

Oregon State Bar Judicial Voters Guide 2020

1) Full name:

Alycia Edgeworth Kersey

2) Campaign web site (if applicable):

Judgekersey.com

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

Indiana University Bloomington, 1996-2001, BA in English, Linguistics

Willamette University College of Law, 2007-2010, JD

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

Kersey Law Office 2010-2013, general litigation.

13th and 26th Judicial District for Klamath and Lake County, 2013-2014, Commissioner and Law Clerk.

Klamath County District Attorney's Office, 2014-2015, Deputy District Attorney.

Kersey Edgeworth Kersey, PC. 2015-2020, Partner. Indigent criminal defense, domestic relations, estate planning, and other general civil litigation.

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

Oregon State Bar.

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

n/a

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

Friends of the Children, Klamath Basin. Current Board Member.

Klamath and Lake County Council on Aging. Current Board Member.

Basin Transit Budget Committee. Current Member.

Roosevelt Elementary Parent Teacher Organization.

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

Criminal defense, specializing in problem solving courts (treatment courts), innovation in justice driven solutions to mental illness and chemical dependency. Juvenile dependency and delinquency.

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

I have tried to jury in Klamath County the following case types: homicide, Measure 11, other major and minor felonies and all manner of different misdemeanors, and I am OPDS certified to represent individuals facing those charges. I have also represented persons alleged to be mentally ill in civil commitment hearings.

I have represented parents and child in juvenile dependency cases in Klamath County, as well as in domestic relations cases.

10) Describe any appellate court experience not included above.

n/a

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

I became a Court-Connected Mediator in 2013.

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

n/a

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

n/a

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 am committed to the Klamath County community. As an experienced attorney who has fought to protect citizens' rights, a community advocate, non-profit board member, a public servant, and a mother, my priority is to enhance the future of Klamath County by safeguarding our constitutional rights and protecting our Klamath way of life.

I am a judge because the community chose me and trusted me to be here. I am a judge because the Klamath community valued my commitment to work hard to find positive and creative, effective solutions to the big problems we are facing. I have worked carefully and thoughtfully to build strong relationships of trust with community leaders, citizens and legal partners to create a shared vision of making Klamath County a safer and more livable community.

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.

A judge must first serve with honesty, integrity and the ability to be fair and unbiased. I am committed to: (1) safeguarding the constitutional rights of all citizens; (2) delivering fair and impartial justice to every person who walks in my courtroom, no matter their background, race, gender, income or political persuasion; (3) being a kind, respectful listener and effective, efficient decisionmaker; and (4) protecting the vulnerable and enhancing community safety by offering treatment to those who take accountability, and consequences for those who do not.

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.

With the help of community partners, and under the leadership of Senior Judge Roxanne Osborne, I helped create the Klamath County Behavioral Intervention Court, a problem-solving court serving persons with mental illness, developmental disabilities, and/or chemical dependency. This court aims to address high utilizers of services in the community, and to address their treatment needs under court supervision. I am particularly proud of this accomplishment, and the people who have worked hard to change their lives for the better. The health, safety and success of our citizens is a top priority. To me, serving as judge means more than just serving from behind the bench, it means being engaged outside the courtroom to enhance our way of life.

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

As a deputy district attorney, defense attorney, in private practice, and now as judge, I've seen and worked from all sides of the courtroom. In that time and through that experience, I've seen how the court system could do better for our citizens. I am invested in increasing access to justice for victims and litigants, so that they feel their voices are heard and know they have a legal system they can trust. Increasing access often means offering services to people when they need the help, which isn't always from 9 to 5. I am in support of keeping the doors of justice open to all litigants and offering grace to those who are struggling in these unprecedented times. I would like to see the system recognize that all parties do not have access to the technology necessary to maintain a connection with the courthouse, or their supervising authority, and work to offer creative solutions.

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

Judge Roxanne Osborne broke ground as the first female judge in Klamath County over 30 years ago, but her contribution to the community spread far beyond the courthouse. Judge Osborne was actively involved in the creation of many community projects and non-profits, including Friends of the Children, Citizens for Safe Schools, and CASA, as well as many innovative court programs, like the Klamath County Behavioral Intervention Court.

To follow in those footsteps is an honor I do not take lightly. I will continue that legacy of civic virtue and advocacy for children, so that Klamath families stay strong and Klamath businesses stay open.

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

We need to ensure Klamath County has a judge that has a proven record of upholding our constitutional rights. I've been entrusted with this position by the community because this is my top priority, and because I am honest, trusted and experienced.

While the job requires me to be elected, this job is not political. My duty is to serve as an independent voice that will make decisions in a fair and unbiased manner.

Over the extent of my career, I have handled everything from land use and property rights, to family law and estate planning, to domestic violence and homicide. I have seen all sides of the courtroom. In private practice, I've been focused on Klamath County's treatment courts where I've been actively involved in working with community stakeholders to create the Klamath Behavioral Intervention Court, and to improve the operation of the Klamath County Drug Court.

As a deputy district attorney in Klamath County, I worked to prosecute felony and misdemeanor crimes. I bring to this office the experience and ability to apply the law fairly and justly and reform broken systems. The work we have done in the Klamath County community has reduced crime, lessened burdens on taxpayers, and broadened important partnerships within the community.

I care about our Klamath County community, and it has never been more important to protect our way of life and safeguard our constitutional rights. As our judge, I will continue to serve in this manner.