

**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: Richard A. Bell

Current City of Residence: Solon                      Date and Place of Birth: April 8, 1963

Undergraduate School and Degree (Year of Graduation): Kent State University, Bachelor of Science (1985)

Law School (Year of Graduation): Cleveland-Marshall College of Law (1989)

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

Year Admitted to Practice in Ohio: 1989              Number of Years Engaged in Practice of Law in Ohio 30 years  
(excluding Judicial Service)

Other Court(s) to Which

You Are Admitted & Year(s): Federal District Court for the 6<sup>th</sup> District, 1990

Number of Years Engaged in Practice of Law in any State (excluding Judicial Service): 30 years

Briefly describe your areas of practice:

Mostly Criminal Prosecution, some Criminal Defense Practice early, some Civil Practice early as a Staff Attorney for the court and civil case referrals, some Municipal Law knowledge as a City Councilman.

Summarize your experience, if any, before the court to which you seek election:

I was elected as a Common Pleas Judge in 2020. I have been a Judge for a year and a half and have presided over 16 trials. I have extensive experience litigating cases before the Common Pleas Court including homicides, death penalty cases, sexual assaults, child abuse, and racketeering cases. I have tried cases before the Bench and before Juries. I have supervised the litigation and trial work of hundreds of lawyers for tens of thousands of cases before the Court of Common Pleas including homicides, death penalty cases, sexual assaults, child abuse, racketeering, economic crimes and corruption, mortgage fraud, Internet Crimes Against Children and general felonies. I briefly worked as a Staff Attorney for 2 Common Pleas Judges and law clerked at the Federal Public Defender's Office and attorney Robert Dixon while in Law School.

Service as judge in state or federal court of record (identify position, court and years of service):

Judge, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, 1.5 years

Current Position and Employer (number of years in this position):

Judge, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas, 1.5 years

Previous Employment and Dates:

Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, 1990-2020 to include:

*Chief of Special Investigations Division 2011-2020, Community Justice Chief 2008*

Councilman for the City of Solon 2010 through 2015

Staff Attorney Common Pleas Court January 1990

Law Clerk Federal Public Defender 1988-1989

Law Clerk Attorney Robert Dixon 1988-1989

Bartender Norton's Restaurant 1985-1989

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

Former Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary of the CMBA Government Attorney's Section

Former St. Rita Parish Council member and current Choir member

*(Solon Area Concert for Peace and Understanding, Feb. 24, 2019, and July 24, 2022)*

Fugitive Safe Surrender Program for persons with outstanding arrest warrants

Ohio Supreme Court and Ohio Bar Association Joint Task Force to Review the Administration of the Death penalty

Collaborative to End Human Trafficking