

Oregon State Bar Judicial Voters Guide 2018

1) Full name:

Matthew G. Galli

2) Web site (if applicable):

www.galli4judge.com

3) List college and law school attended, including dates of attendance, and degrees awarded.

OSU, B.S. Poli.Sci. 1984-1989;

Willamette University College of Law, J.D., 1989 – 1992.

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

Davis, Freudenberg, Day and Galli, Partner 2004 – Present,
General practice beginning in 2002 as described below;

Myrick, Adams, Davis and Day, Associate Atty, 2002 – 2004;

The Galli Group, P.S. Geotechnical Engineering, 2000 -2002
In-House Counsel and Engineering Inspector;

Deputy District Atty, Umatilla Co., OR, 1995 – 2000, Prosecuted crimes ranging from petty theft to murder, the final two plus years was assigned the child victim caseload and was the chair of the Umatilla County Multi-Disciplinary Team, Chair of the Child Fatality Review Team;

Adjunct Professor of Criminal Justice, Blue Mountain Community College, 1997 – 2000, Taught several courses in Criminal Justice including: Introduction to Criminal Justice, Criminal Procedure, Constitutional Law, and Corrections Law with class sizes ranging from 15 to 30 students;

Adjunct Professor of Business Law, Pacific University, Fall 1995;

Contract Attorney for Richard A. Hayden and Yee Ling Hayden, 1993 -1995
Assisted in 1031 Real Estate transactions and Real Estate Finance, In-House Counsel and office admin. for Jiansu Inc..

5) List state and federal bars, courts and administrative bodies to which you are currently admitted.

Oregon State Bar Association since 1992

6) If desired, list any publications and/or articles you have authored.

n/a

7) If desired, list any community, teaching or civic activities.

Grants Pass Active Club, Boatnik Parade Chair, former club Secretary;

Gospel Rescue Mission, Board of Directors;

Boys and Girls Club of the Rogue Valley, "Taste of the Rogue" committee;

Pregnancy Care Center of Grants Pass, Board of Directors (former);

Grants Pass High School Project Graduation, Willathon volunteer;

Faith House, women's transitional program, Board of Directors;

Small Business Development Center, Construction Contractors Board licensing class teacher of Contract Law and Lien Law.

8) What is the general character of your practice? If desired, please indicate any legal areas in which you concentrate.

General Litigation and Business, My practice is divided with approximately one third in the area of criminal law and dependency matters (cases involving the removal of children by the state), one third family law, and one third that includes estate planning, formation of business entities, adoption, probate, real estate disputes, property line disputes, landlord/tenant matters and guardianships.

9) Describe any litigation practice in the last five (5) years and address both the courts and types of cases.

Over the last five years I have engaged in a successful litigation practice in the Circuit Courts for the State of Oregon in Josephine, Jackson, Douglas, Klamath, Curry, and Coos Counties. The areas of litigation in order of volume have primarily been criminal, dependency (matters where the State has removed a child), family law (divorce and

child custody), restraining / stalking orders, real estate disputes and property line disputes.

10) Describe any appellate court experience not included above.

n/a

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

n/a

12) List any experience you have as a pro tem or municipal judge, and the names of the courts you have served.

Circuit Court Judge Pro Tem I have served this judicial district as a Circuit Court Judge Pro Tem since 2004. In those 14 years I have heard over a thousand cases. Primarily those cases are traffic court matters, small claims, landlord/tenant, violations of city ordinances and MIP cases.

13) List any bar association memberships, and if desired, any offices held or committee/project assignments.

Bar Association Section Memberships These have varied over my 25 year law practice. Currently I am a member of the Criminal Law, Construction Law, Estate Planning, Family Law, and Real Estate and Land Use sections.

14) 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 or parking offenses or traffic violations for which a fine of less than \$500 was imposed.*

No

15) Have you ever been the subject of a formal disciplinary proceeding as an attorney? If so, please give the particulars and the result. ***Include only proceedings that were authorized for prosecution by the SPRB.*

No

16) Why do you want to be a judge?

I want to be a judge because I have a passion for the law and I love serving my community. I have spent the last 25 years building a successful law practice working in all areas of the law. I was born and raised in Josephine County graduating from GPHS in 1984. I returned to the area in July of 2000 planning to settle here. Since then I have volunteered thousands of hours in service to this community. To me the ultimate service to this community will be to serve as a Judge.

