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TO: Zachary Acres, President, Grant County Bar Association
FROM: David C. Brody, Professor
RE: 2021 Grant County Bar Association, Judicial Applicant Bar Poll
Date: April 5, 2021

The following results can be reported for the 2021 Grant County Bar Association, Judicial Applicant Bar Poll. E-mail invitations to participate in the evaluation were sent to 82 GSBA members. A total of 61 members completed an online evaluation of the five attorneys who submitted their names to the Governor for consideration to be appointed to a Grant County Superior Court judgeship. Members of the bar were asked to anonymously evaluate each candidate with respect to the following five criteria.

Legal Ability Analytical ability, an interest in legal scholarship, qualities of wisdom, intellect, common sense, knowledge of rules and procedures, and a commitment to keeping up with changes in the law constitute important criteria.

Judicial Temperament Respect for the judicial process, ability to work with others, ability to be respectful to all counsel and litigants, and the ability to treat all participants with dignity and fairness.

Integrity Free from impropriety and favoritism, disregard of possible public criticism, fair and open-minded, committed to equal justice under the law, and does not engage in unethical or unprofessional conduct.

Relevant Legal Experience The candidate possesses appropriate prior courtroom experience.

Suitability Is this candidate qualified for the position for which they seek?




For each criterion candidates were rated along the following four-point scale:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 | Not Qualified |
| 2 | Qualified |
| 3 | Well Qualified |
| 4 | Exceptionally Well Qualified |

The results reported below consist of a) average ratings for each candidate for the five stated categories, and b) specific responses received for each candidate under each criterion.

Average Ratings Received in Each Category

Average scores, ranging from 1 through 4, received by the candidates for each of the five categories are reported below.

	Legal Ability	Judicial Temperament	Integrity	Relevant Legal Experience	Suitability
Melissa K. Charlson	2.28	2.37	2.48	2.40	2.20
Tyson R. Hill	3.35	3.51	3.54	3.42	3.38
	2.83	3.00	3.00	3.03	2.83
	3.22	3.30	3.50	3.18	3.20
	1.36	1.63	1.66	1.28	1.27

The remainder of this report presents more detailed information on the responses received by each applicant. It should be noted that although 61 attorneys submitted questionnaires, many respondents did not rate one or more of the applicants on one or more criteria. This is to be expected in a Bar Poll given that respondents may not be familiar with one or applicant regarding one or more criteria. In such circumstances, respondent routinely refrain from giving a rating.

Detailed Results Obtained by Melissa K. Charlson

Legal Ability Average = 2.28

Not Qualified	13	28.3%
Qualified	16	34.8%
Well Qualified	8	17.4%
Exceptionally Well Qualified	9	19.6%
Total Providing Ratings	46	

Judicial Temperament Average = 2.37

Not Qualified	13	28.3%
Qualified	12	26.1%
Well Qualified	12	26.1%
Exceptionally Well Qualified	9	19.6%
Total Providing Ratings	46	

Integrity Average = 2.48

Not Qualified	9	20.5%
Qualified	17	38.6%
Well Qualified	6	13.6%
Exceptionally Well Qualified	12	27.3%
Total Providing Ratings	44	

Detailed Results Obtained by Melissa K. Charlson cont.

Relevant Legal Experience Average = 2.40

Not Qualified	12	26.7%
Qualified	14	31.1%
Well Qualified	8	17.8%
Exceptionally Well Qualified	11	24.4%
Total Providing Ratings	45	

Suitability Average = 2.20

Not Qualified	14	30.4%
Qualified	18	39.1%
Well Qualified	5	10.9%
Exceptionally Well Qualified	9	19.6%
Total Providing Ratings	46	