



Karen Byrne <kbyrne@cincinnatirighttolife.org>

Feedback via the Judicial Candidate Survey 2020 [#97]

1 message

EmailMeForm <burst@emailmeform.com>

Fri, Jun 19, 2020 at 5:34 PM

Reply-To: burst@emailmeform.com

To: kbyrne@cincinnatirighttolife.org

Check that you have read and understand the following: Surveys may be submitted by mail, email, or online. Upon submission, this survey will be posted to our website and published in the CRTL News Bulletin as public information. We will redact your contact information before posting to our website. The completed survey is required for endorsement consideration. Direct questions to KByrne@CincinnatiRighttoLife.org

Name*: Elizabeth Callan

Phone*: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Web Site: www.judgeelizabethcallan.comFacebook URL: <https://www.facebook.com/JudgeElizabethCallan/>

Position and District Sought*: Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas -- to retain current seat

Are you an incumbent for this office?*: YES

Have you previously held an elected position?*: NO

: N/A

: Equality. I have sought no others to date.

: My top two judicial priorities are: 1) to rule fairly and in accordance with established law; and 2) to provide all litigants the full attention of the court and basic dignity/respect in the judicial system, no matter their circumstances or the ultimate outcome of a matter.

1. Which former U.S. president's political philosophy best matches your own?: Ronald Reagan

Comments - Question 1:

2. Which U.S. Supreme Court Justice's legal philosophy best matches your own?: the late Justice Scalia

Comments - Question 2: Justice Scalia remained rooted in the plain meaning of the Constitution, which I greatly admire. He also made his decisions clear in ample decisions (concurring and dissenting opinions), made his points/positions known in open court, and had an overall sense of urgency about his work and philosophy. These are all ideals to which I aspire on the bench. Further, his personal integrity and commitment to family are evident in his judicial work, which gained respect from many, even if they disagreed with his determination.

3. Rate your judicial philosophy regarding the U.S. Constitution on a scale of 1-10 with "living/evolving document" being 1 and "strict

constructionist" being a 10:: 9

Comments - Question 3: Similar to Justice Scalia, while I believe the Constitution is a timeless document and its meaning should not sway with the times, I also believe the text of statutes sometimes should be viewed within their ordinary meaning, as a practical matter. That said, I remain committed to judicial restraint, the three separate and distinct branches of government, and viewing the Constitution in its plain terms.

4. In Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), the U.S. Supreme Court recognized a "right to privacy" under the Constitution that includes abortion. The Constitution does not include this right.: Agree

Comments - Question 4:

5. Judges should refrain from "legislating from the bench." The translation of public policy into law and the creation, extension, modification or limitation of citizens' rights (and governmental authority) are properly within the province of the legislative, not judicial, branch of government.: Agree

Comments - Question 5: See my answer to question 3 -- I am firmly committed to maintaining the three and distinct branches of government. The people should have their say through the legislature --it is improper for any judge to usurp the voice of the people and that sound process.

6. An unborn child is biologically human at every stage of his or her biological development, beginning at fertilization.: Agree

Comments - Question 6: I have two beautiful young sons who are my whole life. My husband and I thank God for them every day, many times a day. Having given birth twice, I could not say these miracles were not just that from the beginning -- miracles. Life is a miracle to be protected.

7. The law should be applied to pro-life demonstrators in the same manner as is applied to environmental, anti-war and labor demonstrators.: Agree

Comments - Question 7: The Constitution requires it.

8. There is no provision in the current Ohio Constitution intended to require the use of public funds for abortion.: Agree

Comments - Question 8:

9. The judiciary does not possess the authority to expand the definition of marriage to include anything but one man and one woman.:

Comments - Question 9: As I relayed above, generally speaking, I am firmly committed to the three separate bodies of U.S. government and their roles. A trial court judge (as I am in Common Pleas Court) simply has no power to make laws -- only to apply the laws to the facts of a case.

That stated, I also acknowledge that the Supreme Court has ruled on this issue, thus I am precluded by the Judicial Canons from making public comment that would indicate impartiality in opinion. While I recognize that I was required to select one of the above options, and I greatly respect the requests of the survey, it would be more accurate to respond as "Unable to answer".

10. The law protects individuals' and organizations' rights of conscience from being forced to participate in abortion or other practices contrary to their moral or religious convictions.: Agree

Comments - Question 10:

11. Laws, regulations, or ordinances that restrict individuals' and organizations' rights of conscience are unconstitutional.: Undecided

Comments - Question 11: As written, possible issues related to this question could reasonably come before me, and I am precluded by the Judicial Canons from commenting further. That stated, I am committed to the the individual freedoms and rights specifically outlined in the Constitution for every U.S. citizen. (I cannot get the "Undecided" answer above to unclick, but please see my narrative answer, thank you.)

12. Laws that require businesses or religious organizations to work for or provide services to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons despite these entities' religious or moral objections are unconstitutional.:

Comments - Question 12: Please see my answer to number 11.

13. List all organizations to which you have contributed time or money in the past four years.: All Saints Parish

St. Xavier Parish

Lighthouse Youth Services

City Gospel Mission

Pregnancy Center West