

Citizens For Responsible Government

JUDICIAL CANDIDATES ELECTION 2008

1. Briefly explain your philosophy of government, the role of the judiciary, and the responsibilities of the office you are seeking.

Government should be and remain "of the people, by the people, and for the people." Government employees and officials must never forget that they are there to serve the public good. The role of the judiciary is to interpret and apply the law as it exists to the cases that come before it. As district judge, I am required to follow Nevada law, and that is what I do.

2. It has been ruled that parents have the right to control the upbringing of their children. What does this mean to you?

Parents have the right and the responsibility to raise their children as they see fit, so long as they do not endanger the child or others as a result. For example, parents cannot abuse the children, deprive them of needed nutrition or medical care, or encourage them to commit crimes.

3. Do you believe the individual citizen has a constitutional right to keep and bear arms?

I do not believe that there is this constitutional right. Thus, I believe that reasonable restrictions may be imposed on gun ownership in the interest of public safety. Of course, I will enforce the laws as they exist as a judge.

4. What do you feel can be done to reduce criminal recidivism?

We need to continue to address the underlying causes of the criminal activity, usually alcohol, drugs, or psychological problems. Problem solving courts and availability of treatment and counseling will continue to address this issue.

5. What are your views regarding the use of eminent domain for taking property?

Under the Constitution, the government can take property for public purposes so long as fair compensation is paid. I believe in enforcing this provision.

6. What is the proper role of government and the courts with regard to protecting the life of the preborn, the handicapped, and the elderly?

The role of the courts is to enforce the Constitution and laws as they exist. It is for the legislature to make any appropriate changes to the law. There are laws in place to protect those groups, and imposing civil penalties as well as, in some cases, criminal penalties.