

# Smart Justice Spokane:

## Candidate Questionnaire

### Spokane County Superior Court Judge, Pos. 6

Tony Hazel	Jocelyn Cook
<p><b>What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?</b> I currently serve as a Superior Court Judge in Department 6. I have served as a Superior Court Judge since April of 2017 and have presided over hundreds of criminal felony cases as a Judge since that time. I was appointed by Governor Inslee following a robust selection and application process. During that process, the Governor's selection committee from Olympia interviewed every Judge I had ever appeared before within the last five years. The judges were asked their opinions regarding my legal competency, integrity, professionalism, and work ethic. In addition, the Governor's committee contacted every defense attorney whom I had a trial against as an opposing counsel (in the last five years) and sought their input regarding my work ethic, integrity, fairness, and professionalism. Every supervisor I had ever worked under during my entire legal career were also contacted and interviewed. Unlike a typical job application process, a gubernatorial appointment process does not allow the candidate to choose or pick their own references (except to supplement) as the process seeks to discover all weakness and potential bias for each candidate-finalist. In addition, I had to submit to numerous rounds of interviews (and ratings) by various bar judicial evaluation panels, the Governor's own executive staff, and finally with the Governor himself. I also submitted to two background checks conducted by both the Washington State Patrol and Washington Bar Association. Following this extensive process, I was selected by Inslee for the appointment to Superior Court. Prior to serving on the bench, I had previously served as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney for 14 years where I had spent nine of those years assigned to the Major Crimes Unit prosecuting violent felonies and homicide cases. During my time with the Prosecutor's Office, I had daily court appearances in Superior Court with extensive trial experience handling the most serious and publicly scrutinized cases. I also served in the Civil Unit for one year where I was assigned the mental health docket and represented our community hospitals and local mental health providers. One aspect that is</p>	<p><b>What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?</b> I am a public defender. I have represented indigent clients for over ten years in misdemeanors, felonies, and dependency cases. My job is to make sure my clients are heard. I am successful if I can get the people prosecuting my clients to see them as people and not as a criminal history. I am successful if I can meet my clients where they are and show them that their lives matter to me and that they are more than their criminal history, their addiction, and their socio-economic status. I am successful if the court sees my clients and, through my words, hears their story.</p>

unique about my career with the Spokane County Prosecutors Office was my extensive work and advocacy within the system surrounding criminal justice reform efforts. My involvement with Spokane's criminal justice reform efforts began back in 2010, when I was then appointed by Mayor Condon to serve on the Mayor's Public Safety Transition Team. This team was formed prior to the Mayor taking his first term of office and our team was tasked with advising the City of Spokane on all matters related to public safety, criminal justice, and our local court systems. I was the only person working on that team that directly worked within our criminal court system (the other members of this team were selected from the Police Department, City Fire Department, a community member, Jim McDivit from the US Attorney's Office, and Nancy Isserlis (.....this was prior to her eventually becoming the City Attorney). In preparation for serving on the Public Safety Team, I attended and was formally trained on Smart Justice and evidence-based criminal justice practices by an outfit from New York. My training occurred in 2010 and at that time I became the first and only prosecutor in Spokane to receive formal training on Smart Justice. While attending that same training, I was first introduced to a fellow trainee who was then a newly transplanted attorney from Bellingham Washington by the name of Breean Beggs. This training had a profound impact on me and would serve to influence my views on the criminal justice system and otherwise instilled in me a commitment to follow and promote evidence-based practices. As the readers likely know, Mr Beggs would also be impacted by the training as he would later go on to form and lead Smart Justice Spokane. Following this training, I continued my work on the Public Safety Team (in addition to my Major Crimes caseload). While serving on the Public Safety team, I researched and pointed out to our team members the existing statue that had provided for the operation of the Law and Justice Council. I was the first person on this team (and the first person in Spokane within a decade) to point out the statutory existence of the Law and Justice Council and I then personally advocated for our team to formally recommend the reactivation and use of the Law and Justice Council. That statutory forum had been nonoperational in the preceding decade. Back in 2010, Spokane was not abiding by (more accurately it had simply forgotten about) the statue which provided for the operation and use of the Law and Justice Council. Consequently, our local system did not have any effective forum to discuss system wide reforms, nor address issues of jail over-crowding, nor a venue to explore efficient system consolidations, nor did we have the forum the to address any system wide problems. Spokane's criminal justice system was

silo-ed and fragmented back in 2010. For this reason, I strongly advocated to the Public Team that reactivating the Law and Justice Council would eventually lead to system wide collaborative improvements. I was successful in helping to reach and achieve a consensus on the Public Safety Team and our team then formally recommended that the Law Justice Council be reactivated. At the same time, we also recommended that the City and County form a special commission to study the entire system from top to bottom in an effort to review efficiency, form a strategic plan, and suggest evidence-based practices. Ultimately, both our recommendations were adopted by both County and City leadership. The review-commission was then formed according to our recommendation and their findings were later published in a document titled Spokane's Blue Print for Reform. The City, County, and all local criminal justice agencies would eventually agree to adopt this same Blue Print as their official strategic plan which was to be implemented by and under the newly reactivated Law and Justice Council. While continuing to work in the prosecutors office, I was also successful in advocating to the elected prosecutor to have all Spokane prosecutors receive training in evidence-based practices. By 2012, each and every prosecutor had received the training and the Prosecutors Office had also committed to following and implementing all the evidence-based reforms contained within the Blue Print. Due to my initial role in promoting the reactivation of the Law and Justice Council, I was then assigned the task of serving on numerous Law and Justice committees. Since the reformation of the Law Justice Council, I have been founding and continuous member of the Strategic Planning Committee and the CORE Team. The CORE team is comprised of five member stake holders who are responsible for the day to day implementation of all criminal justice reforms system wide. As a founding member of the CORE team, I initially represented the County Prosecutors Office but I have since continued on in my role even after becoming a Superior Court Judge. I have been extensively involved in all aspects of Spokane's on-going criminal justice reform efforts including working to help initially secure and then implement the MacArthur Foundation Grant. This Grant has provided Spokane with \$1.75 million dollars aimed at implementing evidence-based practices to safely reduce the jail population, promote jail to community reintegration, and address issues of racial/ethnic disparity within the criminal justice system. As one the of the five members of the CORE team, I am responsible for the day to day implementation, over site, and planning of McArthur related programs. To date we have implemented the SAFER risk assessment tool,

