



*Your Other Partner*

## **PENNSYLVANIA BAR ASSOCIATION JUDICIAL CANDIDATE'S PLEDGE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am a candidate for the judicial office of \_\_\_\_\_.

I agree that an independent and honorable judiciary is indispensable to the administration of justice. I also agree that an election campaign conducted pursuant to standards consistent with the integrity, impartiality, and independence of the judicial office to which I aspire, would further the objective of electing the candidates best qualified to serve in the judiciary of the Commonwealth.

Therefore, I undertake and pledge to conduct my campaign in accordance with the following:

- I. My campaign staff and I will take steps to identify and familiarize ourselves with all applicable laws and regulations regarding my campaign and to conduct ourselves accordingly.
- II. My campaign staff and I have reviewed the Pennsylvania Bar Association Judicial Campaign Advertising Guidelines, and I pledge to conduct myself and my campaign in accordance with and in the spirit of those guidelines and the Canon, Opinion and Rules attached to them.
- III. My campaign staff and I will make every effort to ensure that others acting on our behalf will adhere to the undertakings in this pledge.
- IV. I agree to be personally responsible for the content of all statements and campaign materials relating to my judicial campaign released under the control or direction of me or my campaign staff including, but not limited to, newspaper, radio or television advertising; internet, social media (such as Facebook, Twitter, or YouTube), website, or other electronic communications; and press releases, brochures, fliers, sample ballots, yard signs, or other materials. I agree to publicly disavow all statements or campaign materials from any source not under my or my campaign staff's direction or control that are in violation of the undertakings in this pledge or the PBA Judicial Campaign Advertising Guidelines, including any that improperly impugn the dignity, integrity, or independence of a candidate,

or that erode public trust and confidence in the dignity, integrity, or independence of the judiciary.

- V. My campaign staff and I agree to cooperate with and to be available to the PBA Judicial Campaign Advertising Committee, at the committee's discretion, in connection with any alleged violation of this pledge. In order to facilitate the enforcement of this pledge, I have attached hereto a listing of my principal campaign staff responsible for advertising materials, together with the home, work, cellular, and campaign telephone and facsimile numbers, and e-mail addresses and office addresses for each of them and for me. I also have designated my representative to whom any communications are to be directed, and notice to said representative shall be deemed notice to me. If any of this information is currently unavailable, I agree to provide it to the PBA Judicial Campaign Advertising Committee by the primary election filing deadline. (I understand that this information will only be available to the committee and will be used only for committee purposes.)
- VI. I understand that, absent exigent circumstances, for complaints filed within the two-week period preceding the election at issue the PBA Judicial Campaign Advertising Committee will endeavor to grant a minimum of 24 hours for a response by a respondent candidate, which time period may be inclusive of Saturdays, Sundays or holidays. I agree that such timeframe does not violate my due process rights. I also agree that notice to me shall be effective as of the time sent by the PBA Judicial Campaign Advertising Committee to my designated representative.

Because I agree that the violation of these undertakings by any candidate for judicial office undermines the public's confidence in the ability of the judiciary to administer justice, I have signed and dated this pledge to evidence my agreement to these undertakings. I agree to submit copies of this executed pledge to my state political party representatives and to my campaign staff.

*Signed:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Dated:* \_\_\_\_\_