



**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  | LaKeisha Jefferson   |
| 2. Date of Birth   | Month: <u>May</u> Year: <u>1977</u>  |
| 3. Place of Birth  | City: <u>N.O.</u> State: <u>L</u>  |
| 4. Marital Status  | <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed   |
| 5. Undergraduate Education<br><br>Include name of school, degree(s) and graduation year(s)                   | Spelman College; B.A., English/Writing, 1999   |
| 6. Legal Education<br><br>Include name of law school, degree(s) and graduation year(s)                       | Southern University Law Center; J.D., 2002   |
| 7. Date of Admission to Louisiana Bar  | Month: <u>10</u> Year: <u>2003</u>   |
| 8. Professional Experience Including Nature of Practice and Extent of Civil and/or Criminal Trial Experience | I started my legal career as a judicial law clerk where I conducted legal research, prepared bench memos, and communicated with counsel regarding case management and procedural requirements. I then joined a small defense firm and practiced as an associate in insurance defense and some general civil litigation as well as criminal misdemeanors. I began my own practice and began my focus primarily in the area of family law and have tried hundreds of cases over my nearly 17 years as an attorney. |



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

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 9. Bar Associations, Court Admissions, Professional Organizations and Legal Fraternities   | Louisiana State Bar Association, New Orleans Bar Association, Greater New Orleans Martinet Legal Society, Jefferson Bar Association Delta Theta Phi Legal Fraternity, Association for Women Attorneys, the Independent Women's Organization, National Association of Women Judges attorney member |
| 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.   |



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

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.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 13. Judges should uphold the rule of law.   | I will follow and uphold the rule of the law and strongly account for the legislative intent of the law. I will listen to both sides of each case presented before me and will not be influenced by bias, partisan interests, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, race, religion, or immigration status.  |
| 14. Judges should be independent and impartial.   | I believe that regardless of your social status, everyone deserves to be treated fairly and impartially. Justice cannot be achieved if judges are not independent, fair and impartial and it should be applied blindly. I will hear every case and adjudge it on a case by case basis in a fair, independent and impartial manner.   |
| 15. Judges should possess the appropriate judicial temperament and character.               | For nearly 17 years, I have fought to get justice for my clients and have earned the respect of my clients, colleagues and court staff because I maintain dignity and professionalism. Maintaining a reputation of courtesy to others has always been important to me in the profession and I will ensure that this extends to the bench. Judicial temperament is important to maintain a courtroom full of respect despite a difference of opinion. |
| 16. The judicial system should be racially diverse and reflective of the society it serves. | The litigants that come before our judiciary come from diverse backgrounds. Therefore, I believe that it is important to have a diverse judicial system which is reflective of everyone it serves. Judges serve the people so our bench should be reflective of the diverse community it serves.   |



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

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>17. Judges and the judiciary should have the confidence of the public.</p>                  | <p>The community at large relies on its trust in the judiciary. Parties simply wish to be heard and to be treated with respect and to be treated fairly. If the parties do not have trust in the judiciary then justice cannot be ensured.</p>  |
| <p>18. Judges should possess the appropriate capabilities and credentials.</p>                 | <p>In 2002, I started my legal career as a judicial law clerk where I conducted legal research, prepared bench memos and drafted orders and rulings. In 2003, I joined a defense firm and practiced as an associate in insurance defense. In 2005, I began my own practice and focused primarily in the area of family law. I have also served as an Assistant City Attorney for the City of New Orleans as a prosecutor; as a Staff Attorney for Project SAVE; a contract attorney for Southeast Louisiana Legal Services and conflicts counsel for the Orleans Parish Indigent Defender Program and have tried hundreds of cases.</p> |
| <p>19. Please comment on how you plan to manage your docket from an efficiency standpoint.</p> | <p>I believe that proper preparation and the review of whether cases can be disposed of quickly can decrease wait times in court. Litigants in family court need a resolution of their matters in a timely fashion. I will balance the necessity of ensuring a litigant's "day in court" with not the allowing the docket to become further clogged by the unnecessary crawling of cases. Docket management is key to the administration of justice.</p>  |