

Questions for Candidates for Court of Appeals Conservative Coalition of Harris County

This questionnaire will be posted onto the Conservative Coalition of Harris County website for public voter viewing.

Candidate Name	Position for which Candidate is Running
Tonya McLaughlin	14 th Court of Appeals Place 4

Please give your answer to each of the following questions and <u>please</u> <u>include</u> <u>your</u> rationale with each answer. Please be concise and clear.

- Please describe the qualifications and experience that make you the best candidate for the office for which you are running. What differentiates you from your opponent(s)?
 Answer: I am a former felony prosecutor with over 17 years dedicated to criminal law. I have argued over 100 appeals, many in the 14th Court of Appeals. I have sat first chair on more than 50 jury trials. My career has been spent in the courtroom.
- 2. Please describe what you believe are the most significant issues in this race and why.

 Answer: The most significant issues in this primary are solid experience and work ethic. I have not bounced around between jobs during my legal career. When I left the DA's office, I built a successful law practice and continued to grow my appellate practice. Additionally, I have campaigned the hardest in the 10 county jurisdiction. I will work as hard in the general as I am working now in my contested primary.
- 3. Do you have judicial experience? To what extent have you practiced in the area of Civil/Family/Probate law?

 Answer: No. I was the 2022 Republican Candidate for the Harris County 262nd
 District Court and lost by just 6000 votes out of over 1.1 million. I would not be running in this race had I won in 2022 because that is a four year term.
- 4. List the state(s) in which you are or have been licensed to practice law, and the date(s) you received such licenses.

Answer: Texas 2006

5. What carries the greatest influence in your rulings: civil case law, the Constitution, state statutes, or other?

Answer: I am a Constitutional Conservative and the Constitution carries the greatest influence.

6. What do you think are the most important aspects of the Court of Appeals that voters should be aware of? Are most appeals handled at this level?

Answer: 90% of all appeals from the lower courts are resolved in the intermediate courts of appeals. These courts hear all appeals from the civil, family, criminal and probate courts; except for death penalty cases. Voters need to be aware that in 2018 we lost our 10 Courts of Appeals seats to the Democrats. This is our opportunity to get them back. We need the majority back and can absolutely make it happen in the general with the right candidates.

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBLITY FOR ALL ANSWERS TO THIS QUESTIONNAIRE. THE ANSWERS ON THE FOREGOING REFLECT THE CANDIDATE'S BEST EFFORTS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTIONNAIRE HONESTLY AND DIRECTLY.

PLEASE SAVE YOUR COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE TO YOUR LOCAL MACHINE IN THE EVENT THAT THERE ARE ANY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS WHEN YOU ATTEMPT TO EMAIL IT BACK.

Once this questionnaire has been completed, please email it to: alex@cchc-pac.org

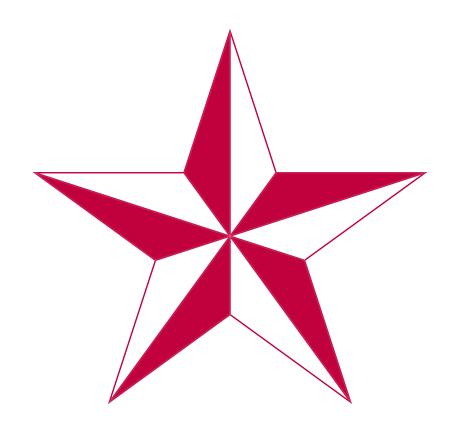
* **Please note**: You <u>must</u> return your questionnaire from the email address to which it was sent. Questionnaires returned from any other email address will be considered fraudulent and will <u>not</u> be recorded and no answers will be published in the voter's guide. CCHC-PAC deems a return from the proper email address as authentication of the correct respondent.

Tonya McLaughlin, Candidate for Justice of the 14th Court of Appeals, Place 4, was born in Linden, Texas, in 1980. She married Reid McLaughlin in 2012, and they have two children – Madeline and Rex. She received her B.A. from Texas State University and a J.D. from South Texas College of Law in 2006. She is a former felony prosecutor for the Harris County District Attorney's Office. Following her time in the DA's office, she opened her own private law practice in Houston, Texas, where she has tried over 50 first chair jury trials and handled over 100 appeals. She and her family are members of Second Baptist Church on Woodway in Houston where her children also attend school. She is asking for your vote in the 2024 primary, but most importantly, to trust her in the job of an appellate court justice.

Tonya McLaughlin for Justice of the 14th Court of Appeals, Place 4

Endorsements:

- 1. Texas Right to Life (TRTL)
- 2. Texans for Lawsuit Reform PAC (TLR)
- 3. Houston Region Business Coalition (HRBC)
- 4. Texas Latino Conservatives (TLC)
- 5. United Republicans of Harris County
- 6. Council member Mary Nan Huffman
- 7. Former District Clerk Chris Daniel
- 8. Former Justice Harvey Brown
- 9. TX House Representative Briscoe Cain
- 10. Alexandra del Moral Mealer
- 11. SREC SD11 Committeewoman Gaylyn Devine
- 12. Jay Zeidman
- 13. Fred Zeidman
- 14. Allen Hassenflu
- 15. Joe Slovacek
- 16. Carl Shaw
- 17. Mary Jane Smith
- 18. Grassroots Activist Norma Brady Jeter
- 19. Jacquie Baly



TONYA—McLaughlin

FOR JUSTICE, 14TH COURT OF APPEALS, PLACE 4

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