<p>helped created and staff a Pretrial Service Department, and have adopted a Racial Ethnic Tool kit for policy creation. We are also in the process of implementing implicit bias training across all criminal justice agencies. I have personally been a strong voice and advocate within the Law Justice Council for expanding community-based (for both minorities and victims) representation and participation on the Law and Justice Council. I will continue to be a leader in promoting evidence-based criminal justice reforms and my commitment to this cause should be very apparent based on all my work over the last seven years. I should note that at all times I will only work within and in accordance with the judicial cannons and therefore any advocacy on my part will be limited to working within the structure of the Law and Justice Council which is statutorily authorized for judicial participation (Judges are prohibited from Lobbying).</p>	
<p><b>What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?</b> Racial equity is the concept that all human beings, regardless of race, have a right to the same due process, the equal application and protection of the law, equal access to the court system(s), and equal treatment in the performance of all executive and judicial functions of government. Thus, addressing racial equity also entails an examination of how laws are enforced and must also account for any institutional policies which may result in disproportional impacts to minority communities. Inherent to the concept of "equity" or fairness, is the notion that equality must be achieved regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or any other arbitrary factors. It is fundamental to any notion of justice that all persons should be treated equally without regard to race. As a judge, I will constantly guard against racial inequity. The threat of injustice to anyone is a threat of injustice to everyone.</p>	<p><b>What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?</b> Racial equity occurs when people who are similarly situated are treated similarly regardless of race. I have worked with indigent clients for most of my career. I have watched as some lives are considered redeemable while some are not. I have read reports where similarly situated people are treated differently based on race and socio-economic status. I have struggled to get a non-diverse jury to understand that we all have implicit biases and, if we do not recognize them, we cannot combat the impact bias has on our decision-making abilities. I will take these experiences with me and, should I be elected to the bench, they will ensure that I will treat people who come before the court with compassion borne out of my experiences standing beside them. I will also carefully and consistently apply the law to the facts before me because I believe that consistent application of the law is imperative when pursuing justice.</p>
<p><b>Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?</b> Prior to becoming a judge, I worked in the Civil Unit of Spokane County Prosecutors Office. I was assigned and responsible for the Mental Health Docket. My role was to represent hospitals and all of Spokane's mental health inpatient providers related to any aspects of the civil commitment process (involuntary treatment). This included having Eastern State Hospital and Sacred Heart as primary clients. I personally handled hundreds of civil commitment hearings where I would travel to the various hospitals to conduct court proceedings. In addition, during my nine years of service in the Major Crimes Unit, I routinely</p>	<p><b>Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?</b> I have been to Eastern State Hospital, to Sacred Heart, to treatment centers, and to group homes to visit my clients. I have worked with clients dealing with schizophrenia, bi-polar disorder, personality disorders, anxiety, and depression. Some of my clients use for years before they realize that they have been self-medicating because they are dealing with mental illness. We need to look beyond addiction to determine whether there are mental health issues that need to be addressed along with addiction. We need funding and access to co-occurring programs with trauma therapy to really meet my clients where they are at.</p>

