

NAME: Jason Park
PARTY: Nonpartisan
SEEKING: Superior Court (Davis seat)



Why are you seeking the office?

As the gang and drug prosecutor, I handle very serious felony cases, from gang homicides to narcotics trafficking cases investigated by federal and local law enforcement agencies, in superior court. These cases have direct impact on the safety of our community and, as a prosecutor experienced in trial and administrative aspects of Gwinnett Superior Court, I am running to ensure these cases get handled properly in order to keep our community safe and our families protected. I have the experience of having tried numerous serious felony cases and the values that the Gwinnettians can count on.

What distinguishes your candidacy?

As the only candidate with extensive trial experience as a prosecutor, I have the proven record of working hard to keep our county safe. I have tried almost all types of felony cases that will be brought before the next superior court judge, from armed robbery cases, narcotics trafficking cases, sex crimes, and gang homicide cases, all the way up to capital murder cases. I am the candidate who has the right experience to handle these serious felony cases, familiar with the Gwinnett Superior Court's administrative system, and with the integrity to make the tough decisions correctly.

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

As a superior court judge, his role is to say what the law is and apply the law as it had been interpreted by statutes and previous rulings from the courts that had applied these laws. Primarily this means that a judge decides whether a law has been broken or whether what evidence should be considered in the decision to be made by a jury or the judge. As such, he has no role in creating a new law. He is bound by statute and by previous decisions to apply the law impartially according to its original public meaning.

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

As a person of Christian faith, I am convinced that my faith requires me to live a life of service. As an undergrad, I majored in philosophy to learn to live an examined life. I then studied theology at seminary to learn what it means to live a life worth dying for. Professionally, I became a prosecutor to seek justice, to fight for the victims of crimes, and to protect our community. I wanted to do good rather than do

well. As an immigrant, I have experienced how injustice and discrimination can be overcome with hard work and determination.

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

A good judge shares much in common with the biblical concept of a servant. A servant knows the rules. Having tried cases for over 13 years, I picked up a few things. I'm not saying I know it all. But I am familiar with nuances of complex statutes, with administrative ins and outs of Gwinnett courts, and with importance of commonsensical approach well enough to know that I will continue to be a student of law. A good servant works hard and smart. A good servant also communicates well, courteous yet tactful, patient and open-minded, and firm yet understanding.

Please give a 100 word summary of your background;

I came to US as a child when the company my father worked for sent him to Manhattan. When I say I am Korean-American, I am not just Korean, not just American, but an American with a Korean twist. I fully embrace this bicultural background and am proud to call myself Korean-American in light of so much sacrifice and contribution the Americans have shown in the development of South Korea since the Korean War. It reminds me of the special duty we as Korean-Americans have in contributing and serving the community of folks who have already given so much first.