

ARKANSAS FAMILY COUNCIL

2022 JUDICIAL CANDIDATE PROFILE AND SURVEY

Dear Judicial Candidate:

We appreciate steps taken by the Arkansas Supreme Court to safeguard the integrity of the judicial campaign process. Their revisions to the Judicial Code of Conduct, which became effective July 1, 2009, have helped to clarify how the Arkansas judicial campaign process should be conducted. We agree with Justice Robert L. Brown who said, "Arkansas has been fortunate in that it has not fallen victim to the toxic and vitriolic judicial campaigns of our sister states or to the considerable expense those campaigns have engendered." R. Brown, "Toxic Judicial Elections: A Proposed Remedy," *The Arkansas Lawyer*, vol. 44 No. 4, Fall 2009, p. 12.

In the same article, Justice Brown discussed what should be included in a judicial voters' guide. "What typically goes into a voters' guide is information about the duties and term of the elective office; the education, professional background, and community involvement of the candidate; a personal statement from the candidate on why he or she is running and is the best person for the job; a photograph of the candidate; and the candidate's contact information. What is not included, though the voting public would dearly love to have it, are the candidates' positions on controversial issues." *Id.* at 40.

Not everyone agrees that a judicial voter's guide should be so limited in scope. The U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Republican Party of Minnesota v. White*, 536 U.S. 765 (2002) ruled that Minnesota's judicial canon prohibiting judges from discussing their views on political issues violated their first amendment rights. This has created debate in numerous sectors and seems to be still up for legal and social debate. This is why we have avoided asking judicial candidates their views of controversial issues such as *Roe v. Wade*, religious activities in public schools, or the constitutionality of mandates requiring citizens to purchase health insurance.

However, we and the voters of Arkansas would like to know more about your judicial philosophy. As a means of communicating your judicial philosophy, please answer the following questions, and make any comments you like.

1. Which one of the following U.S. Supreme Court Justices most reflects your judicial philosophy? (Please circle only one from below.)

Samuel Alito Stephen Breyer Amy Coney Barrett Brett Kavanaugh John Roberts
Neil Gorsuch Sonia Sotomayor Elena Kagan Clarence Thomas

2. Which recent U.S. President most accurately reflects your political philosophy? (Please circle only one from below.)

Joseph Biden Donald Trump Barack Obama
George W. Bush Bill Clinton George H. W. Bush

3. Which Arkansas political party's platform most closely reflects your views on public policy? (Please circle only one from below.)

Democratic Republican Libertarian

➔ **Candidate's Signature** 

Call Jerry Cox at (501) 375-7000 if you need clarification regarding any portion of this Candidate Profile.

Family Council, 414 S. Pulaski, Suite 2, Little Rock, AR 72201
Voice (501) 375-7000; Fax (501) 375-7040; E-mail luke@familycouncil.org
www.ArkansasVotersGuide.com

The results of this profile and survey will be posted
at www.ArkansasVotersGuide.com in April 2022.

Please Complete Both Sides of This Survey and Return it by March 25, 2022

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2022 JUDICIAL CANDIDATE PROFILE AND SURVEY

Candidate's Name Justice Rhonda Wood Home Phone _____
Work Phone _____ Phone Where Voters Can Reach You 501-269-1133
Office Sought Associate Justice, Arkansas Supreme Court Position # 7
Mailing Address P.O.Box 10737 Conway, AR 72034
E-mail JusticeWood@WoodForJustice.com
Website www.woodforjustice.com
Facebook _____
Twitter @judgerhondawood

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

To help voters get to know you better, please complete the following biographical information. Your complete biographical information will be posted on our website. Please e-mail or mail us a photograph. If you prefer, we can use the "filing-day" photo taken by the Secretary of State's office. You may choose to omit any portion of the biographical information.

Date of Birth 1969 Place of Birth Iowa
Marital Status Married Spouse's Name Dr. Michael Wood
Number of Children: 4 Boys 2 Girls 2
Military Service _____
Occupation and Employer Supreme Court Justice, State of Arkansas
Previous Elected Offices Held Judge, AR Court of Appeals; Circuit Judge, 20th Judicial District
Current Elected Office Held Associate Justice, Arkansas Supreme Court
Education or Schools Attended Hendrix College
Church New Life Church Conway Mock Trial Competition, Teen Court
Volunteer Service Children's Advocacy Centers of Arkansas, Bowen School of Law, Governor's
Boards and Commissions related to child welfare and juvenile Justice, domestic
Civic Clubs violence
Organization Memberships Federalist Society, American Bar Association, Arkansas Judicial Council
Name of Law School and Graduation Date Bowen School of Law 1999
Where Have You Been Employed as an Attorney? Wood Law Firm, Williams & Anderson, Asst. Dean Bowen
School of Law
In What Areas of Law Have You Practiced or Specialized? Health Law, Juvenile Law, Business Transactions
Endorsements Did not seek any endorsements this election.

Please attach a separate sheet if you need more space. **Remember to complete both sides.**

Please Complete Both Sides of This Survey and Return it by March 25, 2022