

Oregon State Bar Judicial Voters Guide 2018

1) Your full name:

Jesse Chandler Margolis

2) Office Address and Phone Number:

29821 Ellensburg Avenue

Gold Beach, Oregon 97444

(541)247-4511

3) Web site (if applicable):

N/A

4) List high school, college and law school attended, including dates of attendance, degrees awarded and your reasons for leaving each school if no degree from that institution was awarded.

Mendocino Community High School, graduated in 1984

California State University, Sacramento, BA in English, 1989

Northwestern School of Law, Lewis and Clark College, JD 1992

5) List employment since graduation from law school, including dates employed, your position and the nature of the practice or activity.

Southwestern Oregon Public Defender Services, Inc. from 1992 to 1998, Attorney working in criminal law and juvenile law.

Olin & Margolis, P.C. 1998 to 2007, partner in law firm. Trial and appellate attorney.

Circuit Court Judge, 2007 to present.

6a) List state and federal bars, courts and administrative bodies to which you are presently admitted and the date of admission.

Oregon State Bar member since 1992.

United States District Court for the District of Oregon since 1999.

6b) List any previous admissions, including dates, and the reason why you are no longer admitted.

None

7) List publications and/or articles you have authored.

N/A

8) List community, teaching (Continuing Legal Education or otherwise) or civic activities.

I am a current member of the Gold Beach Rotary club. I was formerly a member and president of the Brookings/Harbor Rotary club. My family has hosted two Rotary exchange students. I have been involved with providing law related education to high school students in school classrooms. I have been involved with "law day" activities with younger students in our courthouse.

9) Prior to your becoming a judge, what was the general character of your legal practice? Indicate the nature of your typical clients and mention any legal areas in which you concentrated.

I worked primarily as a trial attorney dealing with criminal cases, property matters, and family law cases.

10) List your judicial experience, including as a pro tem, and/or service on an administrative tribunal, or justice, municipal, tax, circuit, or appellate court.

I have worked as a Circuit Court Judge since being elected to this position. My first term began in January of 2007.

11) Describe the general character of your judicial work over the past five years. Indicate the nature of the cases over which you preside, any specialty courts or court programs, and any legal areas in which you concentrate.

I preside over all types of cases which are filed in our judicial district. On occasion, I travel to work in other courthouses within our judicial district, and more rarely to courthouses outside of our judicial district.

12) Describe any judicial experience in appellate courts not included above.

none

13) State the approximate number of trials or contested hearings over which you have presided as the judicial officer during each of the past five years. Indicate roughly how many were jury trials and how many were trials to the court.

I have presided over approximately thirty trials per year, with about one half of those being jury trials. In addition, I regularly preside over juvenile court contested hearings, as well as a wide variety of other court proceedings.

14) Describe any experience serving as an arbitrator or mediator.

N/A

15) List all bar association memberships, offices held and committee assignments.

Curry County Bar Association member (past president).

Coos/Curry Bar Association member.

16) Describe any bar association or judicial department committees, task forces, or special projects in which you have been involved.

N/A

17) Have you ever been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a violation of any federal, state, county or municipal law, regulation or ordinance? If so, please give details. Do not include parking offenses or traffic violations for which a fine of less than \$500 was imposed.

None

18) Have you ever been the subject of a formal disciplinary proceeding as an attorney or judge? If so, please give the particulars and the result. *Include formal proceedings only.*

None

19) What attracted you to a judicial career?

I was attracted, as I believe most judges are, by the opportunity to be of service to society and to the law, and by the challenges associated with the court's ultimate goal of justice. This work is intellectually stimulating and rewarding, particularly when the court is able to assist parties in obtaining results which offer solutions to their problems.

20) Briefly describe your philosophy of the judicial role, the qualities that are most important for the role, and the greatest challenges to the role.

The primary work of a judge involves hearing and deciding matters without fear or favor and while being faithful to the law. A judge must be professionally competent, patient, courteous, dignified, and must have an ability to maintain control of the courtroom. I think that one of the greatest challenges to the role of a judge is to provide access to justice and an opportunity for every party to be heard in the face of ever decreasing resources.

21) Briefly describe a case, or a legal issue on which you worked, of which you are particularly proud, or which is reflective of your legal ability, work ethic, judicial philosophy, or temperament.

There have been multiple occasions on which, long after I have sentenced somebody, I have received correspondence from that defendant in which they detail the success they have had in their lives since sentencing and attribute some of that success to what I said during their sentencing proceeding. On occasion, the words of a judge can hold particular importance to person, even when those words do not contain a ruling or order.

22) Briefly describe an issue, related to Oregon's justice system, that is of particular interest or concern to you, or that you have interest in working toward improving.

The increase in societal harm caused by drug abuse is of particular concern to me and I intend to work towards improving the way our justice system responds to this crisis.

23) Briefly describe a legal figure, personal, fictional or historical, whom you admire and why.

I admire my grandfather, Ben Margolis, who worked tirelessly as a lawyer and had a remarkable devotion to his work. He always advocated vigorously for his clients, often working for the "underdog" and at times at great personal and professional cost.

24) State any other information that you regard as pertinent to your candidacy.

I am thankful for the opportunity I have had to serve as a Circuit Court Judge and I look forward to continuing my work on the bench.