

**CANDIDATE COVER SHEET FOR KCBA JUDICIAL SCREENING**  
**Information Taken from Washington State Governor's Office**  
**Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire**

NAME: Renee G. Walls

Position Sought: Federal Way Municipal Court

KCBA considers the responses to the following questions on the Washington State Governor's Office's Uniform Judicial Evaluation Questionnaire to be public information, which may be disclosed to persons other than the Judicial Screening Committee and, in the case of judicial elections, will be publicly available:

Position Sought, Name, Business Address, Business email

Professional History: #8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15,

Educational Background: #16, 17

Professional Experience: #18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32

Community and Civic Activities: #33

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**Professional History**

8. Year admitted to practice law in Washington: 2000

9. Employment History (in reverse chronological order):

a. Start Date: 11/08 End Date: present

Organization: Sumner Municipal Court

Address: 1104 Maple St., Suite 100 Sumner, WA 98390

Phone No.: (253) 863-7635

Position/Title: Judge Pro Tempore

Supervisor: Honorable Timothy Jenkins

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

Preside over arraignment, in-custody, pretrial, and sentence and review calendars. I appear as needed.

Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Start Date: 5/09 End Date: present

Organization: Des Moines Municipal Court

Address: 21630 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Suite C Des Moines, WA 98198

Phone No.: (206) 878-4597

Position/Title: Judge Pro Tempore

Supervisor: Honorable Veronica Alicea-Galvan

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

Preside over in-custody calendar consisting of bail hearings, arraignments, pretrial, and sentence and reviews. I appear as needed.

Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Start Date: 3/05 End Date: present

Organization: Kenyon Disend, PLLC.

Address: 11 Front Street Issaquah, WA 98027

Phone No.: (425) 392-7090

Position/Title: Prosecuting Attorney

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

I am the sole prosecuting attorney for the cities of Burien and Kenmore. I prosecute all criminal misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor cases. I make charging decisions, negotiate cases with defense attorneys, appear on arraignment, in-custody, pretrial, sentence and review, motion, and jury call calendars. I also handle all trials and appeals. I am in court three days per week.

Reason for leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

d. Start Date: 1/01 End Date: 9/03

Organization: City of Federal Way

Address: 33325 8<sup>th</sup> Ave S. Federal Way, WA 98036

Phone No.: (253) 835-2563

Position/Title: Prosecuting Attorney

Supervisor: Patricia Richardson

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Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

I prosecuted all criminal misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor cases. I made charging decisions, negotiated cases with defense attorney, appeared on arraignment, in-custody, pretrial, motion, sentence and review, and jury call calendars. I handled trials and appeals. I was in court three to four days per week.

Reason for leaving: the birth of my first child

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e. Start Date: 5/00                      End Date: 11/00

Organization: King County Prosecutor's Office

Address: 516 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Room W554 Seattle, WA 98104

Phone No.: (206) 296-9000

Position/Title: Special Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Supervisor: Edmund Allen

Nature of Practice (including frequency of court appearances):

I was assigned to the filing unit where I charged all misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor cases for King County. I was then assigned to the Jail Desk where I appeared in court for all the jail calendars which covered first appearance, arraignment, and fugitive bail hearings. I was then assigned to the RJC where I covered all arraignment, in-custody, pretrial, sentence and review, motion, and jury trials. I also appeared on the felony plea calendar and on the RALJ readiness calendar.

Reason for leaving: end of contract

Please continue, if necessary, on a separate piece of paper in the above format as needed.

10. Please list all other courts and jurisdictions in which you have been admitted to practice law and the dates of admission. Please provide the same information for administrative bodies having special admission requirements.

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11. Please list all bar associations and professional societies of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices that you have held in such groups.

King County Bar Association, South King County Bar Association, Korean American Bar Association

12. Are you in good standing in every bar association of which you are a member? Yes / No. If you answered "no", please explain.

YES

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13. If you have ever been a judge, please identify any court committees on which you have served or administrative positions you have held. Please state the dates of service for each.

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14. Please list up to five of your most significant professional accomplishments. (If applicable, please provide the case and court name and the citation if a case was reported (and copy of the opinion).

I restored the relationship between the Federal Way Police Department and the City Attorney's Office. I continue to work to restore the relationship between the Kenmore Police Department and the prosecutor's office after many months of dissatisfaction prior to my arrival. We are definitely making progress. This has been a difficult road thus far. I am also the sole prosecutor for two cities and handle all the administrative issues with the city, the court, defense, and police.

