

SECTION I

BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nick Name	Last Name
David	A	Larson

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number):

King County Superior Court, Pos. 13

3. Are you the incumbent? Yes No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city?

37 years

5. How long have you resided in King County?

37 years

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan? Partisan Nonpartisan

7. If partisan, please indicate party: **N/A**

CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Larson for Superior Court

Address: P.O. Box 24626

City/State/Zip: Federal Way, WA 98093

Campaign Phone: 253-797-1086

Campaign Fax: _____

Campaign E-mail: larsonforjudge@comcast.net

Campaign Website: www.larsonforjudge.com

POLITICAL BACKGROUND

1. Beginning with the most recent position, please list public offices which you have held. Include positions on appointive Boards or Commissions.

Public Office	Elective or Appointive?	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)
Federal Way Public Schools Construction Oversight Committee	Appointive	1999 to present	N/A
City of Federal Way Human Services Commission	Appointive	1999-2003	N/A
City of Federal Way Ethics Board	Appointive	1991-1994	Chair

2. If you ran for public office but were not elected, please list those races below:

Office Title	Year of Run
King County Superior Court, Pos. 5	2002
Washington State Supreme Court, Pos. 2	2000

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SECTION III

In this section, we are seeking responses that reflect the four ratings criteria: involvement, effectiveness, character, and knowledge. These are defined as follows:

- **Involvement:** What has the candidate done previously in family, neighborhood, community, volunteer work, employment or public life to suggest readiness to accomplish challenging objectives? How do these activities demonstrate readiness for the challenges unique to the office sought?
 - **Effectiveness:** Has the candidate demonstrated promise of being productive in the office sought? Has the candidate shown the ability to work with other people?
 - **Character:** Do the candidate's personal traits show the ability to take on the responsibilities of campaigning for and holding the public office she or he is seeking? Is the candidate a leader, participant or observer? Is the candidate trustworthy, reliable and candid?
 - **Knowledge:** Has the candidate demonstrated the willingness and ability to learn and adapt? Does the candidate understand the duties and challenges of the office sought? Does the candidate have a firm grasp of the issues important to his or her constituency and their potential effects?
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1. In a page or less, why are you running for this office? (Note: the interview committee will be given a copy of this statement before your interview; at the beginning of your interview you will have the opportunity to expand on this statement in any way you wish.)

I am running for superior court judge because I believe that in this time of tight budgets and higher demands on the court system that the courts need judges with passion and creativity to assure that the needs of the consumers of the system are met in this difficult time and into the future.

The bench needs lawyers with significant superior court trial experience who understand the issues confronting litigants, their counsel and the courts.

We need advocates for more funding of the courts, but we also need to develop and advocate for programs that will reduce demands on the courts. My creativity and commitment can help accomplish that.

I want to assist leadership in the court system to make our courts the most responsive they can be for the people of this state.

I want to help educate the public on the need for a well-functioning court system in a free society.

Above all, I want to contribute to the public trust and confidence in the profession I have been a part of for 19 years.

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.

My ability to simplify and condense complex problems will help me function at a high level within my courtroom and as an advocate for viable solutions to the problems facing the courts.

My compassion for the needs of people who rely upon the legal system to deliver the dignity they seek or the dignity they are defending will drive my conscience as I make decisions that will have great affect on their lives.

My integrity will keep me on track with the goal of being the best possible jurist I can be and will make me a true steward of public trust and confidence in the courts, and in government in general.

My vast knowledge of court rules and procedures will provide for the orderly adminstration of justice and will aid me in advocating for changes that will focus on the merits of the case, rather than process.

My effectiveness in conveying ideas that inspire others to work toward the common goals of an organization will help create a vision for what the legal system can be if we work together.

3. Please describe in sufficient detail, one to three accomplishments or contributions of which you are most proud. These examples should illustrate effective skills and capabilities you think apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

The following are examples of my ability to analyze legal issues in the face of political "heat" and to stand for what is right even if it is not popular with some.

City of Federal Way takeover of Lakehaven Utility District: I am proud of this because I did not have to bring suit or an appeal. I persuaded the Boundary Review Board that this move would deprive 30,000 people of the right to vote for their elected officials. My presentation persuaded the swing vote to change her vote to not allow takeover. I received no compensation.

