



OHIO WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION NETWORK NEWSLETTER

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Our purpose is to promote the leadership, advancement and interests of women attorneys through professional education, networking and the exchange of ideas between our members, local bar associations, business and the community.

The Ohio Women's Bar Association announces its ratings for the Supreme Court of Ohio judicial candidates

Candidate & Rating:

Robert Cupp: Excellent

Yvette McGee Brown: Excellent

Terrence O'Donnell: Excellent

Michael Skindell: Good

Sharon Kennedy: Adequate

William O'Neill: Adequate

About the Ratings

"Excellent" means that the candidate is outstanding based on the criteria and is a superior choice for the office. "Good" means that the candidate substantially meets the criteria and is well-qualified for the office. "Adequate" means the candidate meets the criteria passably or, alternatively, fails to satisfy one or more of them. "Not Recommended" means the candidate does not meet the criteria, lacking the minimal qualifications for judicial office.

About the Committee and Board of Trustees

The committee is comprised of members from across the state, including a member from each of the five OWBA geographic regions. In addition, 75 percent of the 12 appellate districts had at least one committee member. The OWBA Board of Trustees, which approved the ratings, is made up of the Executive Committee, 12 trustees from the appellate districts and five at-large trustees. ■

The Ohio Women's Bar Association's (OWBA) recently released its ratings for the Supreme Court of Ohio judicial candidates. The OWBA Supreme Court Judicial Ratings Committee reviewed the candidate-submitted questionnaires, conducted their own research and investigation and interviewed the candidates each for more than an hour on issues relating to the criteria of integrity, judicial temperament, diligence, professional competence and community involvement and understanding.

"These ratings are intended to educate voters as they cast their vote for Ohio Supreme Court candidates," states Michelle Proia Roe, President of the OWBA. As provided in its Governing Rules, the purpose of the Ohio Supreme Court Judicial Ratings Committee is to promote the free exchange of ideas concerning the qualifications of candidates for the offices of Chief Justice and Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio; to evaluate the fitness for judicial office of persons aspiring to such office; and to educate members of the bar and members of the public at large with respect to judicial candidates.

It is the second time in the 21-year history of the OWBA that the organization has independently issued ratings for Supreme Court of Ohio candidates. The OWBA released ratings also during the 2010 election period. "The OWBA's responsibility to provide an objective evaluation of the candidates is critical in helping to educate the public regarding qualified candidates," states Michelle Proia Roe.

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