



2021 Civil and Surrogate's Court Judicial Candidate Questionnaire
Completed questionnaires will be public documents.

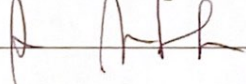
Questions? Get in touch: politics@newkingsdemocrats.com

Name/Title: Rosemarie Montalbano
 current position: Justice of the Supreme Court
 Tenure in current position: Elected 2019-2034

Please describe the types of clients you have represented in your practice.	I have dedicated my entire career, 30 years to public service. I have never worked in the private sector, therefore did not have clients.
Please describe the types of clients you have represented in your current practice, and throughout your career?	I am presently a Supreme Court Justice, Civil Term
If elected, what do you plan to point to as your top two accomplishments that will benefit constituents?	1. To create procedures in the respective departments of the Surrogate's Court and increase assistance to be provided to pro-se litigants to navigate those departments and the court process. 2. Encourage that the Public Administrator's office operates like a city agency, with limitations, regulations, checks and balances.
How, if at all, can the courts address issues of institutionalized racism? How, if at all, could and would you address these issues as a judge?	As a judge I have examined behavior in the courtroom and changes that must happen. What biases, conscious and unconscious many bring and how to improve so that all who enter my courtroom can feel assured that they will receive equal treatment/justice. I have taken numerous Continuing Legal Education classes in implicit bias and believe those classes should be mandatory not optional to not only judges but to all those working in the Court system. Many come to court at their most vulnerable; scared and often confused and overwhelmed. It is not just in applying the law equitably but in taking the time to listen and understand that everyone has faces different challenges and experiences that have brought them into the Courtroom.
Do you think that the current system of electing Civil and Surrogate's Court judges is transparent and	I believe the current system of electing Surrogate's Court Judges is somewhat transparent but not fully.

<p>accountable to the voting public? If so, how? If not, how can the system be improved?</p>	<p>As democrats we have a right to enter the election process, but it is a very difficult. I am an independent candidate running a borough wide grassroots campaign. As a judicial candidate and sitting Supreme Court judge, I am prohibited from discussing policy. I am running on experience and qualifications but reaching voters in a judicial race is very difficult, time consuming and expensive. Most people do not know who the judges are and do not know where they can get information on them. The system can be improved by requiring candidates to make their qualifications and experience public and accessible.</p>
<p>Would you be willing to publicize the completed questionnaires you submitted to the New York City Bar Association and the Kings County Democratic Committee? If yes, please submit these completed questionnaires along with your responses to this questionnaire.</p>	<p>I was found qualified by Kings County Democratic Screening committee and highly qualified by LeGal/LGBTQ Bar judicial screening committee.</p> <p>I have submitted an application to the NYC Bar Association, but my interview has not been scheduled yet.</p> <p>I am attaching my questionnaires but due to some personal information would prefer that it be reviewed by your executive committee and not made public.</p>

I have reviewed this questionnaire and agree that the responses set forth in this document are accurate:

Candidate Signature:  _____ Date: 6/8/2021

You must sign this questionnaire! When complete, please e-mail your signed and scanned questionnaire as a PDF file to politics@newkingsdemocrats.com.