

**PA PAC Questionnaire for
North Carolina Appellate Division Candidates – 2020**

Please return the completed questionnaire along with your resume or biographical statement describing education, work history, community service, and prior political experience as soon as possible, but by January 8 at the latest.

You may e-mail your responses to Tom Miller at tom-miller1@nc.rr.com or you may send a printed copy of your responses to PA PAC c/o Tom Miller 1110 Virginia Avenue, Durham, NC 27705-3262

Please note that following the January 8 deadline, the People's Alliance PAC may publish your responses to this questionnaire and your resume.

When answering this questionnaire, please repeat the questions in your response document with each question numbered and organized as it appears here. Type your responses in italics, bold, or a different font to distinguish your responses from the questions. Do not use colors or shading.

Please try to confine your responses to no more than 300 words unless another word limit is indicated. Do not feel obliged to exhaust the limit for each question.

If you use words or ideas from another person, please attribute your source.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire and your willingness to serve the people of North Carolina.

Candidate's name: _____ Judge Fred Gore _____

Court and seat you are running for: _____ NC Court of Appeals Seat 5 _____

Address: _____ PO Box 53231 Fayetteville, NC 28305 _____

E-mail Address: _____ judgefredgore@gmail.com _____

Phone: _____ 919-337-7570 _____

Website: _____ www.judgefredgore.com _____

About you:

1. Please describe how your religious and philosophical beliefs may affect your conduct and decision-making if you are elected.

I am proud Christian and do not shy away from saying that. I will always be a Christian and cannot take that out of who I am. I feel as a Judge we must have compassion and understanding but my religion does not control my decision making with deciding cases.

2. Would you support requiring race equity training for all North Carolina judges? If not, why not? Can you provide an example of your own advocacy for race-equity and diversity?

I would support inherent bias training. I feel that discrimination is not limited to just race. There are levels of bias based upon social and financial status that appear in our courts especially in pro se

cases. If we limit the training to just race we leave out other types of biases that need to be addressed to make sure that fairness is truly blind!

About your practice of law:

2. Please describe your practice as a lawyer. Describe the areas of your practice and your specialties. If, over time, your practice has evolved or changed, describe the changes. Describe your various client bases as a part of your answer.

I am currently a Judge and prior to that I worked as a prosecutor in criminal law. I also do some estate planning as a legal assistance attorney in the military JAG Corp.

3. If you have been a member of an appellate division court, please choose a recent decision you wrote for the court which you feel best illustrates your learning, values, skills, outlook, and temperament as a jurist. If the decision is published, you may simply cite it. If the decision you have selected is unpublished, please provide us with a copy. Please explain why you selected the decision and tell us how it demonstrates your particular fitness to hold the judicial office you are seeking.

Not currently on the appellate court.

4. If you have not been a member of an appellate division court, please describe your practice, if any, in that division. Please provide us with the citation of an appellate decision in a case in which you advocated as lead attorney for one of the parties. The decision you choose should best illustrate the learning, values, skills, outlook, and temperament you would bring to the court as the holder of the judicial office you seek. If the decision you have chosen is unpublished, please provide us with a copy. You may also provide us with the brief you wrote in that case. Explain why you selected this decision.

I clerked for Justice Patricia Timmons-Goodson on the North Court of Appeals in the summer 2004. I prepared concise predisposition memoranda on cases assigned to the chamber.

5. Please describe the nature and extent of any pro bono legal work or other volunteer work you have done which best illustrates your values as a lawyer and as a person.

In 2008 I worked at the North Carolina Legal Aid call center. I conducted client intake and issue spotted calls for review. I advised clients on legal issues to evaluate eligibility of services and evaluated cases for transfer to local offices.

6. Have you ever been the subject of a complaint to the North Carolina State Bar or the North Carolina Judicial Standards Commission? If the answer is yes, please explain the circumstances and the outcome.

No.

Concerning law and policy:

7. Should the North Carolina General Assembly repeal the death penalty?

This question could present as a case before the court so therefore I defer my response.

8. North Carolina incarcerates an extraordinary number of people, including persons convicted of non-violent crimes. Those who are incarcerated are disproportionately people of color. What should be done to address the problems of mass incarceration and racial bias in our legal system?

Greater access to defense resources and investigative tools.

9. Do you think that racial discrimination in the use of peremptory strikes in jury selection is a problem, and, if so, what can be done to address it?

This question could present as a case before the court so therefore I defer my response.

10. Should the North Carolina General Assembly should enact legislation designed to protect gay, bisexual, lesbian, and transgender people from discrimination in housing, employment, public accommodation, and access to government benefits and services?

This question could present as a case before the court so therefore I defer my response.

11. Is the decision of the United States Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade* well founded in law?

Yes.

12. What changes, if any, should be made to North Carolina sentencing laws?

This question could present as a case before the court so therefore I defer my response.

13. What is your position on appointment versus election of judges? Should judicial elections be partisan?

I feel our current election and appointment process is appropriate as it is. Our State Constitution mandates that Judges are elected, and the people have a voice in their selection. I feel judicial elections should not be partisan.

14. What changes, if any, should be made to the composition of the court to which you seek election? What changes, if any, should be made to its jurisdiction?

I do not feel there are any needed changes to the NC Court of Appeals. The current jurisdiction as the intermediate appellate court is appropriate.

15. What changes, if any, should be made to the Rules of Appellate Procedure? How would you change access to the appellate courts?

I would not make any changes at the current time. The current technology initiatives are a great start to allow attorneys and litigants access to the Court. Additionally, live streaming and broadcasting of oral arguments will also grant citizens access to the workings of the appellate courts.

Your politics:

16. Who did you vote for in the 2012 and 2016 presidential and gubernatorial elections? Who did you vote for in the 2014 and 2016 U.S. Senate elections?

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.

Please do not forget to provide us with your resume or biographical statement.