

**Kentucky
Candidate
Information
Survey**



JUDICIAL SURVEY 2019

Each judicial candidate pledges to keep an open mind and carry out their adjudicative duties faithfully and impartially if elected.
Each candidate also recognizes their overarching obligation to apply and uphold the law, without regard to his or her personal views.

No statement should be interpreted as a pledge, promise, or commitment in connection with any case, controversy, or issue likely to come before the court.



**KY Circuit Court
District 22, Division 4**

judgejuliegoodman.com

Julie Goodman

John Reynolds

Education	I am a product of Kentucky Schools. I attended Christ the King Elementary, Bates Creek High School, Transylvania University and UK College of Law.	CANDIDATE CHOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE
Current Occupation	Presently serving as a Fayette County District Judge, a position I have held for 11 years.	
Family	I am married to Philip Goodman, a psychotherapist with the VA Hospital. We have one son, Clay, who is 26 and lives in Charlotte, NC.	
Legal Background / Experience	I have 28 years of experience as a trial lawyer and 11 years experience as a District Judge. As a trial lawyer I handled both civil and criminal cases primarily in Circuit Court. I have tried cases in 24 Kentucky counties and litigated civil cases in over 20 states.	
What do you consider the greatest accomplishment of your legal career? Why? (50 words or less)	Serving the people of Fayette County as their District Judge and being able to voluntarily preside over a Specialty Drug Court to help fight the Opioid Addiction effecting our community.	
To what extent have you practiced in the area of criminal law? Family law? Complex civil litigation? (50 words or less)	I have six years experience as a prosecutor, first as a Special Prosecutor with the Attorney General's Office and then as an Assistant County attorney. I have 22 years experience in civil practice, trying cases in 24 states in the areas of product liability, construction defect, class actions and antitrust.	
What forms of voluntary professional and community service have you been involved with in the past? (50 words or less)	I am presently a member of the Transylvania Board of Trustees. I previously served on the Newman Foundation Board and the Shriner's Corporate Council Board. I was the recipient of the 2015 Role Model of the Year Award presented by the Salvation Army's Boys and Girls Club of the Bluegrass.	

By sharing how each candidate describes themselves, their qualifications, and judicial philosophy, the KCIS Judicial Survey is bringing light to the area voters are often least informed about. Thus, improving 1) voter knowledge; 2) voter participation; and 3) the quality of the democratic process.

KCIS is a non-partisan project of the Family Trust Foundation of Kentucky.

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What are the major influences in your life? Why?
(50 words or less)

The major influences in my life are my family. It is from my family that I have always received my courage to be who I am and who are also my conscience and my moral compass.

CANDIDATE CHOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE

Are there any specific types of cases in which you know now you would find it necessary to recuse yourself?
(50 words or less)

No.

In the last 10 years, which of the following organizations have you been a member, contributed money, volunteered time, been employed by, been endorsed by for a campaign, received money from for a campaign, or had any other affiliation?

Christ the King Church

Some judges practice a philosophy of restraint, believing that judges must interpret the law strictly rather than seek to make new laws. Others develop a philosophy of activism, using the bench to enact social and political change. Please explain your approach.
(50 words or less)

As a Circuit Judge one must follow the Constitution and the rulings of Kentucky's Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court. However, when new laws are enacted by the Legislature and they are unconstitutional it would be my duty as a Judge to find them unconstitutional.

Some judges believe that courts should read the Constitution expansively and should not limit themselves to what is explicitly stated. Others believe the courts should not reinterpret the Constitution. Please explain your approach.
(50 words or less)

No document is written in a vacuum. The Constitution should be interpreted after understanding the entire document, not just a phrase or a paragraph. Additionally it should be reviewed in conjunction with the Declaration of Independence and with the knowledge that our leaders have found it important to create Amendments.

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Some judges believe that courts should interpret the Constitution as the framers intended. Others believe that the Constitution must grow and adapt to new circumstances. Please explain your approach.
(50 words or less)

As a woman I would say that it must grow and adapt to new circumstances. Otherwise, I would not now have the right to vote nor would I be a sitting District Judge asking for the peoples vote for Circuit Judge. All of this is possible because of the Amendments.

