



# King County Democrats

## 2005 Judicial Candidate Questionnaire

Name	Russell Scott Wilson	Position Sought	Renton Municipal Court Judge
Campaign Address	1400 Talbot Road South Ste 400	Campaign Manager	Denny Dochnahl
City	Renton	Phone Number	425 260-1089
State	WA	Fax Number	425 917-0435
Zip Code	98055	E-mail Address	Info @russ4judge.com
Precinct	41-0993	Web Page	www.russ4judge.com

Incumbent (yes or no)? How long?	No	<b>COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION</b> <i>(Leave Blank - For Committee Use Only)</i>
Present Position	Private Practice	

### WHAT RATINGS HAVE YOU RECEIVED?

Martindale-Hubbell	Not Applied	Northwest Indian Bar Association	Not Applied
King County Bar Association	Well Qualified	Latina/Latino Bar Association	Not Applied
Washington Women's Lawyers	Awaiting interview	Asian Bar Association of Washington	Awaiting Interview
Loren Miller Bar Association	Submitted request	Korean-American Bar Association	Not Applied
Lesbian and Gay Bar Association	Not Applied	Municipal League	Submitted request
Other Groups		Women's Political Caucus	

### PLEASE RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING.

<b>Law School &amp; Undergraduate Schools Attended</b>	<b>Year of Graduation &amp; Degrees</b>		
Seattle University School of Law	1997 Juris Doctorate		
University of New York	1992-1995		
<b>Hours and Type of Pro Bono Work performed during last five (5) years:</b>	50-100		
<b>Have you ever represented government, corporations or insurance companies? If "yes", please list and discuss.</b>	Yes		
<b>Renton Assistant City Attorney-all aspects of representation, from prosecution to ordinance writing</b>			
<b>Have you ever been a prosecutor for any government entity? If "yes", where and for how long?</b>			
Yes, City of Renton- seven years, City of Black Diamond and Normandy Park- one year each			
<b>Have you ever defended a person accused of a crime? If "yes", where and how many cases?</b>			
Yes, dozens, all over the County and in Shelton and Pierce County, including felony defense.			
<b>Have you ever served as an Arbitrator or Mediator? If "yes", where and how many times?</b>			
No			
<b>How many times have you participated as a judge or attorney in:</b>			
Superior Court jury trials	5-10	Federal District Court trials	1
Arguments in Court of Appeals	3	Arguments in Supreme Court	1



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Municipal Court	Thousands	District Court	Hundreds
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**Have there ever been any successful claims made against you or your malpractice carrier? If "yes" please attach explanation.**

None

**List any complaints you have received through any Bar Association, Judicial Conduct Committee or Board, or private insurance carrier. (Attach on a separate sheet of paper.)**

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN 50 WORDS OR LESS  
(USE AN ADDITIONAL SHEET OF PAPER IF NECESSARY)**

**1. What is your strongest area of legal expertise?**

Municipal law. All aspects

**2. What recommendations do you have for improving court system funding and administration?**

The State should support more of the funding. A system of unified courts including municipal and district courts would allow a more even distribution of funds. State funding would also preserve some of the independence of the municipal courts who are currently dependant on the executive and legislative branches. Although this is always the case in small municipalities this dependence can be tense.

**3. What recommendations do you have for increasing access to the judicial system (Civil and Criminal)?**

I hate to mandate pro bono service and would likely not support such a mandate, but the system now does not encourage or even give meaningful acknowledgement to those of us that volunteer our time. A system that rewards pro bono work in both the criminal and civil arenas would be a great asset. In the Civil arena many of the proposals now included in I-336 would help access by lowering litigation costs and preventing big business from driving out valid claims.

**4. What actions have you taken in the last five years on issues regarding access to the judicial system?**

I have given a great deal of pro bono time to help mostly veterans.

**5. If a sitting Judge, what committees have you been appointed to and what are the significant accomplishments of those committees or yourself? If not, which committee assignments would you seek?**

N/A

**6. Have you reviewed the GR Definition of the Practice of Law, and the Practice of Law Board's Work? - Do you have comments or ideas? Would you be in favor of regulated non-lawyer practice to assist those in need in less complex matters? Please explain.**

We already have such a system. Most of it is encompassed in APR 6 and 9. I would strongly support an expansion of these rules to allow a greater role of regulated non lawyers.

**7. Have you been appointed as a guardian, GAL or Special Master? If "yes", please give the details?**

No

**8. How have you promoted diversity within your staff?**

N/A

**9. What is your campaign plan? Why will you win?**

Gain the support of the community. In a local race such support is not only critical its achievable. I will win because I've achieved my support goals. All seven city council, the fire, and police as well as the vast majority of local state officials both republican and democrat (that chose to endorse) and scores of community leaders have endorsed my campaign.

