

#45

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, March 31, 2022 6:14:57 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, March 31, 2022 7:32:47 PM
Time Spent: 01:17:49
IP Address: 73.19.20.19

Page 1: ALL CANDIDATES: Welcome

Q1

Your Information

Name	Kristin Ballinger
Email Address	judgekristinballinger@gmail.com
Phone Number	2065529448

Q2

Yes

I have reviewed the instructions at the top of this page

Page 2: ALL CANDIDATES: Campaign Contact Information

Q3

Campaign contact information

Candidate first name	Kristin
Candidate last name	Ballinger
Campaign email	judgekristinballinger@gmail.com
Campaign phone	2065529448

Q4

Candidate for judicial position

Is the candidate a Democrat?

Q5

King County

Jurisdiction

Q6

Superior Court Judge

Position Sought

Q7

02

Position number

Q8

Additional Campaign Information (optional)

Campaign website (start with https://)

<https://www.judgeballinger.com>

Candidate name pronunciation

Kristin Ballinger

Candidate pronouns (ex: she/her)

she/her

Page 3: ALL CANDIDATES: Campaign Team Information (Optional)

Q9

Respondent skipped this question

Campaign Manager information (optional)

Q10

Campaign Treasurer information (optional)

Treasurer first name

Abbot

Treasurer last name

Taylor

Treasurer email

abbot@abbottaylor.com

Q11

Campaign Consultant information (optional)

Consultant first name

Christian

Consultant last name

Sinderman

Consultant email

christian@nwpconsulting.com

Q12

Respondent skipped this question

Fundraiser / Fundraising Consultant / Finance Chair information (optional)

Q13

Respondent skipped this question

Other Campaign Contact information (optional)

Q14

Respondent skipped this question

Other paid staff or full-time volunteers (optional)

Page 4: ALL CANDIDATES: Candidate Support (Optional)

Q15

Ways people can support your campaign (all optional)

URL to VOLUNTEER (start with https://)

<https://www.judgeballinger.com/endorsements>

URL to DONATE (start with https://)

<https://www.judgeballinger.com/contribute>

Q16

Additional campaign contact information (all optional)

LINKEDIN (start with https://www.linkedin.com/)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kristinballinger/>

Q17

Use LinkedIn picture

URL to HEADSHOT (optional, used for promotion if endorsed)

Page 5: ALL CAMPAIGNS: Instructions

Q18

I have read and understand the instructions at the beginning of this questionnaire.

Full legal name

Kristin Ballinger

Date

3/31/22

Page 6: ALL CANDIDATES: Yes / No Questions

Q19

Yes / No Questions

	Yes / No / Qualified
Have you ever been a member of another political party?	No
Have you ever failed to pay any taxes, court-ordered judgements, or former campaign staff salaries?	No
Have you or your staff ever been found in violation of a Federal Election Commission, Public Disclosure Commission, Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission, or Judicial Conduct Commission regulation?	No
Does your campaign have a code of conduct for staff and volunteers? If not, are you willing to implement one?	Yes
If you have paid campaign staff, would you support them joining a labor union?	Qualified
Are you willing to have yourself, your staff, or your peers participate in cultural competency, implicit bias, and anti-racism training?	Yes
Are you willing to have yourself, your staff and your peers participate in training to understand and combat sexual harassment?	Yes
Do you support the rights of all works to organize, collectively bargain, and strike without fear of retaliation?	Qualified
Do you support the right of public workers - excluding military personnel - to bargain and strike?	Qualified

Q20

For any yes / no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

I do not (and will not) have paid campaign staff; I think the Code of Judicial Conduct prohibits me from answering these questions.

Q21

Please briefly describe your background (education, employment, community and civic activity, labor union affiliation etc.)

I come from a family devoted to public service: my father earned a ROTC scholarship to OSU and served in the Navy, my mother was an elementary school teacher before and after raising kids, both my brother and sister are middle school teachers, and my husband is a retired rescue helicopter pilot.

After graduating from Whitman College and Columbia Law School, I served as a law clerk to federal judge William L. Dwyer, a deputy prosecuting attorney handling criminal matters in King County and Clallam County, and, occasionally, as a pro tem judge. In addition, I was an associate at Perkins Coie and, most recently, a partner at Harrigan Leyh handling complex civil disputes at trial and on appeal. I am particularly proud of my representation of the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, including the successful defense of its sovereignty at the U.S. Supreme Court (138 S. Ct. 1649) and of its treaty-reserved fishing rights.

