

Oregon State Bar Judicial Voters Guide 2018

1) Full name:

Kathy Proctor

2) Web site (if applicable):

<https://www.kathyproctor.com>

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

Southern Oregon State College, BA English (1986-1989)
**Willamette University College of Law, J.D.,
Certificate Dispute Resolution (2002-2005)**

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

Washington County District Attorney, Certified Law Clerk. (2004-2005)
Represented the State of Oregon as a third-year law student.
Developed trial and litigation skills taking misdemeanor cases to jury trials.
Tried hearings for probation violations and restitution. Attended arraignments and change of plea hearings.

Scheminske & Lyons, Workers' Compensation Appeals. (2006)
Evaluated cases for appeal and drafted and submitted briefs to the Workers' Compensation Board and Oregon Court of Appeals.

Small Business Owner/Founder of Proctor Law PC. (2006 – Present)
Manage small law firm focusing on Domestic Relations Litigation, Adoption, Probate, Elder Law, Estate Planning, Personal Injury. Previously practiced Criminal Defense and represented injured workers pursuant to the workers' compensation statutes and rule. Successfully argued before the Oregon Court of Appeals.

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

Oregon State Bar; U.S. District Court of Oregon

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

Multiple articles for the Washington County Bar Association Newsletter

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

- **Washington County Circuit Court
Arbitration Panel, current
Volunteer Mediator, small claims**
- **Oregon State Bar Disciplinary Committee, Region 4
Chair, 2013 to present
Attorney Member, 2012**
- **CLE –Co-Presenter Elder Abuse/Elder Abuse Reporting, Fall 2015**
- **CLE- Co-Presenter Stalking Protective Orders, Fall 2014**
- **Washington County Bar Association
Board Member, 2010 to 2014, 2016- present
President, 2011 to 2013, 2016 to 2017**
- **Domestic Violence Resource Center (DVRC)
Board Member, 2013 to 2016
Board Chair, 2015-2016**
- **Oregon Women Lawyers (OWLS) Rainmaking Committee, 2012-2016**
- **Juvenile Diversion Panel, Clackamas County- Volunteer, 2011-2012
Included Restorative Justice Training**
- **Oregon State Bar, New Attorney Mentor**
- **Volunteer Oregon Law Center**
- **Pro-bono Children’s Attorney, Domestic Relations**

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

I concentrate primarily on domestic relations litigation, include divorce, custody and parenting time. I also do adoption, personal injury, restraining orders, and Elderlaw.

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

In the past five years my litigation practice has included the following counties: Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas, Deschutes, Douglas, Columbia Counties, as well as Beaverton Municipal Court.

The types of cases included Criminal Misdemeanors and Violations, Domestic Relations Litigation, Third-Party Custody, Contested Restraining Orders, Contested Stalking Orders, Probate Litigation, Wrongful Termination, Sexual Harassment, and Elder Abuse.

10) Describe any appellate court experience not included above.

I have done appeals before the Workers' Compensation Board and the Oregon Court of Appeals.

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

I am a volunteer mediator in Washington County for Small Claims;

I am on the Arbitration Panel in Washington County

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

***The Supreme Court has abated my pro tem application in Washington County pending the outcome of the current election.**

I have served as the Trial Panel Chair for the Oregon State Bar Disciplinary Committee. One case settled at the beginning of the scheduled trial and the other concluded following a two-day trial. I have written recommendations for discipline and made decisions on motions and approved stipulations for discipline.

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

Oregon State Bar – New Lawyer Mentor, Chair, Region 4 Disciplinary Committee, HOD

Washington County Bar Association, President three times, director Oregon Women Lawyers, Rainmaking committee, mentor

Oregon Trial Lawyers' Association (OTLA)

OTLA Women's Caucus

Oregon Association of Family Law Practitioners

**Oregon Mediation Association
Oregon Hispanic Bar Association (OHBA)**

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 care about my clients and people like them. Washington County is losing experienced judges to retirement and especially judges with family law experience. I want to make sure that people who come before the court feel like they are being heard by someone who understands the issues in the case and who has the maturity, understanding and integrity to make well-reasoned decisions. I know that this newest judicial position in Washington County will be assigned to hear domestic relations and juvenile cases. Based on my life and legal experience, I am the most qualified person currently running for this position. Washington County has judges with criminal law backgrounds and civil law backgrounds. We really need judges with significant family law experience. Eighty percent of family law cases involve at least one litigant who is self-represented. It takes real maturity, experience and understand to handle these challenging cases.

Because of my very broad experience, I am able to take on any assignment on the court, but right now the court needs someone with my domestic relations experience.

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 are required to promote access to justice. The qualities that are most important for that role include judicial temperament, i.e. maturity, experience, knowledge, compassion, neutrality, and a desire to assure that the court is a place where everyone has the same opportunity to be heard with dignity regardless of their ethnicity, gender, sexual preference or identify, or other bias.

The greatest challenges can be that judges hear from people who are often not at their best since court is not a place where one wants to be as a litigant. One must remember not to add to the stress and anxiety of litigants by falling short on appropriate judicial demeanor. As a judge I would continue to be mindful of providing a courtroom that promotes dignity and respect.

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.

I have had many cases that I worked on that I am proud of. I would say that most of them involve children or a vulnerable person. These cases make real differences in people's lives and though they can be difficult, the hard work and pursuit of the law pays off in a positive way most of the time. Many clients have contacted me long after their cases are done with cards and photos with the sentiment that I am a part of their family because I helped to preserve their relationship with their children or helped them through a difficult time. I even had one client, who did not have a lot of money, bring me a polished rock because it reminded him of me. I am very proud of the people I have helped and of their feelings toward me.

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

I am concerned that some people feel like they cannot receive a fair hearing or that they are unfairly treated by the system that is not open to feedback. As a qualified woman, simply being elected would go a long way to show people that our court better reflects the community. Having only four women on the court may send a message to women that the court is not an equal place for them. As far as litigants or even attorneys feeling like they are not treated fairly, I would be open to hearing ideas and ways to improve the system while still meeting productivity goals for the court.

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

I admire former President Barak Obama because he represents true character. He maintained a dignified demeanor and was very thoughtful in his decision making. While I may not have agreed with all of his decisions, I respected and admired him for his compassion, hard work and thoughtful deliberations.

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

Only four out of fourteen judges currently on the bench in Washington County are women. Our courts should reflect our community. It is time to elect a judge to the bench who has significant domestic relations experience. I have a broad range of legal and life experience and right now is the time for a woman and someone with my experience to fill position 15. It would be a great honor to be the first woman to fill this newest judge position, position 15 in Washington County.