<p>conducted contested competency and or sanity hearings. In addition to my traditional work assignments in this area, I also served on Spokane's Regional Mental Steering Committee for two years. This committee was comprised of Spokane's mental health service providers within our Eastern Washington region. Our local mental health care system has been and continues to be in crisis. Our community's mental health care infrastructure is insufficient to meet the large and increasing demand. Except for the large hospitals, mental health providers are limited to 16 beds due to Federal regulation. This policy in part contributes to prevent the mental health industry from growing to meet the demand as 16 bed facilities are consistently filled to capacity. Efficient care providers who could otherwise potentially offer quality services to more than 16 patients are prohibited from doing so due to this Federal policy/law. To complicate this problem, State and Federal budget funding trends continue to exhibit a pattern of depletion leading to increased pressure/demand on our already strained local health care system (i.e. bed spaces at State Hospitals continue to be reduced which then contributes to the overload and congestion at local mental health providers then leading to untreated patients be sent out on the street). The unfortunate result is that untreated persons then commonly engage in behaviors that require the criminal justice system's intervention which then in turn contributes to jail overcrowding. The jails then attempt to locate hospital bed space for those inmates exhibiting mental issues but the jails are often unsuccessful due to insufficient beds available. This is an difficult, self-feeding, and vicious cycle to fix. The ultimate solution requires more funding and resources. Here are some partial solutions as a stop gap measure. The relationship between jail mental health and civil mental health providers can become part of the solution so that jail staff can transfer mentally ill patients as quickly as possible to inpatient facilities. The Mental Health Steering Committee currently operates outside of the Law and Justice Council and was established to coordinate services and promote collaborative regional solutions. I would propose that the Mental Health Steering Committee should be brought under the umbrella of the Law and Justice Council as doing so would increase system wide collaboration on these issues were the current structure is isolated only to mental health providers and does not currently include criminal justice agencies. The courts should expand the sentencing alternative known as Mental Health Court (similar to a Drug Court model but focusing on court supervised mental health treatment). Currently, the CORE team is working with the Prosecutor's office (Prosecutors Office is part of the CORE team) to implement a mental health diversion program for</p>	<p>Incarceration does not solve mental illness. Meaningful care does.</p>
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<p>low-level crimes that would deflect low level/non violent cases away from the jail and back towards treatment. Sacred Heart is also currently building a 100 bed facility which will help to a noticeable degree. We also should be expanding our outpatient mental health services to treat people out in the community who are not either gravely disabled nor a danger to themselves or others. Local and State government should lobby congress to change the law regarding the 16 bed limitation. Our community must also provide increased incentives for mental health professionals to relocate to Spokane as our community does not currently have a sufficient number of professionals to meet the needs.</p>	
<p><b>What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?</b> As indicated, I am extensively involved with all of the ongoing reform efforts currently taking place in Spokane. I am also in favor of them provided they remain evidence-based. I see my role as continuing to be a leader and emphasizing a collaborative process. I would add that the criminal justice system must be very cautious in both the enforcement of and organizational structure related to Law enforcement's approach to Gangs. This area has the potential for unconscious bias or institutional disparity. The executive branch must be cautious who they label as Gang affiliated and the criteria for being labeled should be carefully thought out. A racial ethnic tool kit will provide policy makers with a disciplined approach to implementing policies that could have the potential for unintentional disparities. Community involvement will also foster increased confidence and buy-in for the system from the perspective of the minority communities, all the while being informative and insightful to government when formulating or contemplating policy. Finally implicit bias training for the entire system will also serve to reduce the potential for disparities and such training programs can be implemented in way that sustains that training for future employees.</p>	<p><b>What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?</b> The biggest barrier to reform is that the courts do not have legislative authority to access treatment courts as an alternative to prison. This limits access to research based programs and excludes candidates that are most likely to be successful. Without practical legislation that gives clients access to mental health courts, mental health diversion programs, and drug court, the clients most likely to benefit will not get the option to participate. Second is an issue of release. Clients that are able to post bail are able to actually engage in their defense without loss of jobs, housing, or children. Because they are able to work their cases from the streets, there is no incentive to capitulate and plead to "get out [of jail] today." Their cases are investigated, legal issues are litigated, and negotiations to resolve their cases are borne out of meaningful work. Indigent clients are often not able to post bond so, when there is an option to get credit for time served and released, they will plead to something regardless of whether there are constitutional issues or whether the State would be successful trying their case. This is not justice. As a public defender, I address these issues regularly with my clients. If elected to the position of Superior Court Judge, I would have to follow court rules with regard to release and utilize statutory authority to assess whether treatment alternatives are available and appropriate for clients that meet statutory requirements.</p>
<p><b>What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?</b> I short, I would support any evidence-based practice allowed by law.</p>	<p><b>What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?</b> The court is only able to use solutions authorized by statute. Sentencing is governed by the Sentencing Reform Act and specific crimes carry specific sentences. Sentence ranges increase as countable criminal history increases (felony convictions and some misdemeanors</p>

count as points when determining countable criminal history). There are drug offender alternatives to incarceration, sex offender alternatives to incarceration, and there are family centered alternatives to incarceration that are statutorily available to the court. The court is able to use those alternatives so long as the person meets the statutory qualifications. As a public defender, I can tell you that my clients often struggle transitioning into the community and find themselves homeless, hungry, and ill-equipped to handle the differences in life outside of prison. When that is compounded by addiction, my clients struggle even more. My clients need support finding housing, food, treatment, and work, in that order, to be successful upon release.

## City of Spokane Municipal Court Judge, Pos. 1

<b>Tracy Staab</b>	<b>Adam Papini</b>
<p><b>What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?</b> I have been working in the criminal justice system for 22 years now. First as a city prosecutor, law clerk, city and federal public defender, and the last nine years as a judge. As a public defender, I've had many conversations with clients, former clients, their families and friends. I was one of the founding members of the Federal Drug Court in Spokane, called STEP. We specifically worked with post-conviction, post-incarcerated defendants to help them re-integrate back into the community. I know that empirical evidence proves that when best practices are utilized, therapeutic courts that target high-risk, high-needs participants are the most effective way to reduce recidivism. Best practices include identifying and addressing needs such as housing, food, safety, employment, as well as mental health and substance abuse issues. Myself and my bench-mates have embraced this philosophy. We currently have three therapeutic courts, and in January, I will begin presiding over a DUI therapeutic court.</p>	<p><b>What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?</b> I have served in the criminal justice system as a public defender and a prosecutor for 18 plus years. My life has been dedicated to the just treatment of people who have been accused or convicted of a crime. As a public defender and a prosecutor, I have taken a holistic approach to working with individuals who are involved with the criminal justice system. The last three and half years of my career has been dedicated to forming and working in the Spokane Municipal Community Court, as co-creator and lead prosecutor. The community court is dedicated to providing accountability with help to the justice involved, and services to those who were formally incarcerated. Many of the innovations utilized in the community court are the product of my dedication to helping justice involved individuals. Those innovations include: Being located at the Downtown Spokane Public Library; sanctions in the form of jail alternatives such as community service, day reporting, letters of apology; making access to justice easier in the form of better signage, easier access to courtroom and social service providers; and warrantfest (an event dedicated to recalling warrants on low level misdemeanor crimes so as to avoid unnecessary jail cost of \$139.00 per day). I have advocated and continue to advocate for more convenient court and probation office hours. This includes evening and weekend hours to make the court more accessible. I have refused to accept the argument by opponents and administrators that the unions block such innovations. I have worked with the unions in this regard and they have been</p>

