

APPLICATION FOR SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

The following is a shortened version of the state's application form for judicial appointment. It's been lightly edited – a few questions from the application form have been eliminated, but none have been added.

The Wisconsin Justice Initiative will be reporting on the candidates competing in the 2018 race for Wisconsin Supreme Court.

We ask that you, as an applicant to the electorate, complete the following questionnaire and provide your resume to allow WJI to educate the voters of Wisconsin about you prior to the February primary.

WJI will post on its website ([www.wjiinc.org](http://www.wjiinc.org)) your resume and completed applications form as submitted unless editing is necessary because an answer exceeded length limits.

Please submit your electronically completed application to [gretchen@wjiinc.org](mailto:gretchen@wjiinc.org) by 5 p.m. Jan. 13, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact Gretchen Schuldt at 414-331-0724.

*WJI's mission is to advocate for progressive change in the Wisconsin justice system by educating the public about its real-life impacts and partnering with other organizations to achieve more just outcomes.*

**APPLICATION FOR THE SUPREME COURT**

(Please attach additional pages as needed to fully respond to questions)

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**WISCONSIN BAR NO.:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I. GENERAL:**

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Date admitted to practice law in Wisconsin: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Date admitted to practice law in other states: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Current employer and title: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Work address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Residential municipality: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Length of time at this residence:
8. List all previous residences for the past ten years
9. Place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Spouse's name: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Spouse's occupation: \_\_\_\_\_
12. Are you a registered voter at your current address? Yes  No
13. Answer yes or no to the following questions. Attach a separate page explaining any affirmative answers.
  - a) Yes  No  Do you currently have a physical or mental impairment that in any way limits your ability or fitness to properly exercise your duties as a member of the judiciary in a competent and professional manner?

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- b) Yes  No  In the past 10 years, have you unlawfully used controlled substances as defined by federal or state laws? Unlawful use includes the use of one or more drugs and/or the unlawful possession or distribution of drugs. It does not include the use of drugs that were prescribed to you and taken under lawful supervision of a licensed healthcare professional.
- c) Yes  No  Since leaving high school, have you, for other than academic reasons, ever been denied enrollment, disciplined, denied course credit, suspended, expelled, or requested to terminate your enrollment by any college, university, law school, or other educational institution?
- d) Yes  No  Have you failed to meet any deadline imposed by court order or received notice that you have not complied with substantive requirements of any contractual arrangement?
- e) Yes  No  Have you ever been held in contempt or otherwise formally reprimanded or sanctioned by a tribunal before which you have appeared?
- f) Yes  No  Are you delinquent in your mandatory continuing legal education?
- g) Yes  No  Have you ever been a party to a lawsuit either as a plaintiff or as a defendant? If yes, please supply the jurisdiction and/or County, case number, nature of lawsuit, whether you were the plaintiff or defendant, and disposition of each lawsuit.
- h) Yes  No  Has there ever been a formal complaint filed against you, a finding of probable cause, citation, or conviction issued against you, or are you presently under investigation by the Wisconsin Judicial Commission, the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, the Office of Lawyer Regulation, or any other state or federal equivalent, or any court, administrative agency, Bar Association, or other professional group, in any jurisdiction?
- i) Yes  No  If you are a quasi-judicial officer, have you ever been disciplined or reprimanded by a sitting judge?
- j) Yes  No  In the past five years, have you ever been cited for a municipal or traffic violation, excluding parking tickets?
- k) Yes  No  Have you ever failed to timely file your federal or state income tax returns?
- l) Yes  No  Have you ever paid a tax penalty?

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m) Yes  No  Has a tax lien ever been filed against you?

n) Yes  No  Have you ever filed a personal petition in bankruptcy or has a petition in bankruptcy been filed against you?

o) Yes  No  Have you ever owned more than 10% of the issued and outstanding shares or acted as an officer or director, of any corporation in which or against which a petition in bankruptcy has been filed?

**II. EDUCATION:**

14. List secondary schools, colleges, law schools, and any other professional schools attended.

<i>School</i>	<i>Dates Attended</i>	<i>Degrees Earned and GPA</i>

List and describe academic scholarships, awards, honors societies, and extracurricular involvement. Note any leadership positions.

**III. MILITARY EXPERIENCE:**

15: List all military service (including Reserves and National Guard).