15. Please summarize up to eight of the most significant matters that you participated in as an advocate. Please include the dates of your participation and the reason each was significant to you. Please provide the citation if a case was reported. If you have been a judge, please include some cases that have been tried before you.

As my practice has been the same since 2000 the dates of my participation in any particular case is difficult to determine. One of the most significant cases in my career was an Assault 4<sup>th</sup> Degree – Domestic Violence case with sexual motivation. This defendant quickly picked up multiple violations of No Contact Orders. I worked closely with the victim throughout the process and negotiated a favorable outcome in the case. I spent quite a bit of time talking with her and pointed her to someone who could provide services for her and she still calls me periodically. This was one case where I truly believed that something could happen to her. Another significant case was a trial resulting in a conviction for Theft in the Third Degree. After many "false" starts and many previous cases the defendant was ultimately successful in treatment and really turned her life around. She thanked me months later.

**Educational Background**

16. Please list all undergraduate and graduate (non-law school) colleges and universities attended, years of attendance, degree awarded and reason for leaving if no degree was awarded.

University of Illinois College/University	1/93 – 8/95 Dates of Attendance	B.A. Degree
Parkland Community College	8/92 – 12/92	transferred to U of I
Pima Community College	1/91 – 8/92	moved to Illinois
Scottsdale Community College	8/88 – 12/90	moved to Tucson
Indiana University	6/94 – 8/94	intensive language program

17. Please list all law schools attended, years of attendance, degree awarded and reason for leaving if no degree was awarded.

Northwestern School of Law of <u>Lewis and Clark College</u> Law School	<u>8/96 – 5/99</u> Dates of Attendance	<u>J.D.</u> Degree
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Law School	Dates of Attendance	Degree

**Professional Experience**

18. Please summarize, briefly, the general nature of your current law practice.

I work for a private law firm that provides city attorney and prosecuting attorney services to various cities. I am the sole prosecutor for the cities of Burien and Kenmore. As such I manage the entire prosecution caseload for both cities. I make charging decisions, appear on arraignment, in-custody, pretrial, sentence and review, motion, jury call, and contested infraction calendars. I also am responsible for the trials and any appeals for both cities. I meet with the court, defense, the police, and the city to discuss and problem solve any administrative issues. I teach at the citizen's academy for the Burien Police Department, and conduct police training as needed. As Burien has a significant Hispanic population, I sought-out a bi-lingual Domestic Violence Advocate. I wrote contracts for Domestic Violence Advocate and contract attorney services. I researched city ordinances and proposed changes for the City Council to consider and am working on writing an anti-gang ordinance.

19. If you are in practice, please describe your typical clients and any areas of special emphasis within your practice.

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20. If your present law practice is different from any previous practice, please describe the earlier practice, including the nature of your typical clients and any area of special emphasis within your practice.

During my externship in law school I conducted grand jury hearings on a two week rotations where I questioned necessary witnesses in order to obtain felony indictments. I also was responsible for taking the grand jurors on tours of the various prisons in Oregon. I worked on a double homicide case where I conducted witnesses interview in prison, helped manage discovery, and helped analyze trial strategy.

21. Within the last 5 years, did you appear in trial court:

Regularly                       Occasionally                       Infrequently

22. Within the last 5 years, did you prepare appellate briefs and appear before appellate courts:

Regularly                       Occasionally                       Infrequently

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23. Within the last five years, how often did you appear in the court for which you are applying:  
 Regularly                       Occasionally                       Infrequently

24. Career Experience

(a) What percentage of your appearances in the last five years was in:

(1) Federal appellate courts	_____	%
(2) Federal trial courts	_____	%
(3) State appellate courts	_____	%
(4) State trial courts	_____	%
(5) Municipal courts	_____	%
(6) District courts	100	%
(7) Administrative tribunals	_____	%
(8) Tribal courts	_____	%
(9) Other	_____	%
TOTAL	100%	

(b) What percentage of your practice in the last five years was:

(1) Civil litigation (excl. family law)	_____	%
(2) Criminal litigation	100	%
(3) Family law litigation	_____	%
(4) Non-litigation	_____	%
TOTAL	100%	

(c) What percentage of your trials in the last five years were:

(1) Jury trials	95	%
(2) Non-jury trials	5	%
TOTAL	100%	

(d) State the number of cases during your total career that you have tried to verdict or judgment (rather than settled) in the following courts, and indicate for each court the following percentages: trials in which you were sole counsel or chief counsel, jury trials, and trials were you were the arbiter/decision maker.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Court</u>	<u>% as Sole / Chief Counsel</u>	<u>% Jury</u>	<u>% as the Arbiter</u>
25	Municipal	100	95	_____
5	State Dist.	100	100	_____
_____	State Superior	_____	_____	_____
_____	Federal Dist.	_____	_____	_____
_____	Administrative	_____	_____	_____
_____	Tribal Courts	_____	_____	_____
_____	Other	_____	_____	_____

- I really do not recall the actual number of trials I have done. The above is an estimate.