In December 2021, Governor Inslee appointed me as a superior court judge saying, "Kristin brings an incredible breadth of experience. She has years of civil and criminal law experience, including substantial trial experience. She will be an outstanding addition to the King County bench."

Q22

Please describe your history of involvement (if any), in local, regional, and/or state politics with particular emphasis on the last five years.

I believe that answering this question would not be in accordance with the Code of Judicial Conduct.

Page 8: ALL CANDIDATES: Position-specific Questions

Q23

Judge - Superior Court

Position sought

Page 9: ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

Q24

Respondent skipped this question

I understand that I may be asked to update this questionnaire in the future for the campaign to be considered for endorsement.

Page 10: FEDERAL CANDIDATES: Position-specific questions

Q25

Respondent skipped this question

Yes / No Questions for Federal candidates

Q26 Respondent skipped this question

For any yes / no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

Q27 Respondent skipped this question

Which elements of the Build Back Better Act do you think are the most important for our country? How would you achieve their enactment?

Q28 Respondent skipped this question

What voting rights / election practices must be available for all voters in all 50 states and what will you do to make sure those are available to all voters by the time of the 2024 Presidential Election?

Q29 Respondent skipped this question

Climate change is an urgent environmental and humanitarian crisis in the US and around the world. How would you use your office to enact aggressive measures to mitigate climate change (while ensuring climate justice) through various policy areas (e.g. environmental, transportation, land use, regulatory policy), and what specific policies have you supported?

Q30 Respondent skipped this question

How have you worked (and how will you continue to work) for broader and more equitable access to health care?

Page 11: WA SECRETARY OF STATE: Position-specific questions

Q31 Respondent skipped this question

Yes / No Questions

Q32 Respondent skipped this question

For any yes / no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

Q33

Respondent skipped this question

We know that there has been a long-standing issue in WA state with ballots of Black and Hispanic/Latine individuals being rejected at a higher rate than White individuals. What policies should be enacted to address this issue and other barriers to voting equity for marginalized communities?

Q34

Respondent skipped this question

There are many ways to undermine elections, particularly disinformation campaigns intended to sow distrust in results. What do we need to do to make our voting process more robust against any such actions?

Q35

Respondent skipped this question

What cybersecurity system improvements need to be made to ensure that all of the information under the purview of the Secretary of State is protected from data breaches or similar threats?

Q36

Respondent skipped this question

As Secretary of State what specific steps would you take to encourage voter registration and how much of a priority would you assign to these efforts?

Page 12: WA STATE LEGISLATURE: Position-specific questions

Q37

Respondent skipped this question

Yes / No Questions

Q38

Respondent skipped this question

For any yes / no questions you answered "qualified" please explain:

Q39

Respondent skipped this question

Many individuals in WA have limited access to healthcare. What steps should the legislature take to ensure that all WA residents have meaningful and equitable access to the care and prescriptions they need for their health?

Q40

Respondent skipped this question

Even with recent policies like the Clean Fuels Standard, we know that WA state is significantly behind on hitting its carbon pollution goals for 2035. What climate action and environmental justice policies must the WA legislature adopt in order to actually make progress against these goals and address the climate crisis with the urgency needed?

Q41

Respondent skipped this question

What steps would you take to rebalance our tax code? Please explain the current system vs. your proposal as you would to an average voter.

Q42

Respondent skipped this question

As Democrats, we strive to create a more just and equitable world for all, especially including those communities that have been historically marginalized. How will you center equity in the process of developing legislation, particularly that which impacts individuals unlike yourself?

Q43

Respondent skipped this question

In your view, what legislative change(s) would be the MOST impactful at reducing housing instability and improving affordability while avoiding gentrification in both your legislative district and across the state?

Page 13: WA STATE SUPREME COURT AND COURT OF APPEALS: Position-specific questions

Q44

Respondent skipped this question

Describe the progress of your campaign and campaign goals. What is your plan to win? If you have received endorsements, please list them here.

Q45

Respondent skipped this question

Ratings and Endorsements

Q46

Respondent skipped this question

Please describe your legal background and experience? What pro bono work have you done in the last 5 years? (please list)

Q47

Respondent skipped this question

What do you believe are the most important qualifications and qualities for justices and judges? What is your experience serving as a judge/justice, pro tem, or within the judicial system and how will this inform your perspective on the bench?

