

2019 Judicial Preference Poll Results

The Columbus Bar Association's annual Judicial Preference Poll closed for voting on September 20. This information is not intended as an endorsement for candidates but as a service to help voters make an informed decision when voting for judicial candidates.

There are three contested judicial races being decided on November 5 in Franklin County for seats on the Franklin County Municipal Court. Earlier this month, central Ohio attorneys were asked to indicate the candidate they preferred in each race. Polling ballots were sent to 7,589 attorneys in Franklin County and a total of 641 votes were cast. The poll was conducted online by Simply Voting and a statement included with the ballot requested that attorneys without "sufficient current knowledge or information about the candidates" abstain from voting in the poll.

The Columbus Bar conducts two polls each year in an effort to provide merit-based, non-partisan information to voters about the elected judiciary. The preference poll of judicial candidates is conducted each fall. A performance poll of sitting judges is conducted each spring. Results of both polls and findings of the Judicial Screening Committee are available at JudgeTheCandidates.org, our non-partisan voter education portal designed to help voters make informed decisions at the ballot box.

Candidates for Franklin County Municipal Court

Candidate	Votes	Percentage
Hon. Jodi Thomas	467	88.4%
Trent Dougherty	61	11.6%

Candidate	Votes	Percentage
Jessica D'Varga	420	76.4%
Hon. Amy Salerno	130	23.6%

Candidates for Franklin County Municipal Court, Environmental Division

Candidate	Votes	Percentage
William Sperlazza	385	71.2%
Hon. Stephanie Mingo	156	28.8%