

## 31st Legislative District Democrats Candidate Questionnaire

1. Your name: Darrell E. Phillipson
2. Candidate for: District Court Judge Pos 2                      Party Affiliation: non-partisan

3. Campaign information:

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4. If elected, what positive changes will you champion that will benefit the 31<sup>st</sup> LD?

The District Court is the primary Court servicing the 5<sup>th</sup> LD. King County government is desperately short of funds, and thus is curtailing services in all areas. We need to maintain Court services, at reduced cost. I am on the Budget Committee for the Court, and have been a leader in innovations and increased efficiency of the Courts. In essence, I will help the Court "do more with less". We will maintain a high level of performance to help the people of the 31<sup>st</sup>.

5. What are the three most critical issues you expect to encounter in the office you are seeking?

1. Lack of funding for county services. ( Please see above.)
2. Increased volume of cases as the rural areas of King County absorb more low income individuals due to cheaper housing costs.
3. Drug trafficking (mostly meth) will continue to be a scourge in rural areas.

6. Please give us an example of when you had to a make a critical decision that, due to its impact on others, was difficult. Tell us why you made your decision and what, if any, actions you took to mitigate any negative results.

I make difficult decisions every day. I am the Domestic Violence Court Judge, and every decision I make impacts not only the defendants, but the families and loved ones involved. Whether the question is the issuance of No Contact Orders, bail setting, penalties or treatment, that decision has long term and short term consequences for all of them. That reality is always uppermost in my mind. Every case must be looked at with an eye to rehabilitating the offender and healing the family. Thus I am always looking for options that will result in an improved life for all. Sometimes that means treatment, punishment, or a combination of the two. Sometimes it means a diversion program. I always look for a positive outcome, and frequently find it.

7. What methods will you employ to communicate with your constituency on a regular basis?

As a Judge, we are often isolated from the public by our cannons of ethics and the Rules of