

2019 Values Voter Guide

SURVEY FOR:

On behalf of the **Cumberland 9/12 Project**, and in conjunction with **Conservative Christian Center** and **Cumberland County ACTION**, we invite you to participate in the **Cumberland County CANDIDATES FORUM**, which will be held on **TUESDAY, April 30, 2019**, from **6:30 PM to 9 PM**. (If the candidate fails to complete the survey, the grade of the survey may result in F. All surveys will have a score.)

Candidate Name & Contact Information

Name: _____ Matt Smith _____

Seeking the office of: _____ Judge – Court of Common Pleas _____

Your Personal Registered Political Party: Republican

District of election: 9th Judicial District

For cross filed elections, what parties do you plan to run under: R and D

E-mail: info@mattsmithforjudge.com

Website: <http://mattsmithforjudge.com>

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/MattSmithForJudge>

Donations or inquiries may be sent to (for publication): <http://mattsmithforjudge.com>

Survey Questions:

I. Background & Experience

*1. Date of birth: 05/24/1972

*2. Education:

Dickinson School of Law, Pennsylvania State University, J.D. awarded May, 2002. Honors: American Trial Lawyers Association (ATLA) Junior Mock Trial Competition, Honorable Mention. Induction into the Order of Barristers, Moot Court Trial Board. Vice President, National Trial Competition Team - Regional Finalist Certificate in Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania. B.A. awarded May, 1995. Major: Policy Studies. Honors: 3-year Army ROTC scholarship.

*3. Military Service: (Yes, No, explain.)

Yes

United States Army/Pennsylvania Army National Guard (1995 - Present)

Deputy Staff Judge Advocate October 2014 - Present

Senior Defense Counsel June 2012 - October 2014

Brigade Judge Advocate November 2010 - June 2012

Trial Counsel September 2009 - November 2010

Intelligence/Operations Law Staff Attorney May 2007 - September 2009

Instructor/Staff Officer May 2002 - May 2007

Intelligence Officer June 1999 - May 2002

Platoon Leader/Administrative Officer May 1995 - June 1999

• Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Citation, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Combat Action Badge, Airborne and Air Assault Badge, and other military awards.

(Military service continued)

- Intermediate Level Education (ILE), Total Army Instructor Training Course (TA-ITC), Tactical Officer Course (TAC), Instructor at Officer Candidate School (OCS), Speaker at military Sexual Assault Responder Course (SARC), Judge Advocate Basic and Advanced Courses, Ordnance Ammunition Officer Basic Course, Subject

Matter Expert (SME) on Military Justice for three different courses (Defense Counsel 101 and 102, Combined Regional Training), other military schools.

- TOP SECRET – SECRET COMPARTMENTALIZED INFORMATION (TS-SCI).

*4. Recent: work experience: __

Office of the District Attorney, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania (2002 - Present)

First Assistant District Attorney November 2018 to Present

Acting District Attorney December 2017

Chief Deputy District Attorney, Trial Division August 2016 - December 2017

Chief Deputy District Attorney, Appellate Division September 2010 - August 2016

Senior Assistant District Attorney October 2004 - September 2010

Assistant District Attorney October 2002 - October 2004

Law Clerk for The Honorable J. Michael Eakin, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

2001 – 2002

- Basic and Advanced Prosecutor Courses, Insurance Fraud Prosecutor, Interrogation Law Seminar, Chief of Appellate Division, Chief of the Trial division, Chief of Forfeiture Unit, panel member for Pennsylvania Bar Institute (PBI) seminar on forfeitures.

*5. What is your marital status?

Married to my wife, Krista, for 22 years.

*6. Do you regularly attend a house of worship?

Yes_xx, No _____, Occasionally_____

***II. Survey Questions:** (Even if you don't think the office you are running for has the power to effect the changes in each question, please answer as if you did have the power.) (Try to pose your FINAL answers as FAVOR or DISAGREE.)

*1. Would you support the existing law regarding the deporting of illegal aliens who committed a felony?

Since it is an existing law, of course as a Judge I would support it.

*2. Should government pay for members of the military to have sex change operations?

No. Should count as elective surgery.

*3. Does "separation of church and state" prohibit churches from receiving public funding to address drug addiction?

No.

* 4. If enacted as law, would you cut of funds to any locality which protect illegal aliens from law enforcement (ie. Sanctuary Cities, aka "outlaw cities").

If law, yes.

*5.) What is your position on providing a tax credit to businesses that donate to recognized 501(c)3 non-profit scholarship organizations which provide scholarships for low-income students at private and religious schools, K-12? (Favor or not favor)

Favor.

*6) Do you believe our Constitution is based upon natural law (ie., our rights come from God?)

Natural law is separate and apart from any man-made law and by definition, cannot be compared. However, as a country founded on Judeo-Christian faith, the founders certainly incorporated concepts into the Constitution.

*7) Do you believe that judges should evaluate the Constitution as being "strict constructional" (aka. "originalist") or as being a "living document?"

Strict Constitutionalist.

*8) People (& students) should be allowed to use public restrooms, showers, and changing rooms based on the "gender identity" that each individual chooses. Agree or disagree?

Disagree.

*9) Abortions in some states are allowed in the third trimester. Unborn children, born during the third trimester, regularly survive.

a) Are there any health reasons of the mother during the third trimester that requires an abortion as opposed to a live birth?

As I am not a medical doctor, I do not feel qualified to answer based on my own knowledge. I have read numerous statements from Obstetricians indicating that inducing a live birth to protect the health of a mother in the third trimester is much safer for her than a third trimester abortion. On medical issues, I must defer to physicians. Personally, I believe in the sanctity of human life, and I would not be a father today if my children were aborted by their biological mothers; I'm eternally grateful they chose life.

b) For third trimester abortions, do you favor or oppose?

Oppose.

*10. As part of President John F. Kennedy's well known 1960 "Separation of Church and State" speech, he said that those who step out into the public square must be silent on this critical subject of what guides them in life when they seek office. Agree or disagree?

Disagree. I think one can—and should-- be fully respectful of others' beliefs while expressing their own faith.

*11. Please explain your personal spiritual faith. Use as much space as you like or attach separately.

I have stated many times that it is impossible to do what I do--work to bring justice for murder victims, children who have been abused, and survivors of violent crime--without my faith; I rely on it heavily. It provides me with hope when I feel hopeless and strength when I'm feeling weak. For me, the reassurance of "the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come" was always familiar growing up in the church; but it has come to mean even more to me as a prosecutor, working for victims of horrific crimes.

Affirmation: *I do hereby affirm that the preceding survey questions have been answered truthfully by the undersigned & do represent my personal views.*



Signature _____ **Date** 4/11/19

(only the candidate listed on page 1 is eligible to sign)