

Judicial Election Questionnaire

1) Your full name:

Martha Lee Walters

2) Office Address and Phone Number:

1163 State Street, Salem, Oregon 97301-2563

503-986-5668

3) Web site (if applicable):

NA

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.

East Grand Rapids High School 1964-1968 Diploma

University of Michigan 1968-1972 BA Sociology

University of Oregon School of Law 1974-1977 JD

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

1977-1985 Lawyer in general civil private practice in the firm known by various names from Johnson, Johnson & Harrang to Harrang, Swanson, Long & Watkinson, Eugene, OR

1985-1992 Lawyer in general civil private practice in the firm of Swanson & Walters Eugene, OR

1992-2004 Lawyer in general civil private practice in the firm known by various names from Walters, Romm and Chanti to Walters, Chanti and Zennache, Eugene, OR

2006-present Associate Justice, Oregon Supreme Court, Salem, OR

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

Oregon State Bar 1977

United States District Court 1981

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals 1985

United States Supreme Court 2001

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

NA

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

"When the Only Way to Equal Is to Acknowledge Difference: PGA Tour, Inc. v. Martin", University of Louisville, Louis D. Brandeis School of Law, Brandeis Law Journal, Spring 2002, Co-author

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

Commissioner, Oregon Law Commission (2003-2006)

Commissioner, National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (1992--present) President (2007 to present)

Speaker, various Oregon State Bar, Oregon Women Lawyers CLE programs

Speaker, various University of Oregon School of Law classes and workshops

Adjunct Professor, University of Oregon School of Law, Insurance

Representative of the Oregon Supreme Court in judicial exchange with Sakhalin Island, Russia

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 was in private practice in a small firm. I generally represented individuals in the resolution of disputes, but I also provided advice to and served as trial counsel for businesses and cities. I concentrated in employment law, but I also had a general

civil practice, which included, over the years, work in all aspects of civil law including contracts, real property, personal injury, family law, municipal law, and civil rights.

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 served as an Associate Justice on the Oregon Supreme Court since October 2006.

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.

Since October 2006, I have participated in all of the work of the Supreme Court.

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

NA

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.

NA

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

Before becoming a judge I served as an arbitrator or mediator in a very limited number of cases.

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

Federal Bar Association

American Bar Association

Oregon Bar Association

Uniform Civil Jury Instructions Committee, Member

Disciplinary Board, Member and Region 2 Chair

Dispute Resolution Committee, Member

Uniform Trial Court Rules Committee, Member

Judicial Administration Committee, Member

Oregon Women Lawyers, Member

Lane County Bar Association

President, President Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Board Member

Circuit Court Committee, Chair

Professional Responsibility Committee, Member

Lane County Women Lawyers, Member

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

Oregon Supreme Court judicial exchange project with Sakhalin Island

Oregon State Bar PLF Policies and Procedures Task Force, Member,

Oregon State Bar Civil Legal Services Task Force, Member

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.

No

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.*

No

19) What attracted you to a judicial career?

The opportunity to participate in the development of the law

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.

As one of seven judges on Oregon's highest appellate court, I work with my colleagues to decide the questions that come before our court. I believe we must endeavor to thoughtfully consider each question, research the law, inquire into its purpose and ponder how the answers we give will affect the real people who are governed by that law and the future development of the law. The work of an appellate judge requires the ability to listen intently, think critically, read widely, write precisely, work collegially, press forward diligently, and care immensely. One of the greatest challenges to that role is the limited number of hours in the day.

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.

I was fortunate to work with Casey Martin and other lawyers and staff members on a case Casey brought against the PGA Tour. Casey is a terrific golfer who can make incredible shots but who, because of a disability, cannot walk the course. The case went all the way to the United States Supreme Court which decided that the PGA was required to alter its rules to permit Casey to use a cart in its tournaments. It was a thrill to be part of a team effort to identify the appropriate legal theory, develop the facts, and successfully argue that the ADA required that the PGA Tour treat Casey as an individual and accommodate his need for a cart when such accommodation could occur without fundamentally altering the nature of PGA tournaments. The issues we grappled with were fascinating, in part because there were strong arguments on both sides. We worked incredibly hard and our work mattered, not only to Casey, but also to others with disabilities who seek to fully participate in all aspects of life.

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.

I have been a member of the Oregon Law Commission and a Commissioner to the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. Both of these entities draft state legislation. Both entities work with those affected by state law to achieve a consensus on how best to address complex issues and to write clear laws implementing their decisions. This work is particularly important in subject matter areas in which legislators lack time or expertise to devise and craft necessarily detailed and often technical legislation. It is important to me to see that these law improvement efforts continue.

I am also interested in issues related to access to our system of justice. Many people cannot afford the legal advice they need or confront other obstacles to participation in the system. Many who do use the formal judicial system find it costly, confusing or cumbersome. I am interested in how we can improve and strengthen our judicial system so that it will meet the needs of a changing society.

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

Thurgood Marshall, for his work as a lawyer on the case of Brown v. Board of Education, in which the United States Supreme Court held that separate schools were not equal. Mr. Marshall collaborated with other brilliant lawyers and, over a more than ten year period, he led the effort to devise and determinedly press the legal arguments that resulted in that landmark decision. I admire Justice Marshall because he worked hard, against the odds, with others, and made a huge difference.

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