



## Questions for Justice of the Peace Judicial Courts Candidates 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
Mike Wolfe	Harris County Justice of the Peace, Precinct 5, Place 1

*Please give your answer to each of the following questions and please include your 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.

**Answer:** I am a longtime Reagan Conservative Activist, Public Servant & Countywide Elected Official who has served our community and the Republican Party at my own personal expense. I have more legal education than the incumbent office holder and I have been far more active in our community, our conservative cause, and I will campaign and fight harder than anyone to keep this seat in Republican hands in this 2020 election year.
- Please describe what you believe are the most significant issues in this race and why.

**Answer:** A Justice of the Peace is elected to do the basics of the job, not to financially profit immeasurably from the role they are elected to perform. Earning north of \$150,000 per year is more than enough money for a Justice of the Peace to earn. I will not perform weddings, and personally pocket the money from such weddings, as the current Justice of the Peace does. JP's in Harris County who perform weddings can double and even triple the income they get paid by the County to perform their actual official duties and that takes away from the typical cases that come before the Justice Court. The county makes no money of those weddings and I simple do not believe any elected official should be profiting in such an outrageous way simply because of the office they hold.

Additionally, the current JP barely won reelection over his Democrat opponent in 2016. In this tough election year of 2020, and as only one of two remaining countywide elected Republican officeholders, I am sacrificing my current elected position to run to win and protect this important Justice of the Peace seat. I have a proven ability to win both primaries and general elections and I will work harder than anyone to win this seat and maintain it for conservatives in this Presidential Election Year. I am a lifelong fighter.

3. Please list the undergraduate colleges or universities, law schools and any other graduate schools that you attended, the years you attended, the degrees you received and the years of any and all graduations.
- Answer:** After earning my B.A. in Political Science with a Focus on Public Administration from the University of St. Thomas in 2000, I earned my Masters Certificate in Health Administration from Houston Baptist University in 2003 and then I completed my first year of Law School at Ave Maria School of Law in 2009, before leaving school when my mom initially became ill. I attended HBU & UST throughout various years from 1995-2003.
4. Should JPs need to have law degrees? Why or why not?
- Answer:** The current JP incumbent in this position does not hold a law degree; I would say that just as U.S. Supreme Court Justices are not required to be lawyers, JP's should not be required to hold law degrees either. However, I have completed a year of law school and I worked at the Harris County Court House for many years under Harris County District Clerk Chris Daniel. Additionally, almost every single one of my best friends are lawyers and so is my dad, so I have constantly surrounded myself with the law throughout almost the entirety of my life.
5. What will carry the greatest influence in your rulings: criminal and/or civil case law, the Constitution, state statutes, or other?
- Answer:** The U.S. Constitution and the laws of the State of Texas.
6. Please identify what changes can be made to the county JP court system to make it more efficient from your point of view.
- Answer:** I will make it my mission to stop J.P.'s from personally profiting from performing marriages. I will also work with court staff as well as the public and county officials to suggest and implement and work towards as I find needed when I take office.
7. Please describe the changes you will make to improve the efficiency of your court (the ideal workload balance for your court in hours-per-week allocated to court sessions, case review in the office, training, collaboration, etc.).
- Answer:** My court room will be open and ready to serve a full work week. This job is not for the faint of heart. I will expect the same work ethic from myself and the court staff.
8. Please explain your view of recidivism and how it affects the sentences you give (traffic court-DUI, etc.).
- Answer:** Recidivism, especially with dangerous DUI cases and with erratic drivers, is a problem that is best curtailed by enforcing the law and showing offenders that such things will not be taken lightly whether it is a first time offender or a multi-decade offender.
9. Please explain why you do, or do not, support applying term limits to JP court judges.
- Answer:** I do support term limits, in general; however I do not know what would work best for J.P. court judges. U.S. Presidents are currently limited to two four year terms. I have just entered the 12<sup>th</sup> year of my two elected terms of the offices I have already been elected to. Somehow, it seems to me that 3 four year terms might be appropriate or even 2 six year terms. The issue is that if term limit supporters self-impose limits on themselves and no one else does, then there will likely never been term limits enacted into law.

10. Do you believe that voluntary professional and community service is a necessary commitment for persons holding public office? What forms of voluntary professional and community service have you been involved with in the past? Currently?  
**Answer:** Voluntary professional and community service is one way for people to give back to their community. I am active in our community in various ways. I am an active Member of Houston's Second Baptist Church at the Woodway Campus. I am also a lifetime Member of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo and I am a member of the Rodeo's Lamb & Goat Committee which helps raise money that benefits kids and education. I am also an Ex-Officio Board Member of the Education Foundation of Harris County and I am serving as an elected Trustee for HCDE. Additionally, I am a member of other groups of a political nature which contribute to the future of our country on many levels in many ways.
11. How would you prepare yourself to handle cases involving unfamiliar areas of the law?  
**Answer:** I will immerse myself in the study of those areas of the law.
12. Is it appropriate to impose more restrictions on what cases go to trial? Is there a need for more mandatory mediation and settlement efforts? What specifically do you propose to do about this, if elected?  
**Answer:** Mandatory mediation and settlement sounds like a decent idea, but at the same time, our fellow Texans deserve access to the justice courts, as the courts closest to the people.
13. When and if would you consider alternative sentences for non-violent offenders?  
**Answer:** That is something that I would have to consider on a case by case basis, as long as it is allowed under the law.
14. As a voter, should the election of judges be changed in any way (schedule, appointment, term, term-limited, non-partisan, etc.)?  
**Answer:** No.

Questions 15-16 relate to your viewpoints from a VOTER's point of view only.  
 (They may have or not have any relation to your judicial philosophy and judgement.)

15. As a voter, what are the main social conservative values that you look for when voting for federal congressional candidates (House and Senate races)?  
**Answer:** Their length of activity in our social conservative movement. Have they stood with us to fight for our values in the face of adversity. Have they made personal sacrifices for our cause? They must share my strong Pro-Life background and commitment. They must support our military and our troops. I also don't want a newcomer to our state and region to be elected to a position when they do not have long and strong ties to our community.
16. As a voter, what are the main fiscal conservative values that you look for when voting for federal congressional candidates (House and Senate races)?  
**Answer:** Will they hold the line on deficits and common sense spending?

BY RETURNING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, THE CANDIDATE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY 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](mailto:alex@cchc-pac.org)

\* **Please note:** You **must** 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 **not** 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.