popular. Her opponent has no judicial experience, and the County Bar rates Judge Schall as more highly qualified. <http://www.judgeschall.com/>

In Office # 44, Judge Jacqueline M. Stern is an experienced judge who has served since 1998. She has handled thousands of cases involving criminal, family law and civil issues. She has over 30 years of experience as a Superior Court Judge, Municipal Court Judge, and Deputy County Counsel. She has an extensive list of endorsements, including Sheriff Bill Gore, City Attorney Jan Goldsmith and County Supervisors Greg Cox, Dianne Jacob, Dave Roberts and Ron Roberts, and my colleagues are unanimous in supporting her. <http://www.judgejacquelinestern.com/>

No incumbent judge is running in Office #25, since Judge Cynthia Bashant, who had held this seat, has been confirmed as a United States District Judge. Along with more than 60 of my colleagues, I have endorsed Brad Weinreb in this race. Brad has been rated qualified by the County Bar, while his 2 opponents have been rated Lacking Qualifications.

Please feel free to pass this information on if you find it helpful, and let me know if you have any questions or need any further information. Above all, please vote on or before June 3! Thank you for your attention.

Judge Bob Longstreth