

Josh Princes Responses Commonwealth Court

Here are Commonwealth Court Candidate Josh Prince's submissions for the American Family Association of Pennsylvania Voter Guide. Please let me know if there are any questions.

Questions for Judicial Candidates

1.) Have you read the US Constitution in its entirety? Yes No

Yes

2.) On a scale of 1 to 10 where do you place your judicial philosophy? 1 representing "living document" philosophy and 10 representing "strict constructionist" philosophy.

10

3.) Do you believe the Federalist Papers play a significant role in helping us interpret the true meaning of the US Constitution? Yes No Have you read the Federalist Papers? Yes No Please indicate which: I have read 1.) all or 2.) part of the Federalist Papers.

Yes, to assist in understanding what the original intent was, but as recently acknowledged by the U.S. Supreme Court in Bruen v. New York Rifle and Pistol Association, one should also look to laws enacted around the time the Bill of Rights was ratified to determine what was understood as constitutional and the absence of any such law is suggestive of any current day law implicating that constitutional right being unconstitutional.

Yes, I have read all of them.

4.) Have you read the PA Constitution in its entirety?

Yes

5.) Which sitting US Supreme Court Justice best exemplifies your judicial philosophy? (Please circle)

Clarence Thomas

6.) Name at least one past US Supreme Court Justice which you admire because of his or her judicial philosophy.

Justice Scalia, but earlier in his career as a justice, because he would leave, to some degree, his strict constructionist views, the longer he was on the court.

7.) Which former US president within recent decades represents your political philosophy? (circle)

Ronald Reagan

8.) If you are currently a judge, were you appointed or elected to that position?

N/A

9.) Either as a judge or, if you are not currently a judge, as an attorney, please name two prominent cases you have been involved in – please include a brief description of the case.

a.) In FOAC, et al. v. City of Harrisburg, et al., 261 A.3d 467, 482, 488-89 (Pa. 2021), I successfully obtained a decision from the Pennsylvania Supreme Court regarding standing for purposes of the Declaratory Judgment Act, wherein it held that the law “affords standing to plaintiffs in pre-enforcement declaratory judgment actions challenging the legality or constitutionality of statutes” and that “our jurisprudence in pre-enforcement declaratory judgment cases, as discussed above, has developed to give standing to plaintiffs to challenge laws before the laws have been enforced against them and before enforcement has been threatened.”

b.) In Andrew Dissinger v. Manheim Township School District, 72 A.3d 723 (Pa. Cmwlth. 2013), I represented Mr. Dissinger in an action regarding violations of his due process rights, where the Commonwealth Court, in an issue of first impression, held that 18 year olds are entitled to notice of school expulsion hearings and opportunity to be heard, separate from their parents, and that the school district violated Mr. Dissinger’s rights by not providing him notice or affording him opportunity to be heard. Thereafter, I represented Mr. Dissinger in a federal civil rights deprivation action, 5:14-cv-2741 in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, which resulted in a settlement.

10.) To which organizations do you currently belong and for how long? Please include civic, charitable, religious, educational, social and fraternal organizations.

Pottstown Police Athletic League - past President, Secretary and board member; National Rifle Association - Benefactor and Charlton Heston member; Firearm Owners Against Crime - life member; Masons - Stichter Lodge; Bull Terrier Club

of Philadelphia; National Business Institute - teaching lawyers about the law, especially constitutional law; Gun Owners of America (GOA), Member.

11.) Have you been endorsed, if so by whom or by which organization?

US Representative Ryan Mackenzie; State Reps Kathy Rapp, Dave Zimmerman, Aaron Bernstine, Mike Jones, David Maloney; PA Sheriffs' PAC; Chester County Sheriff Carolyn Bunny Welsh (retired); Schuylkill County Sheriff Joe Groody; Christian Bartulovich (Penn Forest Township Supervisor – Carbon County); Doug McLinko (Bradford County Commissioner); Matt Bellis (Founder, Reopen PA); Mini Quarles (Founder, Flip Philly Red); Jennifer Black (Administrative Officer, Flip Philly Red); Firearm Owners Against Crime; Gunowners of America