**10. If you are a candidate in a contested primary race, what record of performance, ability, experience, personal qualities, and positions on issues distinguish you from your opponent(s)?**

I have by far the broadest level of experience. Most importantly is my work as the Assistant City Attorney. I not only understand the role of the Court in its current state, but I understand the role and issues that the court will soon be faced with due to new laws and regulations. Many of which I helped draft.

**11. If you do not win the primary, is there any reason that you could not support your primary opponent(s) in the general election? Please explain.**


I will support Mychal Swartz. The current judge, much to my surprise and dismay, has run a race I cannot support, including negative campaigning, petty complaints, and allowing his manager, either by intention or failing to control her ,to lie.



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**PLEASE ATTACH THE FOLLOWING:**

1.	Your current resume.	Attached
2.	A list of organizational and personal endorsements you have received in this race. Identify your top 3 endorsers and why.	Attached
3.	A list of all elected and appointed positions you have sought or held in any political organization or in the federal, state or municipal government. (Include elected offices held, election contests in which you were a candidate, party offices held, campaigns in which you served as a volunteer, and political memberships.)	None
4.	A list of all judicial candidates you have openly endorsed or supported in the last five years.	Julie Spector
5.	Current and past memberships in any clubs or organizations, including unions, bar and legal associations.	Attached
Signature	Russell Wilson 	Date 7-21-05

**Russell Scott Wilson**  
**1425 Lincoln Ave N.E.**  
**Renton WA. 98056**  
**Hm. (425) 981-0524**  
**Wk. (425) 637-7755**  
**E-Mail. [rwilson@jhadleylaw.com](mailto:rwilson@jhadleylaw.com)**

**EDUCATION:**

Seattle University School of Law  
Juris Doctorate May 1998

- President Veterans Legal Society
- American Bar Association Council Member
- Judicial Review Board Member

University of New York Regents

- Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Technology 1995 (GPA 3.87)

**WORK EXPERIENCE:**

**LEGAL:**

King County District Court Judge Pro Tem

Private practice doing personal injury and criminal defense. Bellevue WA 2004-

Warren, Barber, & Fontes

Renton City Attorney                      Senior Associate                      Renton WA. 1999-2004

- Continued criminal prosecution in Municipal Court as noted below.
- Represented the City on numerous civil matters involving issues including, alleged abuse of force, racial profiling, wrongful termination, unlawful search and seizure as well as various state law claims.
- Represented the City's interests in contract drafting and negotiations involving topics ranging from public procurement to inmate housing and transport.
- Advised the Mayor, City Council, and City staff on various legal issues.
- Represented City Council as the City Attorney of Record at City Council meetings.
- Defended City Staff land use and code enforcement decisions and recommendations before the Hearing Examiner and City Council.

Warren, Barber & Fontes

Renton City Attorney                      Rule nine intern/Associate                      Renton WA. 1996-1999

- Prepared and prosecuted Municipal Court calendars including pre-trials, in-custody arraignments, infraction hearings, multiple bench trials, multiple jury trials, and RALJ appeals.

Thurston County Juvenile Rule nine intern Olympia WA. 1995-1996

- Reviewed case backlog for charging determinations.
- Reviewed closed case files for determination on expungement or sealing.

**PRIOR:**

- Nuclear Power Plant Operator  
South Texas Project Bay City TX. 1991-1994
- Production Supervisor  
Advanced Water Systems Woodinville WA. 1990-1991
- Quality Assurance Inspector  
Boeing A-6 and B-2 projects Seattle WA. 1989-1990
- United States Navy  
USS Salt Lake City Fast Attack Submarine San Diego CA. 1982-1989

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS/AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

- Primary role in framing, researching, and writing, City of Renton briefs in opposition to Snohomish County ordinances relating to the Siting of Essential Public Facilities.
- Assist in research and writing of latest update of Chapter 112 of the Real
- Exhaustive research of Washington's Recreational Use Immunity Statute.
- Primary role in framing, researching, and writing appeal brief on claims filing issues of first impression.

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

- Active member of Renton Rotary since 2002
- Board of trustees for Renton Rotacare
- Community in Schools of Renton mentor
- Volunteer worker at the Renton Senior center
- Member of Renton Chamber of Commerce
- Member of Washington State Trial Lawyers
- Awaiting confirmation of appointment to Board of Directors for Communities in schools of Renton
- Member of Kennydale Neighborhood Association

**REFERENCES:** Available upon request.