	<p>more than accommodating in having their members better serve the public by utilizing alternative non-traditional hours.</p>
<p><b>What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?</b> Systems and procedures need to be race and gender neutral. Systemic bias occurs when facially neutral procedures have a disparate impact on a minority group. An example would be the under-representation of minorities in the jury system. Studies have shown that one reason for this disparate impact is that the physical addresses used to summons potential jurors can be up to two years old by the time the summons is mailed. Inherent bias occurs when participants in the criminal justice system fail to recognize assumptions that affect their decisions. As a participant of the Racial Equity Disparity Subcommittee of the Spokane Regional Law and Justice Commission, I am hoping to attend training to recognize any inherent bias and learn to correct these assumptions. The group is also developing a tool that will screen any new procedures developed by the SRLJC to reduce or eliminate the potential for systemic bias.</p>	<p><b>What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?</b> Racial equity is justice. Acknowledging that there is racial inequity and taking steps to eliminate it is the duty of everyone working in the criminal justice system. My work has and will continue to be dedicated to bringing justice to all by looking at and eliminating the root causes of racial inequity in our criminal justice system. That review entails the examination of all policies, laws, practices, attitudes and conditions that have even the potential of causing racial inequity. The criminal justice system is slow to acknowledge that there is racial inequity and even slower to make changes of any kind to established systems and conduct. I would proactively act to establish policies and procedures that would produce equitable access, outcomes and treatment of all entering the criminal justice system. Preliminarily, I would expand hours of operation of the court and probation services. I would improve signage to the court and reduce barriers to accessing courtrooms and probation service. I would honestly and critically review the court record of individuals held in jail to determine if they are justifiably held or being held because of their race. Justice requires all to be treated fairly and impartially regardless the color of their skin, the language they speak or their sexual orientation.</p>
<p><b>Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?</b> I'm not sure what you mean by "personal" experience. Are you asking about myself or my family? There are members of my family with mental health issues. On a professional (but not personal) level, many of the defendants in my court are experiencing mental health issues and illness. For instance, we are learning that many defendants in the court system have experienced significant, and untreated trauma. This trauma can lead to substance abuse. Trauma is a mental health issue, but not a mental health illness. Chronic depression, on the other hand, is a mental health illness, and is often treated with medication. Mental health issues and illnesses are both recognized "needs" of criminal defendants and must be addressed as part of the therapeutic plan to recovery and stabilization. Access to mental health care is a priority. The ACA has had a profound effect on the access to health care, including mental health care, for defendants in our court. A second priority of the mental health care system is to expand options and training. It is estimated that there are three times the number of</p>	<p><b>Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?</b> My entire career has been devoted to the defense and the compassionate prosecution of individuals experiencing mental illness. I have worked in the Spokane County District Court Mental Health Court and I am the co-creator and was the prosecutor for the Spokane Municipal Community Court for three and a half years. Both courts are dedicated to therapeutically treating individuals with mental illness who have been charged with a crime. The priority of our mental health system should be to triage individuals charged with a crime and experiencing mental illness so as to minimize their stay in jail or eliminate their stay in jail completely. This requires the collaboration and cooperation of law enforcement, mental health professionals, detention services, prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges. The ultimate goal is to treat the individual experiencing mental illness immediately and effectively rather than allow the individual to linger needlessly in jail because there is no other place to put them and treat their condition.</p>

