

Inquirer Judicial Candidate Questionnaire

Roger F. Gordon

Common Pleas Court

Campaign e-mail:

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- 1. Why are you qualified and well-suited to serve as a judge on the court for which you are running?**

I have already served 20 months on Criminal Bench and Jury trials as well as 25 years of Prior trial experience

- 2. Did you receive a rating of “recommended” or higher from the state or local bar associate? If not, why not?**

Yes, “recommended” rating received several times

- 3. If you are an incumbent judge, what’s a recent instance in which you acted to preserve your judicial independence? If you are an aspiring judge, how do you plan to remain independent if elected to the bench?**

Recused myself when familiar parties appeared before me

- 4. A number of Pennsylvania judges have been sanctioned for campaign activities, ex parte dealings, and other alleged misconduct. How can the state’s judiciary promote ethical behavior among judges and court staff?**

Judicial committees address ethical issues every week; this “education” should continue.

- 5. If you believe that gender, racial, ethnic, class or other forms of bias can infect the justice system, how will you work to keep your courtroom as bias free as possible?**

The biggest problem seems to be treating defendants the same, whether or not they can afford private counsel

Roger F. Gordon

EDUCATION

- B.A. Sociology, Princeton University, 1973
- J.D. Seton Hall University Law Center, 1977

EXPERIENCE

- Jul 2009- Present Judge, Philadelphia, Court of Common Pleas
- Dec 2003-Jul 2009 City of Philadelphia Jury Commissioner
- Mar 2002-Dec 2003 General Practice Attorney, Volunteer Democratic City Committee Attorney
- Jul 1990-Mar 2002 Major Trial Attorney, Nationwide Insurance Co. for Berks, Bucks, Montgomery Counties
- May 1988-Jul-1990 Trial Attorney, Law Offices of Allen L. Rothenberg
- Apr 1986-May 1988 City of Philadelphia, Chief Assistant City Solicitor
- Sept 1984-Apr 1986 City of Philadelphia, Assistant District Attorney
- Sept 1977-Sept 1984 Trial Attorney, Defender Association of Philadelphia

- Instructor in Trial Advocacy
- Argued before Commonwealth and Superior Courts
- Mediator on insurance and labor disputes

COMMUNITY

- President, Elmwood Park Boys & Girls Club, 43 years as youth coach
- Philadelphia Phillies "RBI" Baseball Coaching Staff
- Olney Redbirds, American Legion Baseball Coaching Staff
- Vice President, Friends of Princeton University Basketball, 1975-present

PERSONAL

- Born November 14, 1951 in Fort Campbell, Kentucky to Roger and Herschell Gordon.
- Resident of Southwest Philadelphia with wife Lei and children, Patrick and Maxine.