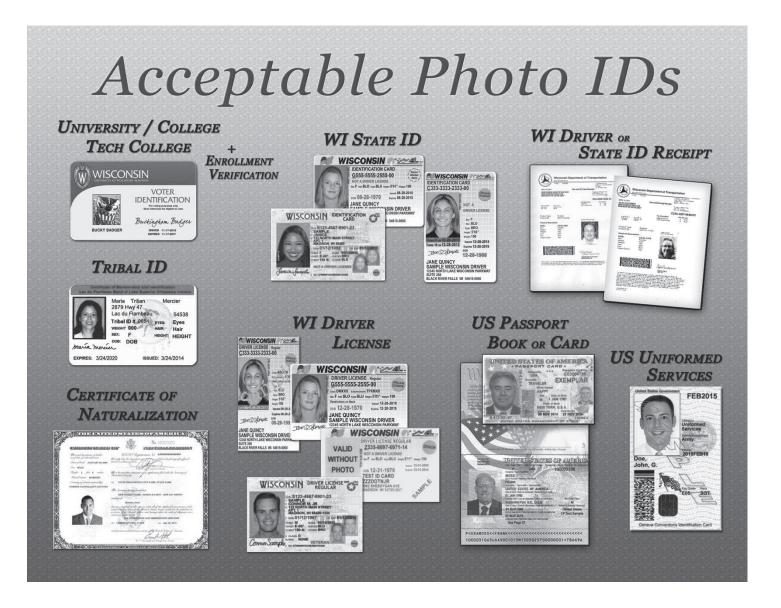
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The Court would also benefit from, where appropriate, making its operational/administrative decisions and processes more transparent. For example, recently the Wisconsin Supreme Court—with Rebecca Bradley voting with Justices Roggensack, Gableman, Prosser and Zeigler—voted to quash efforts both to review the judicial code of conduct and to improve the transparency with which members of the important Judicial Commission are selected.

4. I have advocated for fair, impartial courts free from partisan politics and unregulated special interests from my first campaign to this one. In 2011 when I earned 750,000 votes in my campaign for Supreme Court which featured one of the highest voter turnouts ever in a Supreme Court election, I participated in public financing. That was the first and only time public financing was available in Wisconsin. I have shown I have the courage to stand up to partisan politics and unregulated special interests despite their attacks. I am the only candidate in this race who has not been appointed or anointed putting me in the best position to credibly advocate for fair and impartial courts as a Justice.





Spring 2016 Nonpartisan Election Voters' Guide Wisconsin Supreme Court Election Day: Tuesday, April 5, 2016

About This Guide

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin (LWVWI) has surveyed the candidates for Wisconsin Supreme Court in the 2016 Spring Nonpartisan Election. This Voters' Guide contains verbatim responses from the candidates, listed in ballot order. Candidates were asked to keep their answers under 100 words. "No Reply" is noted for candidates who did not respond to the League questionnaire.

Please share this Voters' Guide. Permission to copy and distribute this Guide is granted provided that no candidate's answers are altered in any way, that equal treatment in the duplication of the responses to any question is afforded all candidates and that the LWVWI is acknowledged. No portion of this Voters' Guide may be duplicated for campaign purposes.

The League of Women Voters does not endorse individual candidates or political parties. We encourage citizens to learn about the candidates and issues by accessing print, broadcast and cablecast media, libraries, websites and by attending debates and forums throughout the election period. Visit the League's online voter information at www.VOTE411.org.

Voting In Wisconsin

Qualifications: You must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old by Election Day and a resident in your voting district for at least 10 days prior to Election Day to qualify to vote. If you have moved from another Wisconsin residence where you are registered to vote less than 10 days before an election, you may vote in your former district by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are available from your municipal clerk's office. For more information, contact your local clerk or visit the Government Accountability Board's Voter Information website at myvote. wi.gov/.

