

NAME: Ronda Colvin-Leary
PARTY: Non-Partisan
SEEKING: Judge of State Court



1. Why are you seeking the office?

I can make a positive impact on the judicial system in our community. I believe family, community and our justice system, are the foundations of our society. In order for the justice system to continue to work, there must be a level of trust and confidence in it. I can relate, understand and, I am in touch with the issues and concerns of the community. I believe it is important to focus on people as well as the case. I believe when the people elect who sits on the bench, it raises the level of respect, faith and confidence.

2. What distinguishes your candidacy?

My candidacy and campaign is a grassroots movement. I believe the people in the community should know who sits on the bench. I am not an incumbent. I am not politically connected. Typically, the governor appoints the judge and they often times, will remain on the bench unopposed. If I am elected, it will be because the people decided. I believe it promotes trust and confidence in our government. I bring a different background, culture, life experiences and perspectives to the bench. I believe differences/diversity on our judiciary brings about fairness. Diversity bring about fairer interpretations of the law.

3. What is the proper role of a judge in interpreting the laws and Constitution?

The proper role of a judge is to interpret the laws and Constitution. A judge is to apply the laws fairly, equally and impartially to everyone. A judge's role is to be an impartial decision-maker in the pursuit of justice. A judge provides an independent and impartial assessment of the facts and how the law applies to those facts. The judge's role is to ensure fundamental rights and protections embodied in the framework of the constitution are enforced and protected.

4. What in your life experience makes you believe that you are or would be a good judge?

I come from humble beginnings. My parents taught me to always treat everybody right. Regardless of who they were. And to honor and obey God. These values are ingrained in me. They have guided me in my role as an attorney, both as a prosecutor and defense attorney. I understand that it is important to focus on the person as well as the case. These same values embodies the laws and our Constitution. I believe in family, our community and justice because they are the foundations of our society.

5. What do you think are the attributes of a good judge?

I believe the attributes of a good judge are: common sense, patience, open-mindedness, courtesy, tact, courage, punctuality, firmness, understanding, integrity, compassion and humility.

6. Please give a 100 word summary of your background.

Ronda has been practicing law for over 15 years. She earned her undergraduate degree from Auburn University and her law degree from Florida Coastal School of Law. She and her husband, Keith, have two beautiful daughters.

She comes from a long line of military servicemen.

Ronda is an experienced prosecutor and defense attorney. She has her own successful private practice focusing on criminal law, civil litigation and juvenile law. She has taught law classes. Before attending law school she briefly worked as probation officer. Ronda also currently serves as the Solicitor for the City of Winder.