



The Municipal League of King County  
810 Third Avenue, Suite 224  
Seattle, WA 98104  
(206) 264-1070 • cec@munileague.org

## 2008 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

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The Municipal League of King County requests every candidate who participates in the candidate evaluation process to **submit background information prior to his/her interview with a candidate evaluation committee**. The questionnaire is the basis of the League's research and interview process. The League's ratings are non-partisan; they are based on standards of Involvement, Effectiveness, Character, and Knowledge, all of which have been developed and refined over the past 90 years.

A printed version of the questionnaire is available for candidates who prefer to use the traditional format. To obtain a hard copy, please contact the League office. A copy of this questionnaire will be provided to Candidate Evaluation Committee members to help them prepare for your interview. Candidate responses, except the confidential section, will be available to the general public at the League website.

The Municipal League requests the following materials from candidates. Please check to make certain you have sent in your:

- Candidate Questionnaire**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending
- Resume (education, employment, and professional activities)**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending  
 Check here if you DO NOT want your resume posted on the Municipal League website
- Campaign Materials**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending
- Constituent Newsletters and other publications**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending
- Photograph**  
Sent by:  Email  US Mail  Fax  Not Sending

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**Note: Electronically submitted questionnaires are strongly preferred.** All materials can be emailed to [cec@munileague.org](mailto:cec@munileague.org). They can be processed and made available on-line far more rapidly than handwritten or typed submissions.

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For non-electronic submissions, please print clearly and legibly and return the application **as soon as possible in order to allow the committee the greatest amount of time to prepare a complete report on your skills and experience.**

**We request that you return the Candidate Questionnaire  
by June 1, 2008**

If you have not yet been contacted to schedule an interview, or if you have questions about the candidate evaluation program, please contact the League office at 206-264-1070.

If you have a disability and require accommodation to participate in the candidate evaluation process, please contact the CEC Coordinator at the League office.

## 2008 Candidate Questionnaire

### SECTION I

#### BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Nic		Corning

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number):

**King County Superior Court Judge, Position 37**

3. Are you the incumbent?       Yes       No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city?

**59 years**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**59 years**

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan?       Partisan       Nonpartisan

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

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#### CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name:      **Nic Corning for Judge**

Address:      **720 Third Avenue, Suite 1400**

City/State/Zip:      **Seattle, Washington 98104**

Campaign Phone:      **(206) 525-1514**

Campaign Fax:      \_\_\_\_\_

Campaign E-mail:      **info@nicorningforjudge.com**

Campaign Website:      **http://www.nicorningforjudge.com**

#### POLITICAL BACKGROUND

1. Beginning with the most recent position, please list public offices you have held. Include positions on appointive boards or commissions.

Public Office	Elective or Appointive?	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)
None			

2. If you ran for public office but were not elected, please list those races below:

Office Title	Year of Run
None	

## SECTION II

In this section, we are seeking responses that reflect the four ratings criteria: involvement, effectiveness, character, and knowledge. These are defined as follows:

- **Involvement:** What has the candidate done previously in family, neighborhood, community, volunteer work, employment or public life to suggest readiness to accomplish challenging objectives? How do these activities demonstrate readiness for the challenges unique to the office sought?
  - **Effectiveness:** Has the candidate demonstrated promise of being productive in the office sought? Has the candidate shown the ability to work with other people?
  - **Character:** Do the candidate's personal traits show the ability to take on the responsibilities of campaigning for and holding the public office she or he is seeking? Is the candidate a leader, participant or observer? Is the candidate trustworthy, reliable and candid?
  - **Knowledge:** Has the candidate demonstrated the willingness and ability to learn and adapt? Does the candidate understand the duties and challenges of the office sought? Does the candidate have a firm grasp of the issues important to his or her constituency and their potential effects?
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1. In one page or less, why are you running for this office? (Note: the interview committee will be given a copy of this statement before your interview; at the beginning of your interview you will have the opportunity to expand on this statement in any way you wish.)

**For 35 years I've represented the injured and disabled in courtrooms, helping people win disputes against the powerful insurance industry. I have obtained justice for consumers, small business owners and people like you and your family.**

**My decision to be a judge follows many years of public service as a volunteer leader - teaching, writing and advocating to end injustice.**

**I've arbitrated, prosecuted and defended criminal and civil cases in state and federal courts. I'm committed to people getting equal access to justice, promoting diversity and making our legal system fair, fast and effective.**

**A lifelong Washingtonian from a working class family, I attended public schools and worked my way through college and law school as a cement finisher.**

**I'll be an honest, fair and impartial judge - solving problems and assuring that people get their day in court.**

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.