Voter Photo ID: Wisconsin law requires voters to show an acceptable photo ID to receive a ballot and have it counted. If you do not have an acceptable ID, you should be given a provisional ballot which will be counted if you bring your ID to your polling place before 8 p.m. or to your municipal clerk's office by 4 p.m. the Friday after the election. See back page for examples of valid voter photo ID. For more information go to bringit.wi.gov/ or contact your local clerk.

Election Day Voter Registration: You must be registered in order to vote. You may register in person at your municipal clerk's office until 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the Election, or you may register at the polls on Election Day. It is also possible to register by mail or with a Special Registration Deputy. If you have a Wisconsin driver's license or Wisconsin ID card, you will have to provide that number. If not, you will be asked for the last four digits of your Social Security number. You will also have to provide proof of Wisconsin residence. There are several types of official documents with your current and complete name and address that qualify. You may display your proof of residence document as an electronic file on a smart phone or tablet. Contact your municipal clerk or visit myvote.wi.gov/ for detailed information.

Wisconsin Supreme Court

About the Supreme Court: According to the *Wisconsin Blue Book*, the Wisconsin Supreme Court heads the judicial branch of our state government. It is composed of seven justices, each elected statewide to a ten-year term. The Supreme Court is primarily an appellate court and serves as Wisconsin court of last resort. It also exercises original jurisdiction in a small number of cases of statewide concern. A justice must have been a licensed attorney in Wisconsin for the five years preceding election to judicial office. According to the Wisconsin Blue Book, the salary for a Supreme Court Justice is \$147,403.

Questions Posed To The Candidates

- 1. What educational, professional, civic and community experiences have you had that qualify you for this elective office?
- 2. Describe in lay terms the duties of a Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice. What types of cases are heard by the Court?
- 3. What procedural or legislative changes might improve the operations of the Court?
- 4. How will you as a Supreme Court Justice advocate for fair and impartial courts in Wisconsin?



Rebecca Bradley

Committee:

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Twitter Username: https://twitter.com/JudgeBradleyWI

Education: Marquette University, Honors B.S., Business Administration and Economics; University of Wisconsin Law School, Juris Doctor

Experience/Qualifications:

Before answering a call to service, Justice Bradley practiced law for over 16 years, most recently concentrating in civil litigation and business transactions and serving as an arbitrator. Justice Bradley was appointed to the Wisconsin Supreme Court in October 2015. Her service on the Wisconsin Court of Appeals and as a Milwaukee Circuit Court Judge make her the first justice to bring both trial court and intermediate appellate court experience to the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Organizations (local, state, national):

Wisconsin Advisory Committee to US Commission on Civil Rights; State Bar of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Trial Judges Association, Federalist Society, St. Thomas More Lawyers Society, Milwaukee Forum

Community Involvement:

Comprehensive Approaches to Youth who have been Sexually Exploited Committee member; Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation Board member; past volunteer for families of developmentally disabled youth.

Candidate's Answers

- 1. Prior to serving as a Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice, I served on the Wisconsin Court of Appeals and as a Milwaukee County Circuit Court Judge. I am the first to bring judicial experience on both the trial court and intermediate appellate court benches to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Before answering a calling to public service, I practiced law for over 16 years in civil litigation, appeals, and business transactions, and worked as an arbitrator. My volunteer services have focused on developmentally disabled and disadvantaged youth, civil rights, and victims of human trafficking. I have lived in Wisconsin my entire life.
- 2. Justices hear cases in all areas of law, including civil, criminal, child welfare, family and probate. The Supreme Court does not hear every case presented to it; the Justices decide which cases to hear based on criteria such as whether a case raises an important issue of constitutional law. The Court has administrative and regulatory authority over the Wisconsin court system and the practice of law in the state. The Court holds public hearings on petitions for the creation or amendment of rules governing practice and procedure in judicial proceedings in all courts. The Court also decides lawyer disciplinary cases.
- 3. As a current Justice, I am well-situated to suggest changes to improve Court operations. The Court follows internal operating procedures, under which historically it has heard cases September through June. I would advocate that the Court hear cases throughout the year so that justice is not delayed for any party and the people of Wisconsin have the benefit of receiving the Court's opinions expeditiously. I have also joined the other Justices in unanimously urging the Wisconsin Legislature to create a study committee on access to legal services in civil matters for the people of Wisconsin who cannot afford them.
- 4. I advocate, through my opinions and speeches, that the role of judges and justices is to state what the law is, not what they prefer it to be. The judiciary should defer to democratic processes resulting in the creation of laws by legislatures and not impose policy preferences in judicial decisions. The judiciary should apply the law fairly, impartially, and independently, free of political agendas. America was founded on the principle that Constitutional laws enacted by the people's legislative representatives should be upheld by the judiciary, not second-guessed. I apply these principles regardless of which political party enacted the law.