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

Judges have a very important but limited role in our system. A judge must apply the law to cases with unique circumstances by focusing on the text of the law and the intent of those who wrote it. A judge must be impartial and committed to hearing and understanding all people who appear before the court. Finally a judge must have the ability and integrity to set aside personal beliefs and feelings to make fair and equitable decisions.

18) 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.

As a Deputy District Attorney there was a particularly complex child abuse case involving multiple child victims. My involvement began during the early phases of the investigation which allowed me to provide oversight regarding the interviewing process of the victims and witnesses. Nearly all of them were children under eight years of age making the process very delicate. Utilizing proper interviewing practices for very young children is absolutely essential in ensuring the accuracy of the children's testimony and ultimately a fair and just result.

The defendant's family hired an experienced private attorney who filed numerous pre-trial motions calling into question the relevancy and reliability of the interviews. During the lengthy trial all of the child victims and several child witnesses testified. The defense team had hired a child psychology expert from the University of Washington who was allowed to sit through the entire trial to evaluate the children's testimony. Just before the defense rested the attorneys met with the defense expert who had been ordered to provide his conclusions to both sides before he testified. To my great relief and satisfaction the expert reported that he found no issues with the interview process or the direct examination of the children. The entire process took nearly a year and was one of the most intellectually and emotionally challenging of my career.

19) Briefly describe an issue, related to Oregon's justice system, that concerns you, or that you have interest in working toward improving.

Drug Abuse and Addiction. My concern and interest relates to the massive increase in controlled substance abuse and addiction in Oregon and specifically in Josephine County. Between 2009 and 2016 the arrest rate for Methamphetamine more than doubled and for Heroin tripled statewide. In 2014 Oregon ranked fourth in the country for reports of non-medical use of pain relievers by persons 12 years and older. This is a complex problem in our community. My experience as a Deputy D.A. and in representing those suffering from addiction gives me added and unique insight into possible solutions.

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

At a very young age I began to develop a great admiration for Abraham Lincoln. During my elementary school years, long before video games and electronic devices, I would ride my bike to the Josephine County Library for something to do. During these trips I began reading about 'Honest Abe'. Over the years my appreciation of this great American personality and the inspiration I drew from him changed as my circumstances changed.

During my early years Abraham Lincoln took on a bigger than life Hero status for me. As a child I marveled at the lengths Lincoln went to that illustrated his commitment to honesty and integrity, primarily the time when Abe as a store clerk walked miles to return an accidental overcharge of a couple of pennies. He also walked miles to bring a customer some bulk item that he had weighed incorrectly. One other time that stuck with me was when Lincoln had borrowed a book that was accidentally damaged. Water had leaked into the bedside chink of his family's log cabin where the book was stored. At his insistence, he worked off the value of the book through hard labor.

After the death of my wife from cancer, Lincoln's life once again was an inspiration for myself and my four young children. Lincoln lost his mother to sickness when he was only nine years old. I found comfort in the fact that he went on to love, honor and revere his stepmother who continued to raise him to be a successful attorney and our 16th president. Among other things, I used this story to encourage my children to continue looking forward rather than dwelling on the pains of the past.

In my twenty-five year legal career I have attempted to model the practical and honest nature that is my understanding of the way Lincoln practiced law. Lincoln was known to shy away from litigation and has been quoted as saying "the nominal winner is often a real loser." My colleagues will attest to my strong belief in the settlement of legal disputes in an effort to maintain relationships. Finally, Lincoln's belief regarding the importance of honesty in the practice of law can be found in his statement, "In your own judgment, if you cannot be an honest lawyer, resolve to be honest without being a lawyer." I intend to bring this practical honesty to the bench.

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

I am committed to continue serving the members of this community in which I grew up and am raising four children and two step-children. I will employ the strong work ethic developed while working at the small mill owned by my father Mel Galli and his partner. Those years developing relationships with my fellow millworkers gives me a unique perspective into the lives of the members of this community. This experience and perspective gives me a greater ability to understand and communicate with them which is a critical component of a fair and just judge.