



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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### Staff

Saul Ettlin, **Director**

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 |
|------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| C. F.      | (Frank)                    | Vulliet   |

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

**Position 4, Washington State Supreme Court**

3. Are you the incumbent?       Yes       No

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

**I am a third generation Washingtonian and have lived in various locales which include**

5. How long have you resided in King County?

**32 years +/-**

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

#### CAMPAIGN CONTACTS

Campaign Name: Vulliet for Justice  
**Suite 200, 7900 SE 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: **Mercer Island, WA 98040**

Campaign Phone: **206-789-0881**

Campaign Fax: **TBD**

Campaign E-mail: **frank.vulliet@chamberscable.com**

Campaign Website: **www.Vulliet4Justice.org**

#### 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) |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| See resume forwarded separately |                         |            |                          |
|                                 |                         |            |                          |
|                                 |                         |            |                          |

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

| Office Title                             | Year of Run |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|
| State Senator, 41 <sup>st</sup> District | 1996        |
|                                          |             |
|                                          |             |

## 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.)

**To be supplied at interview. See also King County Democrats questionnaire forwarded separately.**

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

**Educability, curiosity, an ability to suspend disbelief and listen to the evidence or argument without predisposition to ensure that I am fully hearing and understanding someone's position with open ears, eyes and mind, a logical mind, a long time love of the law (at least since high school), focus and organizational abilities in dealing with problems, a profound sense that justice, to exist, must be done in full compliance with the law and the procedures specified balanced with a strong sense of equity and fairness.**

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.

**Going on every 50 mile hike with my two sons' Boy Scout troop every year despite severe foot problems.**

**Taking up USSA Masters alpine racing in 2007.**

**Winning a number of cases where people thought "it couldn't be done" by being willing to think outside the box and ask rhetorically, "What if . . .?"**

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.

**See resume forwarded separately.**

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

**There are two principal duties of a Supreme Court Justice and the Court as a whole. The first, and better known, is the duty to decide cases before it, whether there by law or State Constitution or by granting review. Apart from the substance of the decision of a particular case, the paramount duty is to decide a case by written decision. This requires clarity of the reasons upon which the decision is based including authority or precedent upon which there was reliance. A sound and fair decision requires that the Court consider all material facts pertinent to the issue(s) properly considered by procedural and evidentiary law. It must ignore nonmaterial matter and not omit facts called to its attention which have a proper bearing on the issues. To do otherwise is not only unfair to the parties, but results in the Court considering a case not actually before it. By the same token it must properly apply the relevant law, case or statutory, and give clear reasons why it so applies the law in the particular case. It may not properly ignore issues or restate them such that the case is not the one the parties actually presented. Additionally, it should not dwell on extraneous matter as the Supreme Court has frequently done. Doing so only muddies the precedential value of the case and may actually bring about unneeded litigation at costs to both taxpayers and other parties. Unfortunately, the Court has not rigorously followed these principles.**

**The second, and lesser known, important duty is administrative and executive. The Court has overall responsibility for the administering all the courts of the State and the legal profession as well. I believe that its accomplishments in these areas have been steadily declining. Justice, as is clearly evident in medicine, simply is not as affordable and as available to the common person as it was when I was first admitted 37 years before. Procedures, rather than being simplified, are getting to be more involved and bureaucratic**

primarily for the convenience of judges. While the job is extremely difficult and demanding if done properly, and therefore assisting judges is meritorious, the cost to the “customers” cannot be ignored.

The Supreme Court given its power and authority together with its responsibilities and duties needs to take far more leadership in addressing these matters. It cannot simply sit by passively and wait for the WSBA to bring a problem and proposed solution to it. For example, one can hardly read any legal periodically without coming across one or more articles on the decline of professionalism over the last 15 years or so. It continues to decline and this is a problem for clients and taxpayers. It has declined because judges have let it, rather than take the initiative and make the extra effort to stop a festering problem in its tracks. Threat of sanctions is NOT leadership!

**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.*

**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.

**I responded to No. 4 by reference to my resume which lists most of my community activities. I would like to rewrite that in a more useful format and can do so very soon.**

## PROFESSIONAL RESUME

### CHARLES F. VULLIET

#### Business Address:

200 Washington Mutual Building  
7900 SE 28<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mercer Island, WA 98040  
(206) 789-0881

Post Office Box 4667  
Sunriver, Oregon 97707  
(541) 593-8684  
(541) 598-7928 (FAX)

#### Undergraduate Education:

University of Washington, Bachelor of Arts (Modern European History), August 1964

University of Washington Extension, Certificate in Construction Management, June 1999; Certificate in Commercial Real Estate; June 2000.

#### Legal Education:

University of California, Hastings College of the Law, Juris Doctor; June 1971 (37/357)

Newhouse Scholarship (academic recognition)

Editorial Board, Hastings Law Journal, 1969-1971

Comment, "Forum Non Conveniens in California", 21 Hastings L.J. 1245 (1970).

#### Court Admissions:

##### State

Washington Supreme Court  
Oregon Supreme Court

October 12, 1971  
April 30, 1984

##### Federal

United States Supreme Court  
United States Court of Appeals for the  
Ninth Circuit  
United States District Court, Western District  
of Washington  
United States District Court, Eastern District  
of Washington  
United States District Court, District of Oregon  
Certified as Article 27(b)-trial/defense counsel,

November 9, 1981  
August 29, 1973  
October 26, 1971  
July 19, 1979  
December 17, 1984  
October 12, 1979

## Judge Advocate General of the Navy

### Professional Practice and Experience:

Founded C.F. Vulliet & Associates June 1, 1993 to specialize in trial and appellate advocacy in commercial, casualty and property cases. Reduced and relocated practice to Mercer Island as The Vulliet Law Office in September 1998 with emphasis on real estate, development, and construction matters.

