

SPOKANE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
JUDICIAL EVALUATION STATEMENT

I graduated from Gonzaga School of Law and the Notre Dame London Law School program in August 1985. I was admitted to the Washington State Bar Association in June 1986. I am also admitted to practice in all federal courts in the state.

I was a full time Court Commissioner in the Spokane County District - Municipal Court from April 1999 to December 16, 2009 when my position was eliminated due to budget shortfalls. I served in all the courtrooms and on all of the dockets handled by the District Court. I presided over many hundreds of civil, infraction, and criminal hearings and trials. I have worked very hard to maintain a thorough understanding of the court rules and the law and I learned something on the bench every day that helped me be a better judicial officer.

Our legal system and our reliance on the rule of law depends on the public's confidence in the quality, integrity, dedication and impartiality of the judicial officers who serve in the courts and I have always tried my very best to achieve these ideals.

I was in private practice for 13 years prior to my appointment. I represented many very fine individuals, organizations, and businesses in civil and criminal litigation including, air crash product liability, commercial litigation, bankruptcy, personal injury, juvenile court dependency, Native American Law, and felony and misdemeanor criminal cases. I have also been a cattle rancher and tile contractor. I have been a practitioner in residence in the Federal Indian Law program at Gonzaga School of Law since January 2009.

I respect the dignity of every person. I am committed to the principals of due process and the rule of law. I have, and I shall always apply the law and rules of court in a fair and even-handed manner.