Q48

Respondent skipped this question

How would you further equity and access to justice for all in the legal system? Provide specific examples of what you have done or commit to doing to further this goal.

Q49

Respondent skipped this question

Judges are expected to fairly apply the law and perform all duties without bias or prejudice. Please provide examples when you have realized and self-checked your privilege and/or bias or encouraged others to point out to you your own implicit biases?

Q50

Respondent skipped this question

How do you balance the judicial principle of stare decisis, or adherence to precedent, with a rapidly changing society and advancements in racial, economic, social and climate justice?

Page 14: KING COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY: Position-specific questions

Q51

Respondent skipped this question

Describe the progress of your campaign and campaign goals. What is your plan to win? If you have received endorsements, please list them here.

Q52

Respondent skipped this question

Are there any changes you would make to the King County Prosecuting Attorney's (KCPAO) office? (please provide examples of current practices and specific changes, if any).

Q53

Respondent skipped this question

The KCPAO has helped implement a number of alternatives to traditional prosecution and incarceration in recent years. List those changes and how would you build on this work?

Q54

Respondent skipped this question

The KCPAO publishes its filing and disposition standards for the public to see how the office exercises its prosecutorial discretion in criminal cases. How will you ensure that the charging decisions and case resolutions are equitable for Black, Indigenous, and communities of color, marginalized, and vulnerable communities?

Q55

Respondent skipped this question

Under your leadership, how would the KCPAO's pretrial detention and/or bail policies and practices change, if at all?

Q56

Respondent skipped this question

Under your leadership, what role would the KCPAO play in addressing the housing, homelessness and mental health crisis in King County?

Page 15: KING COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS: Position-specific questions

Q57

Describe the progress of your campaign and campaign goals. What is your plan to win? If you have received endorsements, please list them here.

I am running to retain my seat. I do not anticipate drawing a challenger, and have engaged Christian Sinderman both to help position me to dissuade a challenger from filing and to assist me if someone runs against me. I have raised over \$8,000, and 150+ people have endorsed me, including Washington State Supreme Court Justice Montoya-Lewis and Port of Seattle Commission President Ryan Calkins.

Q58

Ratings and Endorsements

Bar Association ratings received to date:

Exceptionally Well Qualified: King County Bar Association, Cardozo Society, Washington Women Lawyers—King County Chapter, Washington State Veterans Bar Association. Well Qualified: Q-Law. Qualified: Latina/o Bar Association of Washington, Joint Asian Judicial Evaluations Committee

Endorsements received to date:

**150+ persons listed here:
<https://www.judgeballinger.com/endorsements>**

Additional Endorsements you are seeking:

All of the Legislative Districts that include King County.

Q59

Please describe your legal background and experience? What pro bono work have you done in the last 5 years? (please list)

My legal background is stated in answer to question no. 21.

My volunteer / pro bono activities include the following.

I have participated in a number of programs to increase the pipeline of persons in the legal field, including the Tri-Cities Youth & Justice Forum (of which I am on the planning committee) and mock trial.

For the past 20 years, I have been a member of the oversight board of Camp Huston, a camp and conference center in the foothills of the Cascades where I was a camper and counselor growing up. We are an active board, and I serve as the legal advisor to the director.

Since 2013, I have served as a volunteer official with various competitive swim programs. In recent years, this has required approximately 120 hours of service each year as I have taken on increased responsibilities, including training new officials, managing the officiating of meets, and my recent acceptance into USA Swimming's referee training program.

For many years, I have been a member of a number of court rules committees for federal and state courts at the local and the state-wide level.

Q60

What do you believe are the most important qualifications and qualities for justices and judges? What is your experience serving as a judge/justice, pro tem, or within the judicial system and how will this inform your perspective on the bench?

As a prosecutor appearing every day before a wide variety of judges, the qualities I most appreciated were integrity, kindness, and a strong intellect. With such a high volume of cases, this combination meant that defendants, their lawyers, and the prosecuting attorneys could make decisions based on a measured, impartial, and principled response from the bench uninfluenced by improper forces (integrity); that defendants, victims, and witnesses would be treated well on what could be the saddest day of their lives (kindness); and that the judge would make decisions grounded in the law (intellect). Throughout my career, I continued to believe those qualities to be most important, and ones from which other important qualities follow, including empathy, courage, industry, and strong research and writing skills.