<p>seriously mentally ill persons in jail than in hospitals. We continue to incarcerate the mentally ill. Mental Health diversion programs and the mental health court are both options that have been implemented to address the specific needs of the mentally ill before resorting to incarceration.</p>	
<p><b>What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?</b> The Constitution guarantees that we are entitled to a jury of our peers. As I noted above, one of the disparities I experience is the under-representation of minorities on jury pools and panels. Changing this disparity will take changes in the legislation, court system and culture. People change physical addresses more often than email addresses. It is a modern reality. Why aren't jury management systems sending backup jury summonses by email? Right now the legislation and court rules do not allow this. Why not? Potential jurors are also dissuaded from responding to a summons by the inadequate pay, and the lack of job protection and day care. This is a funding issue that tends to create a disparate impact on juries. Finally, there is a need for more education and cultural reform. Minority groups need to recognize the significance of their voice on a jury. Jury service needs to be seen as a sense of responsibility and pride.</p>	<p><b>What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?</b> If you are a poor, disenfranchised, illiterate, disabled or a non-white individual; there is a higher likelihood of disparate treatment in our criminal justice system. From the directions to the courtroom and probation services to the forms listing their legal obligations, to hours of operation of court services, the criminal justice system is designed to delay, hinder and cause these individuals to fail at navigating the legal system. Unless you have a college education, a smart phone and a high priced lawyer, our courthouse is nearly impossible to access. My role as a Spokane Municipal Court Judge would be to break down those barriers, make justice accessible to everyone and ensure the fair and equal treatment of all those appearing in court as either the accused, the victim or the witness. And my role would not stop there. I would also work to make the courtroom and probation services accessible to parents without adequate child care. Unlike the current practice in the Spokane Municipal Court, I would work to ensure that more localized child care is provided to parents appearing in court and eliminate the multiple hindrances that are currently in place. In a word, I would see my role as being proactive in ensuring that all are treated fairly, justly, equally.</p>
<p><b>What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?</b> As a court we have implemented numerous alternatives to incarceration. The result has been a forty percent reduction in the City's jail population since our court was created. Forty percent! The alternatives that we have implemented include Department of Corrections work crew, electronic home monitoring (both pre-trial and post-conviction), and community service in lieu of jail. A large percentage of the jail population includes pre-trial detainees; people who have demonstrated an unwillingness or inability to appear on their court date. In lieu of incarceration and bail, we have implemented text-message reminders, weekly court appearances, electronic home monitoring, and regular contact with pre-trial services. The re-entry solutions and strategies to decrease recidivism are noted above; namely therapeutic courts and focusing on high-risk, high-needs defendants while getting</p>	<p><b>What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?</b> Many of the innovations currently utilized in the Spokane Municipal Court were the result of my work as a prosecutor. I introduced the use of community service in lieu of jail. I introduced the use of day reporting, a sanction that requires the defendant to sit in court until the end of the docket in lieu of going to jail. I was the co-creator and the lead prosecutor of the Spokane Municipal Community Court. While working on the creation of that court and its operation, I introduced the concept of using contracts between the prosecution and the accused with shortened durations of 4 weeks, 3 months and 6 months - a concept that had never been utilized before. Past traditional practice called for 12 month and 24 month terms. These longer term contracts put a strain on the criminal justice system and created the potential for needless incarceration, and an undue burden on the accused who wanted to be accountable but also wanted to access social</p>

those with low-risk and low-needs out of the system as quickly as possible.	services to get out of the circumstances that led to them being accused of a crime.
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## **City of Spokane Municipal Court Judge, Pos. 2**

### **Mary Logan**

**What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?**

Prior to being appointed in 2009 to the newly formed Municipal Court, I worked at the City Public Defender's office for 11 years defending the marginalized and disenfranchised of society. During those initial few years, I represented people jailed for driving with a suspended license - a suspension arising due to failure to pay infractions. These jail sentences caused people to lose jobs and housing on a regular basis. The 7 years immediately prior to becoming a judge, I exclusively represented those individuals who had been charged with crimes involving Domestic Violence. The work in the Domestic violent court made me acutely aware of the ramifications not just for the accused, but the children and families often involved - sensitized that victims do not always want to participate for many reasons including fear of retribution, that child witnesses are repetitively retraumatized by testimony and involvement in the cases, that often the root of these cases arises out of cycles in families not just of improper conduct but often involving the abuse of drugs and alcohol. These experiences have provided me with great insight regarding attempts at offender based sentencing- attempting to incorporate the knowledge of how sentencing, treatment, sanction will move someone towards a more healthful productive life.

**What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?** So difficult and yet so simple. The race blind manner in which people ought to be treated. The racial disproportionality component of the criminal justice system is troubling and difficult as a judge to address since we are down stream from the initial contact with the system, however, once a person is in the system, utilizing the best information to evaluate them: not just the charge, but attempting to evaluate without presumption, with inclusion of as many socioeconomic factors as can be utilized.

**Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?** My nephew suffered for years from schizophrenia, was homeless and drifted from Washington to

California until finally admitted into a state mental hospital where help began for him. He has now recaptured his life and works as a Disability advocate. Since the creation of Community Court my exposure to persons experiencing mental health issues has increased exponentially - we need far more treatment from case managers to outpatient to inpatient care to truly handle the numbers of people who need help with their mental health issues as well as co-occurring mental health and substance abuse issues. There is also a requirement of housing with wrap around care to continue to assist after they have been properly diagnosed and stabilized.

**What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?**

The concept of individualized justice needs to take stronger and broader root. While the Municipal Court has made great strides in approaching cases with an eye towards evidence based, data driven approaches, dedication of the other courts to expand from a few specialty courts such as Veteran's Therapeutic Court, Mental Health court and Drug Court to a more uniform approach that does not so heavily rely on the retribution model could occur. Jail should be used for those whose represent a true public safety risk and not on arbitrary assignment based on number of guilty pleas. Academia has shown us the way with well researched data that can help guide us towards a system that holds people accountable for their behavior but recognizes their behavior isn't necessarily due to them being "bad" human beings - the overhaul is confronting, but the way it has always been done does not seem to be making society either safer or healthier.

**What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?**

My creation and commitment to Community Court is a demonstration of putting my words into action - work that could not evolve or grow without the many health care, mental health, Emergency department nurses and doctors, as well as police officers, fire department personnel and an entire arsenal of social service and housing providers supportive and engaged in this uniquely collaborative approach to re-entry. I support its expansion.