**III.**

<i>Service</i>	<i>Branch</i>	<i>Highest Rank</i>	<i>Dates</i>

Rank at time of discharge:

Type of discharge:

List any awards or honors earned during your service. Also list any citations or charges pursued against you under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

**IV: PROFESSIONAL ADMISSIONS:**

16. List all courts (including state bar admissions) and administrative bodies having special admission requirements to which you have ever been admitted to practice, giving the dates of admission, and, if applicable, state whether you have ever been suspended or have resigned.

<i>Court or Administrative Body</i>	<i>Date of Admission</i>

**V. LEGAL EMPLOYMENT:**

(If you are a sitting judge, answer questions 18-23 with reference to before you became a judge.)

17. State the names, dates, and addresses of all legal employment, including law school and volunteer work.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Employer</i>	<i>Address</i>

18. Describe your legal experience as an advocate in criminal litigation, civil litigation, and administrative proceedings.

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19. What percentage of your legal career has been in:

Court		Area of Practice	
Federal appellate:	_____ %	Civil:	_____ %
Federal trial:	_____ %	Criminal:	_____ %
Federal other:	_____ %	Family:	_____ %
State appellate:	_____ %	Probate:	_____ %
State trial:	_____ %	Other:	_____ %
State administrative:	_____ %		
State other:	_____ %		
TOTAL	_____ %		_____ %

20. In your career, how many cases have you tried that resulted in a verdict or judgment?

Jury: \_\_\_\_ Non-jury: \_\_\_\_

Arbitration: \_\_\_\_ Administrative bodies: \_\_\_\_

21. How many cases have you litigated on appeal? Please describe, in general terms, your involvement in these cases. In how many cases were you successful?

22. List and describe the two most significant cases in which you were involved; give the case number and citation to reported decisions, if any. Describe the nature of your participation in the case and the reason you believe it to be significant.

**VI PRIOR JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE:**

23. Have you ever held judicial or quasi-judicial office? If so, state the court(s) involved and the dates of service.

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Name of Agency/Court</i>	<i>Position Held</i>

A. Describe the approximate number and nature of cases you have heard during your judicial or quasi-judicial tenure.

B. Describe the two most significant cases you have heard as a judicial officer. Identify the parties, describe the cases, and explain why you believe them to be significant. Provide the trial dates and names of attorneys involved, if possible.

**VII: PREVIOUS PARTISAN OR NON-PARTISAN POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT:**

24. Please list all instances in which you ran for elective office. For each instance, list the date of the election (include both primary and general election), the office that you sought, and the outcome of the election. Include your percentage of the vote.



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25. Have you ever held a position or played a role in a judicial, non-partisan, or partisan political campaign, committee, or organization? If so, please describe your involvement.
26. Please list all judicial or non-partisan candidates that you have publicly endorsed in the last six years.

**VIII: HONORS, PUBLICATIONS, AND PROFESSIONAL AND OTHER ACTIVITIES:**

27. List any published books or articles, giving citations and dates.
28. List any honors, prizes, or awards you have received, giving dates.
29. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are a member; give the titles and dates of any office that you may have held in such groups and committees to which you belong or have belonged.
30. Describe any additional involvement in professional or civic organizations, volunteer activities, service in a church or synagogue, or any other activities or hobbies that could be relevant or helpful to consideration of your application.
31. Describe any significant pro bono legal work you have performed in the last five years.
32. Describe any courses on law that you have taught or lectures you have given at bar association conferences, law school forums, or continuing legal education programs.
33. Describe any other speeches or lectures you have given.

**IX: FINANCIAL INVOLVEMENT:**

34. If you or your spouse are now an officer, director, or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise, state the name of such enterprise, the nature of the business, the nature of your duties, and you or your spouse's intended involvement upon your appointment or election to

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judicial office.

35. Describe any business or profession other than the practice of law that you have been engaged in since being admitted to the Bar.
36. Describe any fees or compensation of any kind, other than for legal services rendered, from any business enterprise, institution, organization, or association of any kind that you have received during the past five years.

**X: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

37. Explain in one page or less why you want to become a justice.
38. In one page or less, name one of the best United States or Wisconsin Supreme Court opinions in the last thirty years and explain why you feel that way.
39. In one page or less, name one of the worst United States or Wisconsin Supreme Court opinions in the last thirty years and explain why you feel that way.
40. In one page or less, describe your judicial philosophy.
41. If you have previously submitted a questionnaire or application to this or any other judicial nominating commission, please give the name of the commission and the approximate date of submission.
42. Describe any other information you feel would be helpful to your application.