



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

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Washington Women Lawyers (WWL), a professional organization of women lawyers, has released the results the WWL Judicial Evaluations in the election for Bremerton Municipal Court judge.

For more than two decades, WWL has provided judicial evaluations for candidates seeking appointment to the Washington State judiciary, appointment to the federal judiciary, or election to the Washington State Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and superior court positions. WWL provides judicial evaluations to all judicial candidates who request evaluation and provide the requisite materials. The WWL judicial evaluation process is voluntary for any candidate that chooses to participate in the process. James Docter requested the evaluation by WWL. The other candidate declined to seek our rating.

The WWL judicial evaluation process for all candidates involves (a) reviewing results of an extensive questionnaire completed by each candidate, (b) confidential reference checks of ten (10) or more references for a candidate, (c) an interview and questioning by an evaluation committee and (d) deliberations by the committee on the results of the evaluations. Each candidate is evaluated by established and published WWL judicial criteria. The ratings categories are: "not rated", "unqualified", "qualified", "well qualified" or "exceptionally well qualified". Each candidate is individually rated according to the WWL rating criteria. The candidates are not rated by comparison to one another. The WWL judicial rating process is respected throughout the state as one of extensive investigation, considered deliberations and standardized evaluation criteria.

In accordance with the WWL judicial evaluation process, WWL has issued the following rating:

James Docter Bremerton Municipal Court Judge Exceptionally Well Qualified

The WWL committee that conducted recent evaluations for judicial positions in Kitsap County was comprised of experienced lawyers from all areas of practice. The committee members have not endorsed a judicial candidate, contributed to a judicial candidate's campaign, nor participated in the campaigns of the judicial candidates. The committee members are objectively confirmed to have no conflicts of interest in the judicial ratings process.

WWL, along with other state and local bar associations, has rated candidates for many of the statewide and local judicial races. If you have questions about the WWL judicial rating process or criteria, please see www.wwl.org. Voters are also encouraged to consult www.votingforjudges.org for additional information about judicial candidates.

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