



**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	Angel Harris
2. Date of Birth	Month: <u>July</u> Year: <u>1984</u>
3. Place of Birth	City: <u>Rochester</u> State: <u>NY</u>
4. Marital Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed
5. Undergraduate Education  Include name of school, degree(s) and graduation year(s)	Hampton University, Bachelor of Arts, English, 2006
6. Legal Education  Include name of law school, degree(s) and graduation year(s)	Georgetown University Law Center, Juris Doctorate, 2009
7. Date of Admission to Louisiana Bar	Month: <u>April</u> Year: <u>2010</u>
8. Professional Experience Including Nature of Practice and Extent of Civil and/or Criminal Trial Experience	Over 10 years of criminal justice experience: Public Defender in Orleans and Calcasieu Parishes-direct representation; Staff Attorney, ACLU's Capital Punishment Project-post-conviction; Assistant Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund-post-conviction and impact litigation; Senior Counsel, The Justice Collaborative-criminal justice policy; Practiced in state and federal courts across the U.S.



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9. Bar Associations, Court Admissions, Professional Organizations and Legal Fraternities	Member of the District of Columbia Bar Association, LA Bar Association, Greater New Orleans Louis A Martinet Legal Society, and National Bar Association. Admitted to all Louisiana State Courts, United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana and the United States Supreme Court.
10. In the past ten years, have you ever filed for or declared bankruptcy?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain.
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.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain.
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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please explain.



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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>It is a judge's duty to apply, interpret, and follow the rules of law the legislature has enacted. I have dedicated my career to upholding the United States Constitution and local rules of law. As a public defender, it was my duty to ensure that my clients were zealously represented and afforded the protections of the US Constitution and Louisiana state law. As a post-conviction attorney, I had to review the actions of others to determine whether the law was applied appropriately in my clients' cases. As a civil rights attorney, I brought suits on behalf of individuals whose rights were violated by local, state, or federal actors. I have also advised on state and federal legislative policies. My experiences have shown me the importance of upholding the law and as a judge I will remain dedicated to doing so.</p>
<p>14. Judges should be independent and impartial.</p>	<p>It is my core belief that every individual who comes before the court should have equal access to justice regardless of race, gender, class, religion, or sexual orientation. Every person should be given the opportunity to stand before a judge who is impartial and fair. Implicit biases and disparities have no place in the criminal justice system. Judges are in a unique position to serve as arbiters for the entire community and I will take that duty seriously.</p>
<p>15. Judges should possess the appropriate judicial temperament and character.</p>	<p>A courtroom should be a place of professionalism, courtesy, and respect. My varied experiences have put me in a unique position to observe courtrooms at different levels and in different jurisdictions. As a result of my observations and my natural temperament, I will bring a level head and compassion to the bench. I also understand the importance creating an environment that encourages communication and collaboration. There are many moving parts in a courtroom and judges are responsible for ensuring those parts work in conjunction with one another to produce the best outcome for the community at large.</p>
<p>16. The judicial system should be racially diverse and reflective of the society it serves.</p>	<p>A judicial system that is not reflective of the society it serves and lacks racial diversity can never be just. Judicial diversity is essential to ensuring equal justice for all. We cannot ignore the complex reality of racial dynamics in the criminal court system. Racial diversity provides diverse perspectives, increases public trust and confidence, and enhances the decision-making process. As a Black woman, who has led implicit bias trainings for practitioners and judges across the United States, I fully understand the importance of diversity on the bench.</p>



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<p>17. Judges and the judiciary should have the confidence of the public.</p>	<p>I approach my work with integrity and transparency. Throughout my career, I have gained the confidence of my clients, colleagues, community members and opposing counsel, as well as the judges I have appeared before. Additionally, I strongly believe in open dialogue and collaboration with community members and directly impacted individuals. Judges can be instrumental in getting stakeholders to the table for discussions, while maintaining impartiality. Working together with stakeholders ensures transparency and accountability and I plan to encourage those relationships as a judge.</p>
<p>18. Judges should possess the appropriate capabilities and credentials.</p>	<p>I have over a decade of criminal justice experience. I have practiced in state criminal courts in Louisiana, Mississippi and Georgia and federal courts in Louisiana, Alabama, and New York. I have advocated through direct representation, post-conviction, and policy. I have spoken on various panels, appeared on "Democracy Now!," NPR's "1A" and "The Roland Martin Show" to discuss criminal justice issues. My written commentary has appeared in the New York Times and the Huffington Post. I have gained a wide range of experiences throughout my career and look forward to continuing to expand my knowledge.</p>
<p>19. Please comment on how you plan to manage your docket from an efficiency standpoint.</p>	<p>It is important for court to begin on time and for matters to be handled in an efficient manner and I plan to do that. However, for me, efficiency is more than moving the court's docket and seeing how many cases can be handled on a given day. Efficiency also takes into consideration whether we are achieving justice through our system. Judges play a key role in processing cases and stewarding public resources, but I think it is just as important not to create a "conveyor belt of justice" for the sake of efficiency.</p>