# **City of Spokane Municipal Court Judge, Pos. 3**

<b>Michelle (Shelley) Szambelan</b>
<b>What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?</b> I practiced in the criminal justice system for over a decade, followed by serving on the bench for almost nine years. For more than the last two years, I have been actively engaged in regional criminal justice improvement through the MacArthur Foundation, as well as the Spokane Regional Law & Justice Council (SRLJC), both of which have advocated to include the perspective of formerly incarcerated & justice-involved individuals.
<b>What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?</b> Racial equity recognizes that we don't all start at the same point - that some have start closer to the finish line. It informs my work in how I treat those who appear before me, as well working to reduce racial & ethnic disparities in the criminal justice system. We need to be aware that not all (many of those who appear before me) do not have the same privileges many economically secure, white people have. It's a reality.
<b>Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?</b> I see people in the criminal justice every day who are there not because they've got criminal intent, but because they're mentally ill. The criminal justice system is not the appropriate place to address mental illness. I've worked with improving how the criminal justice system addresses mental illness: I work with the joint mental health therapeutic court, the mental health diversion program, as well as planning work on the 24-hr. mental health crisis stabilization unit that we hope will give law enforcement a place to take those in MH crisis instead of jail or an ER, only to get released back onto the streets shortly thereafter. This remains a priority.
<b>What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?</b> There are racial and economic disparities that result in more contact with law enforcement and the criminal justice system. Many crimes are driven by substance abuse and/or co-occurring MH disorders that are self-medicated with alcohol or drugs. Unless we address the underlying root of criminal behavior

(e.g., criminogenic needs) and replace them with pro-social behavior, society is destined to continue the same pattern that hasn't worked for the last 30 years. It's a better investment than simply warehousing people in jail where they learn how to become better criminals and return to the community still addicted, etc.. My role in addressing criminal justice improvement is just that: Working hard to improve it. I've basically worked a second job from my normal docket requirements and administrative work as Presiding Judge to implement criminal justice reforms through the SRLJC and the MacArthur grant.

**What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?** Our municipal court has been at the forefront at sentencing alternatives. We use EHM so that people can maintain pro-social behavior - like keeping a job, going to treatment, etc.. We utilize community service so that offenders can make reparations to the community they harmed. We also implement DOC-WC in lieu of jail. We're focusing on "dosage-probation," which is making sure that only the people who really need to be on probation are on probation and then only to the extent needed. I support the Hub & Pathways model where criminogenic needs are addressed on reentry to help prevent recidivism. It's a win-win for our community and the person who made a mistake, and helps to prevent future crime victims by reducing recidivism.

## City of Spokane Council District 1

Kate Burke	Tim Benn
Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.	Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.

## City of Spokane Council District 2

Breean Beggs	Andy Dunau
<b>What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?</b> I started my 26 year legal career as a public defender. I have represented well over 100 people who have had their civil rights violated while involved in the criminal justice system. I co-founded the Spokane Smart Justice Campaign and currently serve on	Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.

<p>the Spokane Regional Law and Justice Commission. I have written articles, conducted training and presented at numerous forums on criminal justice reform.</p>	
<p><b>What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?</b> In my mind, racial equity is a proactive response to the damage caused by current or past racial discrimination and oppression, especially systemic racism. I strive to use a racial equity lens in all my advocacy and public policy decisions because many decisions and protocol are facially neutral but in practice have a racially disparate impact.</p>	
<p><b>Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?</b> I have represented hundreds of people with mental illness involved in the court system. Most famously, I represented the family of Otto Zehm, who suffered from a cognitive impairment and was killed by the Spokane Police Department. I was able to leverage that case into substantial systemic reforms for how police are trained and how they work with the mentally ill and other cognitively impaired people. I am a strong advocate for creating and operating a new crisis and diversion center that will reduce the role of the Spokane Jail in warehousing the mentally ill.</p>	
<p><b>What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?</b> This deserves an entire book but the highlights are: 1) Make every budget, policy and operational decision using a Smart Justice Lens of what will reduce crime in the future, save money and reclaim lives; 2) Assess each offender based on what they need to avoid committing crimes and the least restrictive alternative to insure public safety and then use those alternatives instead of prison or jail, except for extreme danger or as a means of holding them accountable to their treatment program; 3) Use trauma informed and racial equity practices throughout the criminal justice system; 4) Seek and obtain revenue sharing from the Washington DOC to fund treatment and supervision for each person we divert from prison into local therapeutic court programs; 5) Expand Community Court models throughout the City so that it becomes the norm as opposed to the pilot program; 6) Continuously invest savings from reduced jail usage into programs that reclaim lives and will reduce jail usage even further.</p>	
<p><b>What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and</b></p>	

<b>strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?</b> Community Court, Community Bail, Electronic Home Monitoring, Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion, Drug Court, Veteran's Court, Mental Health Court, Hub and Spoke Re-Entry, 16 bed Crisis Centers, Diversion, Work Release, Community Corrections Center, Early Childhood Education and many more interventions that are proven to work.	
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## City of Spokane Council District 3

Candace Mumm	Matthew Howes
<b>Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.</b>	<b>Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.</b>

## City of Spokane Valley Council Position 1

Rod Higgins	Chris Jackson
<b>Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.</b>	<b>Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.</b>

## City of Spokane Valley Council Position 2

J. Caleb Collier	Brandi Peetz
<b>Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.</b>	<b>What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?</b> I have been active in my community by participation on the Greater Spokane Substance Abuse Council, building relationships with our local law enforcement and probation departments, and worked part-time with a local union for a work study position while attending college. I earned an academic scholarship and obtained a BA Degree in Criminal Justice and Sociology from Gonzaga University. I applied these skills as a 911 Operator and currently sit on the Spokane County Sheriff's Citizen's Advisory Board.
	<b>What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?</b> Racial equity is accomplishing a goal according to your circumstance instead of being given the same tools as others to accomplish the same goal. I think it's important to know that not everyone has the same circumstances or opportunities and we all have different perspectives. If we are aware of these differences and continue to be educated in

