

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 color 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: Jennifer O'Donnell

Current City of Residence: Bay Village Date and Place of Birth: 12/08/1981 Elyria, Ohio

Undergraduate School and Degree (Year of Graduation): Denison University; Bachelor of Arts – History (2004)

Law School (Year of Graduation): Case Western Reserve University School of Law (2007)

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

Year Admitted to Practice in Ohio: 2008 Number of Years Engaged in Practice of Law in Ohio 14
(excluding Judicial Service)

Other Court(s) to Which

You Are Admitted & Year(s): N/A

Number of Years Engaged in Practice of Law in any State (excluding Judicial Service): 14

Briefly describe your areas of practice: As a public defender, I currently represent indigent adults charged with felony offenses within Cuyahoga County. I also have experience representing indigent adults in a variety of misdemeanor offenses within the City of Cleveland and the Cleveland Metroparks. Prior to practicing in the adult system, I had extensive experience in Juvenile Court representing indigent minors in delinquency matters and parents in dependency, abuse, and neglect cases involving temporary and permanent custody of children.

Summarize your experience, if any, before the court to which you seek election: I have practiced daily within our Cuyahoga County court system for over a decade. In that time, I have represented thousands of clients who cannot afford legal counsel. Specifically in the Court of Common Pleas – General Division, I have handled a variety a felony matters ranging from low-level drug possession to sexual assault and homicide matters. I have represented clients at all stages of the criminal process, from arraignment through sentencing. I have advised them and advocated on their behalf, ensuring that their constitutional rights are always protected and that they receive fair treatment, regardless of how much money or resources they may lack.

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

Current Position and Employer (number of years in this position): Office of the Cuyahoga County Public Defender (14 years)

Previous Employment and Dates:

Office of the Cuyahoga County Public Defender, Law Clerk – Felony Division (April 2006 – May 2008)
Cuyahoga Metropolitan Bar Association Guardian ad Litem Project, Law Clerk (May 2005 – May 2006)

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

Cleveland Metropolitan School District “3Rs Program” – Volunteer
Dress for Success Cleveland – Former Board Member & Volunteer
Cuyahoga County Board of Elections – Poll Observer
Cuyahoga Democratic Women’s Caucus – Member
Bay Village Early Childhood PTA - Member