JoAnne Kloppenburg

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Twitter Username:

@Kloppenburg4Jtc

Education:

JD, University of Wisconsin Law School (1988) Order of the Coif, University League Award, cum laude M.P.A. Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton (1976) B.A. Yale, (1974) honors, cum laude

Experience/Qualifications:

Presiding Judge, Wisconsin Court of Appeals, District 4 (2015-present), Assistant Attorney General, Wisconsin Department of Justice (1989-2012), Director, Environmental Protection Unit (1993-2003), Adjunct Faculty, University of Wisconsin Law School, Civil Procedure (1990, 1992), Law Clerk, Chief Judge Barbara Crabb, Western District of Wisconsin (1988-1989), Intern for Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Shirley Abrahamson, Elected to Wisconsin Court of Appeals, 2012, Ran for Wisconsin Supreme Court in 2011, earning 750,000 votes in the Supreme Court race with the highest voter turnout in recent history.

Organizations (local, state, national):

Board Member, Wisconsin Trust Account Foundation (2014-present), Member, Wisconsin Court System Planning and Policy Advisory Committee (2014-present), Speaker to bench and bar groups around the state and at conferences around the country (1993-present), Volunteer Faculty, University of Wisconsin Law School Intensive Skills Course (1992-present), Volunteer Judge (quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals) for University of Wisconsin Law School and Marquette University Law School Moot Courts, and for Wisconsin High Mock Trial Tournament (2011-present), Coordinator and Adjunct Instructor, University of Wisconsin Law School Department of Justice Extern Program (1995-2012), Volunteer Mediator, Dane County Bar Association (2010-2012), Volunteer Attorney, Dane County Foreclosure Clinic (2010-2012), Board Member, Wisconsin Legal Action (1991-1993), Active member of my union as an Assistant Attorney General, Peace Corps Volunteer (1976-1979)

Community Involvement:

ESL Tutor, Mentor, Dane County Bar Association and University of Wisconsin Law School, Neighborhood Association Volunteer and Board Member.

Candidate's Answers

- 1. For over 26 years I've stood up for the people of Wisconsin as a judge and an assistant attorney general. I'm the presiding judge on the Wisconsin Court of Appeals, District 4, the court immediately below the Supreme Court. I've issued hundreds of appellate decisions. Before being elected to the Court, I was a litigator and prosecutor at the Wisconsin Department of Justice, handling environmental and constitutional law cases and many others in circuit courts around the state, the Wisconsin Supreme Court and federal courts. I served in Peace Corps in Africa before law school. I've volunteered extensively since. I was elected to the Court of Appeals in 2012. In 2011, I earned 750,000 votes in a Supreme Court election that featured one of the highest turnouts ever in a Wisconsin Supreme Court election.
- 2. Supreme Court Justices have a duty to uphold the constitution, to decide cases without fear or favor, to protect individual rights, and to reach decisions free of partisan or ideological bias. The Supreme Court, as an institution, should serve as a check and balance on the other political branches of government. The Supreme Court has the great power of judicial review: the ability to strike down laws that are unconstitutional. The Supreme Court chooses the cases it hears and hears cases in all areas of the law. Its decisions have direct impacts on people's lives and communities, and our State.
- 3. The public's trust in the Supreme Court and the Court's work would be improved if the Court strengthened its recusal rules, i.e. when a Justice must excuse him or herself from a case.

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