	<p>the process we can better cooperate with all types of people and be successful.</p>
	<p><b>Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?</b> In my time at Spokane County as a 911/Crime Check operator I could tell you the majority of the calls I received were mental health related. We had a frequent callers list of citizens that would dial our number 10-20x a day which would tie up the lines for real emergencies. Although we would treat them as if they were an emergency every time, you know when you see they are calling that it's not the case. We need to make mental health a priority. I know that the City of Spokane has been taking some significant steps and we should be talking with surrounding municipalities to find out what is working for them also.</p>
	<p><b>What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?</b> I know that gender inequality and racial disparities in our community exist. I also know that there are many leaders in our community educating our citizens on these very issues. I have had the pleasure of working with some of these great leaders in our community and will continue to educate myself so I can educate others. I can only speak to the experiences I have had myself but, I can always engage with our communities and educate myself on what others have experienced in hopes to bring these issues to light. I have also recently spoken to some groups in our community about youths in our jails and the racial disparities surrounding incarceration. We have a lot of work to do.</p>
	<p><b>What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?</b> I am completely supportive of the measures being taken with the MacArthur Grant to address some of these issues. I also am a firm believer in Prevention and Rehabilitation. I know that it costs on average \$125 a day to house an inmate and about \$5 on average to do EHM or other alternatives. I would like to see our community get educated in these matters and have them decide where best to use our funds. I think once our community is educated and understands fully what their dollars are paying for people would be more supportive of these solutions also.</p>

## City of Spokane Valley Council Position 4

<b>Ed Pace</b>	<b>Ben Wick</b>
<b>What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?</b> Constitutional vigilance. Washington State Constitution says in Article I, Section 1 that governments are established to protect and maintain individual rights. That includes all residents of our City.	<b>Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.</b>
<b>What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?</b> The Bible says that God created humans in his image. Any type of discrimination is abhorant.	
<b>Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?</b> As a student chaplain during seminary I served in the psychiatric ward of a large inner-city hospital. State Constitution calls for mental health care.	
<b>What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?</b> We need to focus on arresting criminals and stopping them from depriving law-abiding citizens of their rights. My role is to advocate for more funding for our police department to come up to full strength. One of my campaign platform planks is ZERO Tolerance for Crime.	
<b>What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?</b> None.	

## City of Spokane Valley Council Position 5

<b>Pamela Haley</b>	<b>Angie Beem</b>
<b>Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.</b>	<b>What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?</b> My prior work did not involve criminal justice. If I win, this will be my first opportunity to make positive changes in our criminal justice system. I have spoken with Chief Werner regarding public safety. He has given me a great deal of information and we discussed possible solutions. In the Valley, we are

	<p>a bit unique since we are a contract city. That means all our public safety issues are routed through the county. In the past, the valley city council has not satisfactorily partnered with the Spokane justice system. It's important that we work together, not just pass the buck so to speak.</p>
	<p><b>What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?</b> I feel very strongly about racial equity. It is clear that racial profiling is a serious issue. I have very little patience for those who refuse to see the imbalance and prejudice towards our People of Color in regards to arrests, jail time, violence and police brutality. Among everything else our POC struggle against. The city council works closely with law enforcement. When the contract is negotiated, I believe it should include specialized training to bring awareness to racial inequality and how to spot it and report it. It needs to include a comprehensive strategy to properly address, discipline, and train our officers on racial equity.</p>
	<p><b>Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?</b> I could talk about this for hours. Yes, I have personal experience with people with mental illness. I think that mental health is the primary resource for our hopes of positive changes. If you drill down to the very deepest foundation of those who kill, abuse drugs, steal, and other negative behavior, you will find there is trauma there. If we help people to find and treat that trauma, they can change their lives around. I think our mental health care system is key to ending violence, our homeless situation, crime, and murder. Heal the person, heal the community. I'm especially passionate about the mental health of our homeless. I would like to get a group of counselors/therapists together, along with a medical crew, and go out to the homeless and provide the care they need to become contributors to society once again. To give them hope. To help them realize their dreams. I don't have the answer for how to fix our mental health care system, but I would do ANYTHING I could to fix it and heal our communities.</p>
	<p><b>What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?</b> Jail time is not a solution. It is a band aid at best. In most cases, it perpetuates our crime problem. Chief Werner said he needs better long-term solutions to our crime problems. Since so much of our crime can be linked to drug addiction, we need counseling for addiction and trauma. Since so much violence is due to emotional trauma, we need counseling to heal</p>

	<p>that trauma. Like I said above, if we heal the problem, we heal the community. Punishment of 72 hours in jail really does nothing to help the situation. We need legislation and ordinances that would offer better and more long-term solutions. Even if the protocol is that a therapist is assigned to offenders upon incarceration and it is mandatory for offenders to continue therapy after release, I think that is doable. Also, we need city ordinances that give our law enforcement actionable solutions. Such as what Chief Werner called nuisance property. A lot of the landlords for our rental housing live in other states. They don't take care of their property which then invites criminals to congregate at that property. If we gave law enforcement actionable ordinances to enforce certain standards on that property, we can help to eliminate that part of our crime problem. Then, just go from there. Enforceable laws, and the resources required to enforce those laws are what we need. This is something that I'm passionate about as well. I would advocate for any reasonable solution brought to my attention.</p>
	<p><b>What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?</b> I think this should be priority for fighting our crime problem. I would support any reasonable solutions and strategies. I want this so much for our communities. I believe in putting priority on human beings, not money. That's not to say I would just throw money at any idea that comes my way. But, if it is a comprehensive strategy that would bring results, I'm all for it.</p>