City of Federal Way attempt to "lease" police services: I am also proud of not having to file suit. The city wanted to enter into a contract with a local homeowner's association for better police service in that neighborhood. I turned a 7-0 vote in favor into a 5-2 vote against the proposal. At one point I was accused of being against putting more officers on the street. The opposite was true. My main point, aside from constitutional issues, was that this would do a number of things to degrade law enforcement. First, it would provide another reason for the council to make law enforcement a lower priority at budget time (the push would be for more contracts with neighborhoods instead of providing money out of the general fund). Second, police officers are not security guards paid to check door knobs on country clubs. Third, too many "practical" issues confronting officers faced with providing differing levels of service depending upon negotiated contract terms with different neighborhoods. Fourth, law enforcement officials should not be forced to negotiate with citizens to pay for higher levels of police service that citizens have already paid

for in taxes. Fifth, it degrades public confidence in police by allowing the services of police officers, and their corresponding duty to protect the public, to be offered for sale. Sixth, the contract in question allowed the homeowners to direct the work of the officers. Finally, law enforcement needs to be free to go where the crime is, not where the money is. I received no compensation.

King County moratorium on the construction of churches and private schools in rural King County: I, along with many others, appeared at hearings, voiced opposition to the moratorium, that proposed restrictive zoning for churches and private schools. Although litigation was threatened and I would have represented several parties, suit was ultimately unnecessary, and the moratorium was lifted. I received no compensation.

I have handled approximately 1500 to 2000 cases over the last 19 years. I have appreciated the opportunity to serve my clients in the best way I knew how. I have proven trial skills and have maintained the highest ethics throughout my 19 years of practice.

4. Please list or describe your current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

Aside from my 19 years experience as a trial attorney, my supervision of 15,000 lawsuits nationwide, ownership of my own business for 10 years, and my 14 years as an arbitrator and mediator:

I was the very first chair of the City Of Federal Way Board of Ethics from 1991-94. Our board was charged with essentially creating the procedures by which ethical issues would be addressed in our city. I also spearheaded changes to the code to give the board more powers to investigate alleged ethical violations as well as clarifying other ethical standards.

I am a member of the Federal Way School District's Construction Oversight Committee charged with overseeing \$63 million in bond expenditures.

I was a member of the Federal Way Human Services Commission for four years. This commission reviewed applications and heard testimony for the purpose of making recommendations to the city council on the allocation and expenditure of human services funds.

As Deputy Wing Legal Officer for the Air Force Auxillary I am charged with enforcement and interpretation of regulations and have been charged with discipline of members at formal hearings.

My resume sets forth the extent to which I have been involved in community and each of these duties have helped prepare me to be a judge.

5. Please describe the duties of the office you seek. Which are the most important duties and why?

The primary role of a superior court judge is to administer the docket in their courtroom. However, it is not simply the job of an administrator. Clearing the docket from a statistical standpoint may work for some business or professions, but the only product the court system is supposed to deliver is human dignity. It takes the right amount of compassion and firmness to run a docket in a manner that will bring about true justice, not just close a file. By far the most important duty is to create the atmosphere in which true justice can be delivered to the parties before the court without any bias or prejudice in appearance or in reality. The true test of a judge is how they can overcome their own biases to make sure that the decisions they make are consistent with the law and with fundamental fairness. Too many people want to describe the position in technical terms, but the job entails much more than can be put on paper or explained in words.

EDUCATION BACKGROUND SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report is distributed to voters in print and/or on our website. It includes a summary of the candidate's education. Please summarize your education in 120 characters (letters, punctuation, and space all combined). The League will delete material that exceeds the space limit by beginning with the last entry. Suggested order is (degree) (subject) (school) (year, if desired).

Note: *If this question is left blank the League will not include education information in your candidate profile.*

**1980-Bachelor of Arts-Public Administration-University of Puget Sound
1984-Juris Doctor-Seattle University School of Law**

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report also includes a summary of each candidate's civic involvement. Please summarize your civic involvement in the space below. We will make every attempt to include the information in the Candidate Evaluation Report as submitted. Due to space restrictions in the Report, your response is limited to 500 characters (letters, punctuation, and spaces all combined). It is important that you list your involvement beginning with the most important and ending with the least important. If you exceed the length of response permitted, or if the League should find it necessary to shorten responses for publication purposes, deletions will be made beginning with the last item listed.

Note: *This information will appear verbatim on the League's Candidate Evaluation Report. If this question is left blank, the Municipal League will not include information on your civic involvement in the Report.*

Check here if you would like the Municipal League to copy the first 500 characters from Question 4 to paste into this section.

Kiwanis

- Everyday Hero Award
- Kiwanian of the Year
- Hixson Fellow
- Distinguished Past President
- Young Children Priority 1 Chair
- Founding Board Member Kiwanis Foundation of Federal Way
- Founder Panther Lake K-Kids

Civil Air Patrol/U.S.A.F. Aux.