Stoel Rives Boley Jones & Grey (formerly Jones Grey & Bayley). Law Clerk, summer, 1970; Associate, June 1971 to December 1976; Partner or Principal/Shareholder from January 1977 through May 1993.

Practice devoted to civil litigation representing both individuals and business concerns ranging from small proprietorships to publicly held corporations or their subsidiaries. Historically one-third of my practice involved business or commercial transactions and disputes, one third related to casualty, tort and products liability claims, and the remainder relates to property interests. Specific subjects cover a broad range: contracts, sales, Uniform Commercial Code, maritime matters, insurance coverage, real property and equitable interests, real estate financing and security, fiduciary and estate litigation, marital and business dissolution and valuations, injunctions, construction contracts, and professional negligence, business torts, and fraud claims. Casualty, personal injury and products liability representation was on behalf of both plaintiffs and defendants.

Maritime matters include vessel casualties and seaworthiness, tower's liability, insurance coverage under various insurance forms, vessel liens, charter party issues, LHWCA issues, salvage, seaman's claims, and materialmen's liability for alleged vessel deficiencies.

### Professional Memberships and Activities

American, Washington State, Oregon, and King County Bar Associations; Maritime Law Association of the United States (Proctor), Washington State Trial Lawyers.

ABA Litigation Section; Commercial and Financial Transactions (Vice Chair, 1981-1987), Federal Procedure, Trial Evidence and Pre-Trial and Discovery Committees. Chaired or participated in numerous subcommittees and planning and preparation of professional subjects for ABA annual meetings and Litigation Section meetings. Coordination Committee, 1986 Litigation Section meeting, Seattle.

Washington State Bar Association Court Rules Committee (1988-1991). Initiator and drafter of Washington Evidence Rule 904 (adopted 1992) to expedite the economic proof of non-disputed and formal matters. Court Improvement Committee, Legal Services to the Armed Services Committee (Chair). Committee on Professionalism

(1999-2002). Committee of Law Examiners (1999). Former chair, Washington State Bar Committee on Legal Services to the Armed Forces.

Oregon State Bar, House of Delegates (1997-1998).

Maritime Law Association of the United States (Uniformity of U.S. Law Committee). Written and oral presentations on problems of local legislation, pilot negligence and vessel/owner liability.

King County Bar Association; Management, Operations and Planning Committee (1985-87); Court Congestion Committee, (1982-5), initiator and drafter of revised local rules adopted by the court; Annual Judiciary Dinner Task Force (1986-88). Subcommittees involved early disposition through settlement, reorganization of the Clerk's office, court referral to referees, and pretrial orders and settlement procedures; Lawyer Referral Committee (1975-79; Chair 1978-9); Vice Chair, Bar Administration Committee; Public Affairs and Public Information Committee, Delivery of Legal Services and Specialization Subcommittees; Young Lawyers section committee on court reform.

Professional Presentations:

August 1981            Program Chair, "Litigation of Breach of Warranty Cases under the Uniform Commercial Code," Washington, D.C.

July, 1985            Program Chair, "Officer and Director Liability to the Corporation for Negligence under the Business Judgment Rule."

Speaker, "Controlling the Derivative Shareholder Action through Direct Corporate Action against Officers and Directors." ABA Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

September 1985      Speaker, "Prosecuting the Cost-effective Contract Case in Mandatory Arbitration," Washington State Trial Lawyers Association, Seattle and Spokane.

October 1986        Program participant, "Jury Selection: Social Scientists, Trial Lawyers and Trial Judges," ABA Litigation Section Meeting, Seattle.

December, 1996      WSTLA Case Evaluation Clinic

Judicial Experience:

Judge *Pro Tempore*, Snohomish County Superior Court; Member, King County Mandatory Arbitration and Federal Court Mediation Panels; Early Disposition Panel, King County Superior Court; Military Magistrate and Review Officer, U.S. Naval Reserve, also member of numerous special courts martial on active duty.

### Other Employment:

United States Naval Reserve; commissioned September 1965. Active Duty: USS PYRO (AE-24), various division officer billets and Operations Officer; Assistant Military Personnel Officer, 13th Naval District; Reserve experience includes Naval Control of Shipping Organization; Operations Officer, USS EVANS (DE-1023); Weapons Officer, USS THEODORE E. CHANDLER (DD-717); Qualified Officer of the Deck and Command Duty Officer; Appointed to the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the Navy, 1975. Former Commanding Officer, Voluntary Training Unit 2208 (Law), Seattle.

Insurance Department, Crowley Maritime (1969)

Manager, Sporthaus Mahr (1964-5).

Village Bike & Ski (part-time employment from 2004-2007, primarily during ski season)

### Civic/Community Activities and Interests:

- Boy Scouts of America (Troop Committee Chair)
- Virginia V Foundation (Pro bono representation)
- Intiman Theatre Board of Trustees (1989-1992)
- King County Bar Foundation (President's Council 1993 – 1998)
- Mercer Island Civil Service Commission (1994 - 1995)
- Second Chance Board of Trustees (1996 - 1998)
- Senate candidate, Washington State Legislature (1996)
- The Harbor Club (Board of Governors, 1995-1998).
- Truman Club of Deschutes County (Board Member, 2007-2008)
- Bend Ski Club (Board Member, 2006-2007)
- Mt. Bachelor Ski Education Foundation (Masters race program, 2007-current)
- United States Ski Association (licensed Masters racer; Level I alpine race official)

### Business Interests:

Founded the St. Cerque Company, LLC in 1998 to provide real estate development/project management services "from Concept to Completion".

Other Education and Training: Computer software applications in Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook and Project to intermediate or advanced levels (Catapult, 1998-9).