## City of Spokane Valley Council Position 7

Mike Munch	Linda (Hatcher) Thompson
<b>Candidate did not respond to the questionnaire.</b>	<p><b>What experience do you have with the criminal justice system and what have you done to engage the voices of the justice-involved or formerly incarcerated in your work?</b> My experience with the criminal justice system on August 16th, 1986 when my three year old son who was sitting beside his paternal grandfather on a pony cart on their way to be in a small town parade was killed by a repeat impaired driver. Convicted of two counts of vehicular homicide (one for Trevor and one for a family friend also killed) and one of vehicular assault (for my children's paternal grandfather (my then six year old daughter was also thrown from her horse when its leg was severed off in the crash but it was determined she was not injured enough for a vehicular assault charge on her behalf) and sentenced to 27</p>

	<p>months and serving 13 months, the driver had had multiple repeat impaired driving charges. When a woman in the court room said to our family "We knew he was going to kill someone someday....sorry about that that it was your family." I knew I had to honor Trevor by working on community norms to reduce impaired driving and work on a system to increase treatment and support for recovery for offenders. I truly believe locking someone up without treatment and support for recovery doesn't help--we cannot imprison our way out of violent crime. As Executive Director of the Greater Spokane Substance Abuse Council (GSSAC) since 1993 I have dedicated my lifework to social norms change through our Spokane County DUI Victims Panel where 94% of the court ordered participants say they never thought about someone getting hurt when they drove impaired. We tell our stories of losses of loved ones and personal stories of recovery from injuries, and those who have been offenders in crashes....not to point fingers and place blame but to say make a different choice, please don't drink or drug and drive. Over the past 25 years I have worked with many formerly incarcerated individuals who have served their time, are going to school to be drug/alcohol counselors or other professionals to give back as a person in recovery and are looking to help our non profit truly connect in the community. I believe in a human being can make a tragic mistake but when they have served their time, make peace with themselves and how they want to move forward, they should be given a chance.</p>
	<p><b>What is racial equity and how will it inform your work?</b> I believe racial equity is valuing every human being for who they are, what talents they have, what their goals are and what challenges they face and then, working together, finding the best possible means of success. It is recognizing the need for resources and advocacy to eliminate racism in institutions, systems, and communities. We have a disproportionate number of young men of color in our juvenile and criminal justice systems which has been a long standing problem. My work on the Spokane Valley City Council will be to truly see the lack of racial equity in current and proposed public policy and speak up for racial equity. I have learned honoring diversity, speaking up for my community, and standing strong for injustice from incredible leaders like Toni Lodge of the Native Project, Diane Jackson, formerly of the East Central Community Center, and Ginlin Woo, my dear friend who became a community organizer at age 10 in New York for her Chinese American neighbors. Cultural diversity and inclusion are center points of our prevention work at GSSAC.</p>
	<p><b>Do you have any personal experience with persons experiencing mental</b></p>

	<p><b>illness and what do you see as priorities for our mental health care system?</b> I have been an advocate for increased mental health services through Washington Association for Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention (WASAVP), an advocacy organization that I founded in 2000 with my prevention partners across Washington State. We work closely on state and national public policy in support of National Association for Mental Illness (NAMI). The connection with substance abuse and violence to mental illness is woven in the fabric of mental health. I believe strongly in prevention so will advocate for increased resources for mental health access, reducing the stigma of mental illness, and increase citizen awareness of what each of us can do to help. With Washington State being one of the highest states in the nation for youth dying by suicide, we must have all of our policy makers united in seeking more resources.</p>
	<p><b>What disparities and needs for reform do you see in the criminal justice system and what do you see as your role in addressing them?</b> As a Spokane Valley City Councilmember I see participation on the Spokane Regional Justice Council (I know Spokane Valley has two members from the City staff and several Spokane Valley Citizens on the SRJC) as being critical. The criminal justice system needs to have a balance of jail alternatives, increased mental health and substance misuse resources, and an equal voice for victims, survivors, and offenders in the discussions about how to reduce the revolving door of repeat offenders. I also see the need to support resources for the prevention of domestic violence and the protection of the victims so they are not 'hurt by the system' that often seems to not understand their perspective. I will continue to have an open mind and be willing to roll my sleeves up to truly come up with reform.</p>
	<p><b>What kinds of alternatives to incarceration, re-entry solutions, and strategies to decrease recidivism do you support?</b> At GSSAC we have a 24 Hour DUI Education Jail Alternative program that has a very low recidivism rate. As well the Domestic Violence Consortium has a DV Victims Panel very similar to our Spokane County DUI Victims Panel (started in 1982 which is how I became Executive Director at GSSAC) which is about changing attitudes with education, resources, and treatment as needed. I believe we need more jobs creation for those coming through re-entry and community support for given hope to those starting again. I will be a change agent in this effort Locking people up is not solving the problems--we need creative</p>

	alternatives that are solution based, successful and sustainable.
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