



Karen Byrne <kbyrne@cincinnati.rghttolife.org>

Feedback via the Judicial Candidate Survey 2022 [#116]

1 message

EmailMeForm <burst@emailmeform.com>

Sun, Mar 6, 2022 at 10:12 PM

To: kbyrne@cincinnati.rghttolife.org

Check that you have read and understand the following: Surveys may be submitted by mail, email, or online. Upon submission, this survey will be posted to our website and published in the CRTL News Bulletin as public information. We will redact your contact information before posting to our website. The completed survey is required for endorsement consideration. Direct questions to KByrne@CincinnatiRighttoLife.org

Name*: Sharon Kennedy

Phone*: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Web Site: <http://kennedyforohio.com>

Facebook URL: <https://www.facebook.com/KennedyforOhio>

Position and District Sought*: Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Ohio (Statewide Election)

Are you an incumbent for this office?*: NO

Have you previously held an elected position?*: YES

: Associate Justice, Supreme Court of Ohio 2012-present

Judge, Butler County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division 1999-2012

: Received: Ohio Republican Party and the Republican Parties of Butler, Brown, Clermont, Fairfield, Franklin and Darke Counties, and Tri-state Building & Construction Trades.

Seeking: Affiliated Construction Trades Ohio (ACT Ohio) and other unions, Buckeye Firearms and NRA, Cincinnati Right to Life and Ohio Right to Life, G-Pac and the Formerly Incarcerated Individuals PAC, National Federation of Independent Business, Ohio Bail Agents, Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Farm Bureau, Ohio Manufacturers Association, Ohio Real Estate Agents Association, Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants, Ohio State Medical Association, Votes for Women, State Fraternal Order of Police, Toledo Police Command, and Ohio Patrolmen's Benevolent Association.

: To continue the "Lean Forward" mission and as Ohio's next Chief Justice collaborate with local judges, community leaders and citizens to address the needs of access, strengthen and grow specialty courts and address criminal justice reforms while ensuring compliance with the 2018 Victims Rights Act. Working from the premise "would the people be better served," we will seek to understand and resolve issues in a manner that puts the interests of the people first. Speaking with families, community leaders and judges across Ohio, in the aftermath of COVID-19 there is a need to focus on the timely resolution of cases and to develop educational tools for the people to learn more about the work of their local courts and the judges who serve their communities.

1. Which former U.S. president's political philosophy best matches your own?: Ronald Reagan

Comments - Question 1: Some of the other Presidents listed also embraced Ronald Reagan's political philosophy, but

President Reagan still remains number one.

2. Which U.S. Supreme Court Justice's legal philosophy best matches your own?: the late Justice Scalia

Comments - Question 2: Some of the other justices listed match the late Justice Scalia's judicial philosophy, but Justice Scalia still remains number one.

3. Rate your judicial philosophy regarding the U.S. Constitution on a scale of 1-10 with "living/evolving document" being 1 and "strict constructionist" being a 10:: 10

Comments - Question 3: Since joining the court as an associate justice my body of work speaks for itself. I am a strict textualist. In other words, I use only the text to distill the meaning of a provision. This judicial philosophy, commonly referred to as judicial restraint; to decide only what is necessary to answer the legal question before the court and interpret the words of the law as written, never rewriting it. In my view this helps guarantee that the law remains stable and predictable and is applied fairly and equally to every Ohioan.

4. In Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), the U.S. Supreme Court recognized a "right to privacy" under the Constitution that includes abortion. The Constitution does not include this right.: Agree

Comments - Question 4: The US Constitution does not include the word abortion. However, in Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), the U.S. Supreme Court recognized a "right to privacy" under the Constitution that includes abortion. This is the law in the United States.

5. Judges should refrain from "legislating from the bench." The translation of public policy into law and the creation, extension, modification or limitation of citizens' rights (and governmental authority) are properly within the province of the legislative, not judicial, branch of government.: Agree

Comments - Question 5: See above re judicial philosophy.

"There will be no liberty, if the power of judging be not separated from the legislative and executive powers."
Alexander Hamilton, Federalist Paper No. 78, quoting Montesquieu.

6. An unborn child is biologically human at every stage of his or her biological development, beginning at fertilization.: Agree

Comments - Question 6:

7. The law should be applied to pro-life demonstrators in the same manner as it is applied to environmental, anti-war and labor demonstrators.: Agree

Comments - Question 7:

8. There is no provision in the current Ohio Constitution intended to require the use of public funds for abortion.: Agree

Comments - Question 8: I know of no provision in the Ohio Constitution that requires the use of public funds for abortion.

9. The judiciary does not possess the authority to expand the definition of marriage to include anything but one man and one woman.:

Comments - Question 9: The judicial branch is charged with stating what the law is. The United States Supreme Court decided in James Obergefell, et al., Petitioners v. Richard Hodges, Director, Ohio Department of Health, et al. that same sex couples have a fundamental right to marry under the due process and equal protection clauses of the 14th Amendment. This is the law in the United States.

10. The law protects individuals' and organizations' rights of conscience from being forced to participate in abortion

or other practices contrary to their moral or religious convictions.: Agree

Comments - Question 10: In a series of cases the U.S. Supreme Court has upheld a religious liberty exception - Hobby Lobby Stores v. Burwell and Zubik v. Burwell. This is the law in the United States.

11. Laws, regulations, or ordinances that restrict individuals' and organizations' rights of conscience are unconstitutional.:

Comments - Question 11: In a trend of cases the U.S. Supreme Court is upholding the rights of individuals' and organizations' rights of conscience. That is the law in the United States.

12. List all organizations to which you have contributed time or money in the past four years.: Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Little Sisters of the Poor, West Chester/Liberty Boys and Girls Club, Save A Warrior, Calvary United Methodist Church, Esther Brocker Scholarship Fund, Reid Foundation, Rauh Woods, and more.