

Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati, Inc  
JUDICIAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE 2012

A candidate's position on life issues is important to pro-life voters. Whether sponsoring legislation, setting policy, or making public statements, the candidates we elect are crucial for promoting the sanctity of life. Please identify your positions on the following issues.

Candidate Name: Donald E. Oda II

Candidate Signature: 

Phone:

Email:

Position and District Sought: Warren County Common Pleas Court Judge

Have you previously held any public office? Please specify: County Court Judge (elected in 2004 and 2010)

1. Which former U.S. president's political philosophy best matches your own?

- Gerald Ford
- Jimmy Carter
- Bill Clinton
- George H.W. Bush
- Ronald Reagan
- George W. Bush
- Barack H. Obama
- Other (please specify)

I am particularly fond of Reagan's famous quote: "I've noticed everyone who is for abortion has already been born."

2. Which U.S. Supreme Court Justice's legal philosophy best matches your own?

- Roberts
- Stevens
- Scalia
- Kennedy
- Thomas
- Ginsburg
- Breyer
- Alito
- Sotomayor
- Other (please specify)

I admire many of the ground-breaking opinions of Justice Alito, particularly several before he was a Supreme Court Justice involving overturning bans on religious activity in schools and upholding the ban on partial-birth abortion.

3. Rate your judicial philosophy regarding the U.S. Constitution on a scale of 1-10 with "living/evolving document" being 1 and "strict constructionist" being a 10:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

I reject the "living/evolving document" theory of Constitutional construction because it is most often used to change what the Constitution says into what a judge wants it to mean. However, a "strict constructionist" approach in every single circumstance can, in some circumstances, lead to absurd results.

4. In *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), the U.S. Supreme Court recognized a "right to privacy" under the Constitution that includes abortion. The Constitution does not include this right.

- Agree
- Disagree
- Undecided

Comments:

*Roe v. Wade* is one of the worst examples of judicial activism in the history of the Supreme Court. The Constitution does not contain a right to privacy nor to an abortion, so the justices created one to fit their needs and further a liberal, social agenda.

6. Judges should refrain from "legislating from the bench." The translation of public policy into law and the creation, extension, modification or limitation of citizens' rights (and governmental authority) are properly within the province of the legislative, not judicial, branch of government.

- Agree  
 Disagree  
 Undecided

Comments:

Judges are servants of the law - they are not its master. It is not the role of a judge to create rights or laws. However, the courts are the final arbiters of the Constitution and it is a judge's duty to strike down those laws where the government is infringing on protected Constitutional behavior.

7. An unborn child is biologically human at every stage of his or her biological development, beginning at fertilization.

- Agree  
 Disagree  
 Undecided

Comments:

I believe that life is sacred and must be protected from the point of conception until natural death. As a society, we are judged by how we protect our weakest and most vulnerable members. The greater the effort to dehumanize these babies, the more difficult it is to protect them.

8. The law should be applied to pro-life demonstrators in the same manner as is applied to environmental, anti-war and labor demonstrators.

- Agree  
 Disagree  
 Undecided

Comments:

I agree that individuals, regardless of their cause, have the right to peacefully assemble and demonstrate. The courts cannot evaluate the right to free speech based on the content of the speech. I am also opposed to using organized crime laws (RICO, etc.) against pro-life organizations who lawfully advocate against abortions and those who perform them.

9. There is no provision in the current Ohio Constitution intended to require the use of public funds for abortion.

- Agree  
 Disagree  
 Undecided

Comments:

I do not believe any public funds should ever be used for abortion, except where necessary to save the mother from imminent death.

10. List all organizations to which you have contributed time or money in the past four years.

Springboro Baptist Church, Elizabeth New Life Pregnancy Center, Warren County Right to Life, NRA, Cincinnati Autism Society, Safe Haven Farms, Family First, Springboro Food Pantry, Warren County GOP, Warren County Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Municipal Judges Association and Warren County Farm Bureau.

