

NAME: Christa Kirk
PARTY: Non-Partisan
SEEKING: Superior Court Judge, Division 3

1. Why are you seeking the office?

Currently, there is a need to restore trust in this seat. My knowledge of the law, commitment, and compassion for our community made running an easy decision. I have spent my legal career striving to make a positive impact on victims, defendants, and families. I believe my clients and our community need a Judge they can trust. Becoming your next Superior Court Judge would allow me the opportunity to continue to impact our families, community, and children positively. My temperament and common sense make me the best candidate.

2. What distinguishes your candidacy?

You can place your trust in me. I have significant experience practicing before the Superior Court in the primary areas that come before it. I have had the opportunity and privilege to stand by and litigate for victims of crimes, defendants seeking justice, and parents fighting for their children. I am the only candidate with a 5-star AVVO.com rating, which is determined by reviews from clients and endorsements from attorneys. The reviews and endorsements have a common theme recognizing me as professional, ethical, fair, and compassionate. I have also been recognized by my peers as a "Super Lawyer."

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

The role of a judge is to fairly and justly apply the law to the case in front of them, after hearing the evidence and without bias, outside influence, or personal beliefs. A judge should not become complacent in their role and should be consistent in their rulings to ensure outside prejudices are not influencing their decisions. A judge must strive to administer justice by applying the law as written by the legislature and ruled upon by our higher courts.

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

At 16 years old, I had the privilege to intern in the Gwinnett County District Attorney's Victim Witness Program. While there, I discovered how much our legal system impacts peoples' lives. At 23, I was a divorced, single mother of three daughters. My passion for change through the legal system helped me complete my

undergraduate studies and law school as a single mother. I recognize, through my own life experiences, that people have their own struggles and are shaped by their own life experiences. Because of this, I will hear their concerns and always treat people with dignity and respect.

5. What do you see as a new challenge for judges in a post-pandemic court system?

The pandemic has demonstrated a need for more efficient and creative options for holding hearings. While court proceedings are required to be open to the public, courts must adapt to these difficult times. Parties deserve the personal experience a court provides. However, many routine matters could be held by conference call or video technology to ensure safety and save time and resources. Jurors, parties, and the legal community will need assurance and confidence that the courthouse is properly sanitized and safe.

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

I currently reside in Buford. I graduated from North Gwinnett High School, where I competed on the Mock Trial team that I currently have the privilege to coach. I completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Georgia in 2001 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and graduated from Georgia State University College of Law in 2004. I began working at the Gwinnett County District Attorney's Office in November 2004 and was promoted to a Supervising Attorney in 2009. I opened my own firm in 2014, currently in Suwanee, where I practice family law, criminal defense, and personal injury.