



**Judicial Candidate Information Form
for the Judicial Poll on the
November 3, 2020 Election**

Instructions: Please only respond using 10 pt. Arial font in the spaces provided. Any items left blank will be noted that the candidate chose not to respond.

1. Name	Nelson J. Cantrelle, III
2. Date of Birth	Month: <u>August</u> Year: <u>1969</u>
3. Place of Birth	City: <u>Marrero</u> State: <u>LA</u>
4. Marital Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Single <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed
5. Undergraduate Education Include name of school, degree(s) and graduation year(s)	Our Lady of Holy Cross College Bachelor of Arts degree in History Minor in Theology 1991
6. Legal Education Include name of law school, degree(s) and graduation year(s)	Loyola University School of Law Juris Doctorate 1997
7. Date of Admission to Louisiana Bar	Month: <u>April</u> Year: <u>1999</u>
8. Professional Experience Including Nature of Practice and Extent of Civil and/or Criminal Trial Experience	I have a general civil and criminal law practice representing businesses, families and individuals as both plaintiffs and defendants. I handle everything from routine civil and/or criminal cases to complex litigation. I am very thorough when preparing cases for my clients, and I am proud to report that my successes have never been challenged on appeal.



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<p>9. Bar Associations, Court Admissions, Professional Organizations and Legal Fraternities</p>	<p>Louisiana State Bar Association, Jefferson Bar Association & American Bar Association</p> <p>Admitted to practice before U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Louisiana and U.S. Supreme Court</p> <p>Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity John C. Boutall Inns of Court</p>
<p>10. In the past ten years, have you ever filed for or declared bankruptcy?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain.</p>
<p>11. In the past ten years, have you ever been arrested, charged, or convicted of a criminal violation other than a minor traffic violation? Include matters that have been dismissed, expunged, subject to diversion or deferred prosecution or otherwise set aside.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain.</p> <p>On Tuesday, May 21, 2013 around midnight, I was confronted with a life-changing experience. As I left a meeting with clients, a New Orleans police officer stopped me for driving approximately 10 miles over the speed limit on Tchoupitoulas Street. Though I stated that I was not drinking at all, the officer cited me with a DWI. A New Orleans judge reviewed the evidence and found me not guilty of all charges. I chose not to expunge the case because I have nothing to hide. It was an unfortunate mistake by the officer, and I saw first hand how confusing matters can be with police at the scene. The experience had a profound impact on my life, and I will be a better judge for having endured it.</p>
<p>12. Have you ever been publicly sanctioned by the Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board or the disciplinary body of any court, administrative body, or other entity before which you function as an attorney or judge?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain.</p>



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Instructions: For sections 13 through 19, please provide us with your perspective on why you are well-suited to uphold the following well-accepted principles essential to any strong and vibrant judicial system. Comment only in the space provided. If you do not comment, it will be noted that the candidate chose not to respond.

<p>13. Judges should uphold the rule of law.</p>	<p>I believe it is the duty of judges to: 1) know the law; and 2) uphold the rule of law. I firmly support upholding the rule of law because this one principle strengthens our democracy and overall justice system. If judges rule selectively or work to reach a desired outcome, the justice system fails. No judge should legislate from the bench, and I am committed to upholding the rule of law as judge.</p>
<p>14. Judges should be independent and impartial.</p>	<p>The old adage "justice is blind" is among the founding principles of our legal system. Judges may run as partisans but they should check their political party hat when they walk in their office and/or courtroom. Impartial, fair rulings help build confidence in the justice system. I will be a fair judge who rules on facts and law.</p>
<p>15. Judges should possess the appropriate judicial temperament and character.</p>	<p>To quote the late Judge Nestor L. Currault, Jr., "You should run your courtroom with a strong hand, but you should be courteous to people. You have to be courteous to people." The temperament and character of a judge are critical to the success of the court. There is no place for heightened emotions or unnecessary histrionics. As a judge, I will respect all who come before the Court and will treat everyone equally and courteously.</p>
<p>16. The judicial system should be racially diverse and reflective of the society it serves.</p>	<p>Thirty-nine (39) states rely on elections to select judges. In Louisiana, our districts are devised to support racial diversity and promote a bench that is reflective of the community it serves. While the rule of law should never be impacted by race, religion or partisan beliefs, the debate over law and its intentions are enriched by an outlook that is more diverse.</p>



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<p>17. Judges and the judiciary should have the confidence of the public.</p>	<p>Without the public's confidence, the court system will not prevail as devised by our founding fathers. Public trust increases participation in the court system. The only way to ensure public trust is for the judge to adhere to the guiding principles of the Judicial Canons and the law itself. I will remain fair, firm in decision-making, sensitive to all parties, and fully prepared for each case. That should instill confidence in my court and the manner in which it is managed.</p>
<p>18. Judges should possess the appropriate capabilities and credentials.</p>	<p>My 20+ years of experience in courts across Louisiana have uniquely prepared me to be an effective judge. I have been fortunate to work with and learn from many great judges during my tenure and hope to emulate the best of the best. I have managed everything from routine legal filings to complex cases, and I have the experience necessary to keep the docket moving and render justice fairly. I absolutely believe qualifications matter, and I am proud of the credentials that I will put before our voters.</p>
<p>19. Please comment on how you plan to manage your docket from an efficiency standpoint.</p>	<p>Hiring and retaining well-trained, organized staff is the key to keeping the wheels of justice moving in any courtroom, but the judge must take the wheel. I will develop a case management system and timeline to ensure that cases are scheduled, heard and completed in a timely manner. I will be available and accountable to provide counselors with answers and direction as needed. I will schedule pretrial conferences to expedite cases as needed. I will appropriate adequate time to each case and will render judgments timely.</p>