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- (e) State the number of appellate cases during your total career where you appeared as counsel of record in the following courts, and indicate for each court the following percentages: cases where you were sole counsel or chief counsel, and cases where you were the arbiter/decision maker (if applicable).

<u>Number</u>	<u>Court</u>	<u>% as Sole / Chief Counsel</u>	<u>% as the Arbiter</u>
2-3	State Superior Court	100	_____
1	WA. Div. I COA	100	_____
_____	WA. Div. II COA	_____	_____
_____	WA. Div. III COA	_____	_____
_____	WA. Supreme Court	_____	_____
_____	Fed. Cir. COA	_____	_____
_____	U.S. Supreme Court	_____	_____

- (f) Briefly describe no more than five significant litigation matters that you directly handled as the sole counsel. For each, please provide the name and telephone number of opposing counsel, the name of the judge or other judicial officer, and the citation (if applicable).

My entire practice is litigation. I handled thousands of litigation cases over my career.

- (g) State in detail your experience in adversary proceedings before administrative boards or commissions during the last five years.

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25. Please briefly describe any legal non-litigation experience that you feel enhances your qualifications to serve as a judge.

I am responsible for coordinating with multiple courts, defense attorneys, and police in the administration of justice and balancing the interests of these parties. I also research programs that help provide better access to justice. I address conflicts between players in the justice system by respecting the roles of different agencies and by improving communication between such agencies.

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26. If you are now an officer or director of any business organization or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprises, please provide the following: the name of the enterprise, the nature of the business, the title of your position, the nature of your duties, and the term of your service. If you are appointed and do not intend to resign such position(s), please state this below along with your reasons for not resigning.

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27. Please list all chairmanships of major committees in bar associations and professional societies and memberships on any committees that you have held and believe to be of particular significance.

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**Judicial Interest and Experience**

28. In 50 words or less, please describe why you should be appointed / elected and are seeking a judicial position.

My nine-plus years of practice in Municipal and District Courts give me the necessary experience and knowledge to fairly apply the law and efficiently manage a large caseload. As a prosecutor my administrative functions taught me how to relate to, work with and appreciate the role each agency plays in the criminal justice system.

29. In 50 words or less, please describe your judicial philosophy.

A judge's duty is two-fold. First a judge should be balanced, fair and efficient, provide equal access to justice and be conscience of the affects that different economic levels and different cultures play in each case. Second, a judge should respect the court staff and work together to provide excellent service to the public.

30. Have you ever held a judicial office or have you ever been a candidate for such office?  
Yes / No. If you answered "yes", please provide details, including the courts involved, whether elected or appointed, and the periods of your service.

NO

31. Have you ever held public office other than a judicial office, or have you ever been a candidate for such an office? Yes / No. If you answered "yes", please provide details, including the offices involved, whether elected or appointed, and the length of your service.

NO

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32. Please briefly identify all of your experience as a neutral decision-maker (e.g. judge (permanent or pro tem) in any jurisdiction, administrative law judge, arbitrator, hearing officer, etc.). Give courts, approximate dates, and attorneys who appeared before you.

I serve as Judge Pro Tempore for the cities of Sumner and Des Moines. I preside over arraignment, in-custody, pretrial, and sentence and review calendars.

Sumner Municipal Court (served 3 times over the last 8 months)

Attorneys who have appeared before me are: Kenneth Hershey, Andrew Magee, Brett Vinson, David Kirshenbaum, and a few other private attorneys whose names I do not remember.

Des Moines Municipal Court (served on 6/9/09, 6/12/09, 6/15/09)

Attorneys who have appeared before me are: Time George, Julie Codd, Mark Schnurle, Alison Ganem

**Community and Civic Activities**

33. Please list your community and civic activities, including dates and leadership roles held, over the last 10 years.

Taught English and a Second Language class - 1994

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Program - 1994

Teacher's Aid for Head-Start Program - 1993

Participated in conducting moot court for junior high students - 1996 and 2009

Volunteered at Children's Hospital - 1999

Tutored children after school who needed extra help in reading, writing, and mathematics (I do not recall the name of the organization) - 2002

Volunteered at domestic violence fundraising sponsored by Pierce County Coalition against Domestic Violence - 2008 and 2009