



## WHY JUDGES MATTER.... MORE THAN EVER

Even if you personally never stand before a judge, judges make rulings every day that affect your safety, your privacy, your children's safety and the quality of their education, your voting rights, and your equality under the law.

Sometime in your life, a judge may make decisions about your most personal issues—your divorce, your child's support or living circumstances, your inheritance, your property, your debts or the debt somebody owes you.

When the day comes that you or someone you love has dealings with a court, the Judge will be the most important person in the room—and in your life.

In the next months, NC judges will make final decisions about

- Our right to vote
- Safety of our drinking water and soil
- Health care availability, cost, and privacy
- Fair voting districts (and who draws the maps)
- Civil rights
- Social rights
- Helping, not jailing, young people
- Cash-bail system



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Judges interpret the laws. Judges believe that their core beliefs don't sway their judgments. But judges are human, so they can't block those core beliefs out.

**We all need to learn about judges, and vote for judges who share our core attitudes and beliefs.**

**So, who are the candidates for Judge on my ballot in 2018?**

Ballots are different, depending on where you live in Durham. To find a copy of your ballot, google "NC Voter Search." Enter your name, search, and then click on the active link associated with your name. Scroll down through voting information until you see a live link for November ballot.

**But how do you judge Judges?**

Look at their public service record:

- organizations they belong to
- who endorses them
- and check the List of Candidates at [durhamdemwomen.org](http://durhamdemwomen.org) for links to more information

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