

JUDICIAL CANDIDATES RATING COALITION
REQUEST FOR BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION
FROM JUDICIAL CANDIDATES

This form seeks information about you that will be posted on the Judge4Yourself.com website with its ratings. Please complete and return this form and a black and white photograph of yourself before your scheduled interview.

Each Candidate is responsible to provide accurate information, to review the information when posted and to advise the JCRC promptly of any correction required to that candidate's posted information.

Name: James Joseph Costello

Current City of Residence: Cleveland Heights Date and Place of Birth: January 20, 1979 in Lowell, MA

Undergraduate School and Degree (Year of Graduation): Miami University, Bachelor of Science in Business (2001)

Law School (Year of Graduation): Case Western Reserve University School of Law (2005)

Other Graduate School, if any, and Degree (Year of Graduation): _____

Year Admitted to Practice in Ohio: 2005 Number of Years Engaged in Practice of Law in Ohio 11.5
(excluding Judicial Service)

Other Court(s) to Which You

Are Admitted & Year(s): Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (2012) and U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio (2014)

Number of Years Engaged in Practice of Law in any State (excluding Judicial Service): 11.5

Briefly describe your areas of practice: My law practice began with criminal defense work and has evolved into more civil litigation. I now handle housing code violation cases and civil litigation primarily in the municipal courts throughout our State.

Summarize your experience, if any, before the court to which you seek election: The first criminal case I tried was in the Cleveland Heights Municipal Court. I am now there almost weekly handling evictions, civil claims, and code violation cases.

Service as judge in state or federal court of record (identify position, court and years of service): I have been an Acting Judge in the Cleveland Heights Municipal Court since 2015.

Current Position and Employer (number of years in this position): In addition to being an Acting Judge in the Cleveland Heights Municipal Court for the last two years, I have been a practicing attorney with the law firm of Powers Friedman Linn, PLL for over ten years.

Previous Employment and Dates: Before joining the law firm of Powers Friedman Linn, PLL, I had my own private practice for approximately one year.

List no more than five of your significant community or charitable activities:

I am a former member of the Cleveland Heights Recreation Advisory Board and the Cleveland Heights Civil Service Commission. I am a longtime member of the Cleveland Heights Democrats Club and served as President and Secretary. I am a graduate of the Cleveland Heights Citizens Police Academy. I have mentored in the Cleveland schools through the 3Rs program set up by the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association.