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## 2006 North Carolina Voter Guide

### Questionnaire for State Judicial Candidates

NORTH  
CAROLINA  
*Family*  
POLICY  
COUNCIL

#### Candidate Information

(Please Print or Type)

Candidate Name Sarah Parker Party Affiliation Nonpartisan Election  
(optional)  
 Office Sought Chief Justice NC Supreme Court District/Seat Statewide/Parker seat  
 Campaign Address PO Box 12113 City Raleigh State NC zip 27605  
 Campaign Phone/Fax 919-828-4565 919-828-4566 Campaign Website WWW.chiefjusticesarahparker.com  
 Candidate Signature Sarah Parker Date 25 August 2006  
(required)

#### Candidate Questionnaire

Please indicate your position on the following questions by placing a mark in the appropriate space.  
 You may provide additional comments and explanations for your responses on a separate sheet of paper.  
 (Failure to answer will result in a listing of "No Response" in the 2006 Voter Guide.)

- Which of the current justices of the United States Supreme Court most closely reflects your judicial philosophy?  
See attached page  
 Alito  Breyer  Ginsburg  Kennedy  Roberts  Scalia  Souter  Stevens  Thomas
- On a scale of 1—10, please rate your constitutional judicial philosophy, with a "living document" approach being a "1" and a "strict constitutionalist" or "originalist" approach being a "10."  
See attached page  
 1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10
- Do you believe that a judge has the right to display the Ten Commandments in his or her courtroom?  
See attached page  
 Yes  No  Undecided
- In *Lawrence v. Texas*, 539 U.S. 558 (2003), the United States Supreme Court recognized a right to homosexual sexual relations under the United States Constitution. Do you agree with the *Lawrence* decision, which recognizes a constitutional right to homosexual sexual relationships?  
See attached page  
 Yes  No  Undecided
- In *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), the United States Supreme Court recognized a right to abortion under the United States Constitution. Do you agree with the *Roe* decision, which recognizes a constitutional right to abortion?  
See attached page  
 Yes  No  Undecided

(OVER)

2

# 2006 North Carolina Voter Guide Questionnaire for State Judicial Candidates — Page 2



6. In *Lofton v. Secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services*, 358 F.3d 804 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2004), the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit upheld the State of Florida's position that individuals who "engage in current, voluntary homosexual activity" do not have the right to adopt children under the United States Constitution. Do you agree with the *Lofton* decision, which recognizes that individuals engaged in current, voluntary homosexual activity do not have a constitutional right to adopt children?

Yes  No  Undecided *See attached page*

7. In *Santa Fe Independent School District v. Doe*, 530 U.S. 290 (2000), the United States Supreme Court ruled that a student-initiated, student-led invocation over the loudspeakers before a public high school football game was unconstitutional. Do you agree with the *Santa Fe Independent School District v. Doe* decision, which recognizes that student-initiated, student-led invocations prior to a public high school football game violate the United States Constitution?

Yes  No  Undecided *See attached page*

8. In *Kelo v. City of New London*, 126 S. Ct. 2655 (2005), the United States Supreme Court ruled that a governmental entity's use of eminent domain powers to take private property for economic development purposes did not violate the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution. Do you agree with the *Kelo* decision, which recognizes that governmental entities can constitutionally take private property for economic development purposes?

Yes  No  Undecided *See attached page*

*Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your questionnaire. I would appreciate your support in this November 7 nonpartisan election.*

Candidate Signature *Sarah Parker*  
(required)

Date *25 August 2006*

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## CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Since no consistent judicial philosophy emerges from the decisions of the justices of the United States Supreme Court, I have no way of ascertaining which justice's judicial philosophy most closely reflects my own. The opinions of the United States Supreme Court are sometimes full of surprises.
2. No Answer
3. I do not think it is appropriate for a judicial candidate to express an opinion on any issue that has the potential to come before the court. All parties are entitled to a fair and impartial hearing before the court, and decisions should be based on the law applicable to the facts in the record before the court, not on representations made to garner votes during an election.
4. In our system of jurisprudence, the United States Supreme Court is the final authority on the interpretation of the United States Constitution. Article VI, Section 2 of the Constitution of the United States provides:

This constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and *the judges in every state shall be bound thereby*, any thing in the constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding. (Emphasis Added)

Hence, whether I agree or disagree with a decision of the United States Supreme Court is immaterial and irrelevant to the performance of my duties and obligations under my oath as a justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court.

5. Same as for question number 4.
6. I do not think it is appropriate for a judicial candidate to express an opinion on any issue that has the potential to come before the court. All parties are entitled to a fair and impartial hearing before the court, and decisions should be based on the law applicable to the facts in the record before the court, not on representations made to garner votes during an election.
7. Same as for question number 4.
8. Same as for question number 4.

Signature: Sarah ParkerDate: 25 August 2006