

Superior Court Judge Questionnaire

Note: this is not for endorsement, this is for informational purposes only for Los Angeles Greens (a Green Party local group).

Name Randolph Martin Hammock

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1. What office are you running for and what is the date of the election?

Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court, Office No. 144; 6/6/06

2. What other organizations are you active with?

I am an active member of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) and the Sepulveda Men's Golf Club

3. What local community organizations are you active with?

I have done significant pro bono legal work for the Renaissance Academy Charter High School and its Board of Directors. Additionally, I have donated many pro bono legal services to various motorcycle rights organizations.

4. Please attach your resume' or biography.

A full resume and biography is contained at my web site: hammock4judge.com

5. Is there an incumbent in this race?

No.

6. Who has endorsed you so far? Who do you expect to endorse you?

I have not actively sought endorsements at this time. I do expect the voters to endorse me on election day, which is the only endorsement that is important to me.

7. What is your position on amending the three strikes you're out law? Please explain.

As a judge I wouldn't "amend" any law – that is up to the legislature. I will enforce whatever law exists, whether I personally agree with it or not. I am troubled by the draconian nature of the "three strikes" law, and I believe that it is not an effective law. I would exercise whatever discretion I had to insure that a sentence is just and appropriate under all of the circumstances.

8. What is your position on the death penalty?

Once again, as a judge I will enforce the law which exists at the time of any sentencing. Personally, I do believe that the death penalty is an appropriate penalty in certain cases. I am troubled by the fact that the death penalty seems to be applied in an unequal manner. Although a judge can technically overrule a jury's verdict of a death penalty, I would give great deference to whatever the jury decides in such matters.

9. What do you think has been your most controversial decision to date and why?

Not applicable.

10. Which U.S. Supreme Court justice do you admire most (past or present) and why?

Justice John P. Stevens. Why? Many reasons, including the fact that he is an avid bridge player. There is one story about him that has always intrigued me about Justice Stevens. Before he was on the Supreme Court, Justice Stevens was a judge in Chicago. A lawyer who was arguing a case before Justice Stevens made a comment that he would never trust a judge who wore a clip-on bow tie. (Justice Stevens always wore a bow tie). Upon hearing that statement, Justice Stevens did not say a word or hold the attorney in contempt. He merely undid his bow tie, and deliberately re-tied it while sitting on the bench, all to the stunned silence of the courtroom. The oral argument continued afterward without further comment.