It was a complete pleasure to serve as a pro tem judge and commissioner, and I am delighted to now serve as a King County Superior Court judge. Each day, many of the litigants are appearing in court for the first time, alone, on the worst day of their lives. My prior judicial experience reinforced my commitment to be kind, empathetic, fair, and un-swayed by outside influences in applying the law.

Q61

How would you further equity and access to justice for all in the legal system? Provide specific examples of what you have done or commit to doing to further this goal.

There are at least five barriers to access to justice: financial, language, implicit bias, physical, and cognitive. Each of these can be addressed in part by improving our rules and our communication of court policies and procedures. I have served on many rules committees, with the intent to improve the rules to make accessing justice easier, less confusing, and less expensive. I currently am assigned to dependency cases (cases concerning foster children), and am proposing an overhaul of the rules governing practice in dependency cases with this in mind. In addition, access to justice by marginalized communities can be improved by increasing the pipeline of people from marginalized communities into the legal community. To that end, I have joined the team planning the annual Tri-Cities Youth & Justice Forum and volunteer on various mock trial / moot court programs.

Q62

Judges are expected to fairly apply the law and perform all duties without bias or prejudice. Please provide examples when you have realized and self-checked your own privilege and/or bias or encouraged others to point out to you your own implicit biases?

I have fostered open communication between my bailiff (see <https://www.linkedin.com/in/cassie-fontenot-7358741bb/>) and me. She is in court with me every day. She and I talk every day about what happened in court and how I can improve. She is making me a better judge, and I am grateful for her counsel.

Q63

How would you address the disproportionate impact of sentencing, punishment, and incarceration in the criminal legal system on Black, Indigenous, and Communities of Color, marginalized, and other vulnerable communities and how would you work to address it? Please provide specific examples (alternatives to incarceration, bail reform, etc.)

I am committed to learning from and bringing elements of restorative justice to my courtroom. The promise of restorative justice programs is to give harmed persons, the perpetrators of harm, and the community a voice in determining what repair of harm looks like.

Impressive work already has been done to create therapeutic courts, including Drug Diversion Court, the DREAM program, Mental Health Court, and Veterans Court. Those examples have proven that with creativity and compassion we can reduce suffering in our community. It is my privilege to be assigned now to the child welfare rotation within my Court, the purpose of which is to protect children and to attempt to facilitate healing within families. Our therapeutic court, Family Treatment Court, is particularly suited to this task.

Page 16: ALL CANDIDATES: Submit Questionnaire

Q64

I, candidate, affirm that all the information provided in response to this questionnaire is true, complete and correct, to the best of my ability, and that no relevant matter has been omitted. (Use Prev and Next buttons to review.)

Candidate full name (as signature)

Kristin Ballinger

Date

March 31, 2022

Q65

Candidate

Information in this questionnaire was input by:

Q66

Respondent skipped this question

(If information input by someone other than candidate) I affirm that all responses were reviewed and approved by the candidate. (Use Prev and Next buttons to review.)

Q67

Share with King County Democrats (required if requesting endorsement)

King County Democrats may post this questionnaire to a password-protected folder for access by King County Democrats Endorsements Committee members, Executive Board, and anyone else required to be eligible for endorsement by the King County Democrats.

Q68

Share with LD Dems and Young Dems Endorsement Committee members (optional, may save time if your campaign is seeking LD Dems and Young Dems endorsements)

King County Democrats may share this questionnaire to a password-protected folder for access by members of the Endorsements Committees of Legislative District (LD) Democratic organizations and Young Democrats (YD) organizations.

Q69

Share with PCOs and/or Members (optional)

Democratic organizations overlapping the jurisdiction of my campaign whose rules require sharing questionnaire responses to Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs) or Membership for a candidate to be eligible for endorsement may share this questionnaire with those groups.

Q70

Share with Public (optional)

Democratic organizations overlapping the jurisdiction of my campaign whose rules require sharing questionnaire responses publicly may share this questionnaire publicly.

Q71

Email PDF Copy

Please email a copy of my completed submission to the campaign email address. I understand it may take 24-72 hours (or more) for my completed submission to be emailed.