**Intelligence, energy, compassion, empathy, integrity, hard work and common sense.**

**I have always been a problem solver, both as an advocate and a neutral arbitrator or mediator. I am a visionary who sees the big picture, but I also examine details and can distinguish what is important in a case, and what is not. I will make sure that all people who come before me will be heard, will be treated with respect and will know that I have provided them a fair trial.**

3. Please describe, in sufficient detail, one to three accomplishments or contributions of which you are most proud. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities you think apply to the office you are seeking. These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

**Naval Air, 1968;**

**President, Foundation for Washington Courts;**

**President, Ballard Chamber of Commerce;**

**President, Washington State Trial Lawyers;**

**Member, American Board of Trial Advocates, (*invitation only*).**

**Represented consumers holding Ford accountable for exploding Pinto gas tanks, and holding Chrysler responsible for knowingly designing/manufacturing Jeeps that rolled over.**

**Landmark consumer protection cases: *State v. Ralph Williams, Johnson v. Beneficial Management* and more.**

**Named *Super Lawyer* by *Washington Law and Politics* magazine every year since 1999.**

**Received Ballard Chamber of Commerce's President Award and Outstanding Business Person Award.**

**Father of two confident, strong women who are giving back to their communities.**

4. Please list or describe current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

**Married forty years, I've coached Little League, founded successful law firms, and served as President of the Ballard Chamber of Commerce (1990-91). I founded a political action committee, was President of the Foundation for Washington Courts, the Washington State Trial Lawyers (1995) and I'm an officer of the Ballard High School Foundation. I have chaired hundreds of meetings, seminars and committees in those organizations as well as the Washington State and King County Bar Associations.**

**Over the years, while working in Ballard, I have strived to make Ballard a better place to live and work. I have given back to my alma mater, Ballard High School, by serving on the Foundation Board which raises money to supplement the public budgets for justice and education.**

**I am a family man and my wife and I have two wonderful daughters who are happy, well rounded people who are successful in their careers, have loving families and give generously to their communities.**

**I continue to remain very active in my community.**

5. Please describe the duties of the office you seek. Which are the most important duties and why?

**A Superior Court Judge takes an oath of office to uphold the constitution and the laws of the United States and the state of Washington. Judges are to hear and decide disputes, at hearings and at trials, without fear or favor. Deciding the facts and applying the law in a fair and impartial manner. Judges must promote the efficiency of courts, maintain high standards of justice and enhance respect for laws and the judicial system.**

**EDUCATION BACKGROUND SUMMARY  
FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT**

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report is distributed to voters in print and on our website. It includes a summary of the candidate's education. Please summarize your education in 120 characters (letters, punctuation, and space all combined). The League will delete material that exceeds the space limit by beginning with the last entry. Suggested order is (degree) (subject) (school) (year, if desired).

**Note:** *If this question is left blank the League will not include education information in your candidate profile.*

**BA, Labor Relations, *cum laude*, Seattle University 1968; JD, UW School of Law 1972**

**CIVIC INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY  
FOR PUBLICATION IN CANDIDATE EVALUATION REPORT**

The Municipal League's Candidate Evaluation Report includes a summary of each candidate's civic involvement. Please summarize your civic involvement in the space below. We will make every attempt to include the information in the Candidate Evaluation Report as submitted. Due to space restrictions in the Report, your response is limited to 500 characters (letters, punctuation, and spaces all combined). It is important that you list your involvement beginning with the most important and ending with the least important. If you exceed the length of response permitted, or if the League should find it necessary to shorten responses for publication purposes, deletions will be made beginning with the last item listed.

**Note:** *This information will appear verbatim on the League's Candidate Evaluation Report. If this question is left blank, the Municipal League will not include information on your civic involvement in the Report.*

Check here if you would like the Municipal League to copy the first 500 characters from Question 4 to paste into this section.

**Married forty years, I've coached Little League, founded successful law firms, and served as President of the Ballard Chamber of Commerce (1990-91). I founded a political action committee, was President of the Foundation for Washington Courts, the Washington State Trial Lawyers (1995) and I'm an officer of the Ballard High School Foundation. I have chaired hundreds of meetings, seminars and committees in those organizations as well as the Washington State and King County Bar Associations.**