- Captain
- Sq. Deputy Commander
- Moral Leadership
- Deputy Wing Legal Officer
- Deputy Wing Homeland Security
- Pierce County Emergency Management Exercise & Training Committees

- Federal Way Citizen Emergency Response Team
- Federal Way Schools Construction Oversight
- Federal Way Helmet Coalition
- Cub Scouts Pack 366
- Federal Way National Little League

Supplemental Judicial Candidate Questionnaire

1. Briefly describe the nature of your current practice/position including types of clients and areas, if any, of specialization. State what percentage involves civil litigation, criminal litigation, and/or nonlitigation.

My current practice involves complex litigation, mediation, national asbestos litigation management, construction defect litigation, personal injury litigation, and crisis management. My main client is a large industrial and aerospace company. I am an integral part of the team that supervises asbestos litigation on a nationwide basis. The client currently has over 15,000 lawsuits pending against it. I supervise four attorneys and three paralegals in our office as chair of the Company History, Discovery, and Document Management departments. I also help prepare and instruct local counsel on a nationwide basis regarding trial preparation, strategy, and defense themes. I manage all discovery including written discovery, document management, and depositions and testimony of company employees on a nationwide basis.

My other clients include personal injury plaintiffs as well as construction subcontractors sued in construction defect litigation. I also help mentor and supervise five associates and six paralegals in the active construction defect practice at WK&G.

2. Identify all your experience as a neutral decision maker (e.g. judge, permanent or *pro tem*, in any jurisdiction, administrative law judge, hearing officer, arbitrator, etc.)

I have been an arbitrator in approx. 50 cases. I also owned my own arbitration and mediation firm with 22 mediators. I was a Pro Tem judge on one only occasion for Federal Way Municipal Court before they hired a commissioner.

3. If you have been a judge, identify any court committees on which you have served or administrative positions you have held, including dates.

N/A

4. List the approximate percentage of your time over the last five years you have made appearances in:

0 % municipal court
0 % state district court
99 % superior court
1 % federal district court
0 % appellate court
1 % administrative tribunals
case

5. Are you now an officer or director of any business enterprise other than your law practice? If so, what role do you expect to play if elected?

No

6. Have you ever been disciplined or determined to be in breach of professional conduct by any court, administrative agency, bar association, disciplinary committee, judicial conduct commission, or other professional group? Have you ever had a formal complaint filed against you with the WSBA? If so for either or both questions, give the particulars, including the outcome.

No I have not been disciplined or determined to be in breach of professional conduct.

I have had two complaints filed against me. The first matter actually involved an associate in my firm in approximately 1993, but I was the owner of the firm and the complaint was made against me. It involved a pharmacist who claimed my associate violated rules by serving him with a subpoena duces tecum via U.S. Mail. The bar found no basis for the complaint.

The second matter arose out of an advertisement I placed in the Federal Way Chamber of Commerce Newsletter in August 1999. A local lawyer complained that my use of the word "honest" was not appropriate claiming that when I called myself honest I was calling her dishonest. I stopped the ad after one running and no further investigation was necessary.

7. ADDITIONAL REFERENCES:

- a) List the names, daytime and home phone numbers of three recent opposing counsel, including at least two cases that went to trial.

Name of Opposing Counsel	Daytime Phone	Home Phone
William Bailey	206-726-6600	Unknown
Jerry McKay	253-941-4328	Unknown
Mark Scheer	206-262-1200	Unknown

- a) If you have served as a neutral decision maker, list the names, daytime and home phone numbers of the last four attorneys who have appeared before you.

Name of Attorney	Daytime Phone	Home Phone
William J. Murphy	253-838-9108	Unknown
David Lancaster	425-644-4440	Unknown
Christopher Mahoney	253-472-3323	Unknown
Matthew Adams	425-945-5305	Unknown

Finished!

If at all possible, send your response to the Municipal League electronically as an attachment, or insert it into an e-mail message (rebecca@munileague.org). Mail and fax numbers are listed below. If the League has not contacted you to schedule an interview, please call the League office at your earliest convenience.

Don't forget to send the following to the Municipal League: a resume, a photo, campaign literature, and, if you are an incumbent, constituent newsletters and other materials. Please use the check-off list on the cover sheet of this packet to indicate which items you have sent.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION AND GOOD LUCK IN YOUR CAMPAIGN!

THE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OF KING COUNTY

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