

Court of Appeals

Candidates were asked to summarize their backgrounds in 75 words and were allotted 75 words to answer each question. If the candidate did not reply by the required date for publication, the words "Did not respond in time for publication" appear under the candidate's name.

QUESTION 1
Do you support public financing of judicial campaigns? Explain.

QUESTION 2
Do you believe the composition of juries in district and circuit courts adequately and fairly reflects society at large? Explain.

QUESTION 3
What can be done to provide individuals with wider and better access to legal help and the legal system?

3rd District Judge of the Court of Appeals – Six-Year Term *Vote for Three (3)*

Bill Murphy

Did not respond in time for publication.

Janet T. Neff

Declined to participate.

Michael R. Smolenski

Did not respond in time for publication.

4th District Judge of the Court of Appeals – Six-Year Term *Vote for Two (2)*

Stephen L. Borrello

Did not respond in time for publication.

Peter D. O'Connell

Did not respond in time for publication.

4th District Judge of the Court of Appeals – Partial Term ending 1-1-09 *Vote for One (1)*

Alton T. Davis

I was born in Petoskey, Michigan on July 23, 1947. I have been married for 30 years and have two adult daughters. I began my legal practice in 1974. I was a general practitioner for 10 years. I was elected to the 46th Circuit Court in 1984 and served there until July of 2005 when I was appointed to the Court of Appeals.

Yes; if it were purely public funding and no other funds were permitted. That would put all candidates on a level playing field financially. It would end the appearance of buying influence. It would force candidates to distinguish themselves on the basis of their ideas as opposed to fundraising capacities.

Yes; at least as to the communities from which they are drawn. The composition of many communities in Michigan probably do not accurately reflect the society at large.

Spend the funds necessary to hire, equip, and retain public sector lawyers. At present there is no meaningful financial commitment to the public service law on behalf of individuals.

Court of Appeals Districts by County

1st DISTRICT

*Calhoun
Hillsdale
Lenawee
Monroe
Wayne*

2nd DISTRICT

*Genesee
Macomb
Oakland
Shiawassee*

3rd DISTRICT

*Allegan
Barry
Berrien
Branch
Cass
Eaton
Ionia
Jackson
Kalamazoo
Kent
Muskegon
Ottawa
St. Joseph
Van Buren
Washtenaw*

4th DISTRICT

<i>Alcona Alger Alpena Antrim Arenac Baraga Bay Benzie Charlevoix Cheboygan Chippewa Clare Clinton Crawford Delta Dickinson Emmet Gladwin Gogebic Grand Traverse</i>	<i>Gratiot Houghton Huron Ingham Iosco Iron Isabella Kalkaska Keweenaw Lake Lapeer Leelanau Livingston Luce Mackinac Manistee Marquette Mason Mecosta Menominee</i>	<i>Midland Missaukee Montcalm Montmorency Newaygo Oceana Ogemaw Ontonagon Osceola Oscoda Otsego Presque Isle Roscommon Saginaw Sanilac Schoolcraft St. Clair Tuscola Wexford</i>
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