

Oregon State Bar Judicial Voters Guide 2018

1) Full name:

Jerry B. Hodson

2) Web site (if applicable):

<http://courts.oregon.gov/Multnomah/>

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

**University of Denver (1978), transferred to BYU on scholarship.
Brigham Young University (1978-1983), B.S., Business, magna cum laude.
UCLA Law School (1984-1987), J.D.**

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

Trial lawyer with the law firm of Miller Nash, handling a wide range of complex commercial litigation (1987 to 2005); trial judge in Multnomah County Circuit Court (2005 to present), handling all aspects of civil and criminal cases, including approximately 400 trials.

5) List state and federal bars, courts and administrative bodies to which you are presently admitted and the date of admission. If desired, list previous admissions.

**Oregon State Bar, 1987;
U.S. District Court, District of Oregon, 1987;
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, 1989;
U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington, Tacoma, 1989;
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Washington, Spokane, 1991.**

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

N/A

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

Multnomah County District Attorney Special Prosecutor (late 1980s)
United States District Court Indigent Representation Panel (early 1990s)
DEQ/OAME Albina Community Environmental Project (1995)
Pro Bono Legal Services (Volunteers Lawyers Project)(1987 to 2004)
Adult volunteer leader for youth groups (ages 8 to 17)(1987 to 2012)
Youth soccer and basketball coach (various times)
Hood to Coast Relay, team captain (1994 to 2004)
NW Environmental Conference Planning Committee (1994 to 1998)
Oregon State Bar Quality of Life Committee (2004 to 2006)
Speaker to bus., govt. & legal organizations (numerous, 1990 to present)
Pro tem Judge, Multnomah County Circuit Court (Nov. 2004 to Aug. 2005)
MBA Professionalism Committee (2006 to 2009)
Judge for various mock trial/teaching opportunities (2009 to present)
Council on Court Procedures (2006 to 2015)
(Dates are approximate)

8) Prior to your becoming a judge, what was the general character of your legal practice? Where appropriate indicate any legal areas in which you concentrated.

See response to No. 4 above.

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

Pro Tem Judge, Multnomah County Circuit Court (Nov. 2004 to Aug. 2005);
Circuit Court Judge, Multnomah County Circuit Court (Oct. 2005 to present).

10) 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.

Primarily criminal and civil jury and bench trials, criminal and civil pretrial motions, probation violation hearings, release hearings, pleas in criminal cases, and presiding over the medical malpractice docket; also helping out at times wherever needed, including covering the Presiding Court's docket and handling family law matters; handling cases referred from other counties through the Statewide Complex Litigation Court.

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

N/A

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

Regularly serve as a mediator in criminal judicial settlement conferences, primarily as part of the Multnomah County Justice Reinvestment Program; regularly served for many years as a mediator in civil judicial settlement conferences.

13) List any bar association memberships. Where appropriate, list officer positions, committee assignments or other notable work.

**Oregon State Bar (1987 to present);
Washington State Bar (1988-2007);
American Bar Association (1987 to present);
Multnomah Bar Association (1987 to present);
Oregon State Bar Quality of Life Committee (2004 to 2006);
MBA Professionalism Committee (2006 to 2009).**

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

**Oregon State Bar Quality of Life Committee (2004 to 2006);
MBA Professionalism Committee (2006 to 2009);
Council on Court Procedures (2006 to 2015);
Presiding over Mult. County medical malpractice docket (2007 to present).**

15) 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.

16) 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.

17) What attracted you to a judicial career?

It has been a life-long dream. I find joy in my life through serving others, and a judicial career is an opportunity to serve my community in a role that I believe I can do well. I also love the law and enjoy the challenge of trying to make the right decision in each case.

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

A judge's role is to work hard to apply the law impartially, fairly, consistently, and with integrity, wisdom, and good judgment, in each and every case. This is also one of the greatest challenges, but one that I relish and that makes me look forward to each new case.

19) 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 hope that all participants in my courtroom leave feeling that they have had a fair opportunity to be heard and to participate in the process. I had a juror in a civil jury trial who is a lawyer and arbitrator. After the case ended, he informed my staff that he respected the way in which I handled the jury trial. I really appreciated receiving the positive feedback, especially coming from someone who is familiar with our system of justice.

20) 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 am actively involved in the Multnomah County Justice Reinvestment Program, a collaborative effort between law enforcement, the courts, the defense bar, probation officers and other partners to assess criminal offenders early in the criminal process and provide a continuum of community-based services and sanctions. The goal is to simultaneously reduce recidivism, protect public safety, and reduce prison beds.

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

John Adams. I read a biography and some other materials about his life and was impressed with his passion for the law and for the federal and state constitutions that he helped create. I was also impressed with his selfless, tireless, and challenging service on behalf of this nation. He made significant personal sacrifices for the benefit of future generations.

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

My service as a judge has been very rewarding personally and professionally. I feel as though I have found my calling in life, and I look forward to serving our community for years to come.