CANDIDATE CHOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE

What is your general judicial philosophy?
(75 words or less)

To know the law well, to follow the law and to apply it equally to all people regardless of their color, their station in life and their politics. It is the responsibility of the Judge to assure that his or her Courtroom is one where all will be given their "day in court". It is also the responsibility of the Judge to hold everyone accountable. No one is above the law.

Which of the current/recent Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court MOST reflects your judicial philosophy and why? Which LEAST reflects it and why?
(50 words or less)

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg is the Judge who most reflects my judicial philosophy which is that all people are entitled to justice.
Justice Kavanaugh least reflects my belief as his previous writings appear to reflect a belief that justice is somehow based on one's political beliefs.

What do you see as the most important issue facing Kentucky's judiciary?
(50 words or less)

The constant attacks by our Governor and President when a Judge rules against them. Both consistently criticize and attack the Judiciary and do not acknowledge that the United States as a country has three separate branches of the government for a very important reason, one of checks and balances.

What do you perceive as the greatest obstacles to justice, if any?
(50 words or less)

Poverty and education. The legal system has become too expensive for the middle class and the poor. A lack of education also makes people too afraid to seek redress.

What steps will you take as a judge to ensure that the rule of law is uniformly applied without passion or prejudice?
(50 words or less)

I will continue to apply the law uniformly as I have done for the last eleven years. A Judge cannot do his or her job if passion or prejudice play a role in a ruling.

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While serving on the bench, do you believe you have a role in bringing important legal or judicial issues before the public or the legislature? Why or why not? What should your role be?
(50 words or less)

I am on the legislative committee for the District Judges and we regularly speak to the legislators about proposed bills to discuss whether they are constitutional and what effect they will have on our communities.

CANDIDATE CHOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE

What makes you the best qualified candidate for this position?
(50 words or less)

I am the most qualified candidate because of my 11 years of experience on the bench and my 28 years as a successful trial lawyer. I think the best Circuit Judges are those who started in District Court and learned about their communities and learned how to be a Judge.

Is there anything else you would like the voter to know?
(50 words or less)

I would not ask for the voter's vote on November 5th if I did not believe I had earned the right to ask.

Overview of Kentucky's Court System

Supreme Court

Basic Info: The Supreme Court is the state court of last resort and the final interpreter of Kentucky law. Seven justices sit on the Supreme Court and all seven justices rule on appeals before the court.

Cases Handled: Appeals involving the death penalty, life imprisonment or imprisonment for 20 years or more go directly from Circuit Court to the Supreme Court. All other appeals must first be heard by the Court of Appeals, except those so exceptional that the Supreme Court will grant a request to bypass the Court of Appeals.

Term: Supreme Court justices serve eight-year terms.



Court of Appeals

Basic Info: Fourteen judges, two elected from each of the seven appellate districts, serve on the Court of Appeals and are divided into panels of three to review and decide cases, with the majority deciding the outcome.

Cases Handled: With a few exceptions, most cases appealed from Circuit Court go to the Court of Appeals. The case is not retried at the appeals level. Instead, the original trial record is reviewed, with attorneys presenting the legal issues to the court for a decision.

Term: Court of Appeals judges serve eight-year terms.



Circuit Courts

Note: Family Court is a division of Circuit Court that hears only cases involving families and children.

Cases Handled: Can hear all types of cases unless the General Assembly has given exclusive jurisdiction of particular kinds of cases to another court to handle, such as District Court. Circuit Court hears civil matters involving more than \$5,000, capital offenses and felonies, divorces, adoptions, termination of parental rights, land dispute title problems and contested probates of will. It also has the power to issue injunctions and writs of prohibition and mandamus to compel or prohibit acts, and to hear appeals from District Court and administrative agencies.

Term: Circuit judges serve eight-year terms.



District Courts

Cases Handled: Hears juvenile matters, city and county ordinances, traffic offenses, probates of will, felony preliminary hearings, civil cases involving \$5,000 or less, guardianship, conservatorship, voluntary or involuntary commitment, child abuse and neglect, and domestic violence.

Term: District judges serve four-year terms.