

**WASHINGTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
COURT RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT JUDGE CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. **Name**: State your full name, including any former names used.

Phillippe Anthony Melograne.

2. **Position**: State the position that you are seeking.

Magisterial District Judge, District 27-3-01

3. **Addresses**: List your current office address, as well as the city and state of your residence.

453 Valleybrook Road, Suite 100, McMurray, Pa. 15317

- a. List your office addresses for the past ten (10) years, including the years spent at each address.

Washington Trust Building, Suite 311, Washington Pa. 15301

27 West Main St., Carnegie, Pa. 15106

- b. List each city and state where you have resided to the past ten (10) years, including the years spent at each address.

201 TRINITY DRIVE
McMURRAY, PA 15317-2515
WASHINGTON COUNTY ▼ (2000 - Current)

201 TRINITY DR
PETERS TOWNSHIP, PA 15317-2515
WASHINGTON COUNTY ▼ (04/2006 - Current)

124 CHALET DR
CENTRAL CITY, PA 15926-7921
SOMERSET COUNTY ▼ (12/2000 - 2023)

6845 LINDEN AVE
ANDOVER, OH 44003-9717
ASHTABULA COUNTY ▼ (03/2007 - 2022)

4287 E BARLIND DR
PITTSBURGH, PA 15227-1225
ALLEGHENY COUNTY ▼ (01/1982 - 01/2003)

6 THURNER DR
PITTSBURGH, PA 15236-1948
ALLEGHENY COUNTY ▼ (01/1982 - 01/2003)

4. **Birthplace:** State the year and place of your birth.
Jan. 13, 1961, Pittsburgh. (Adopted at birth)
5. **Education:** List in reverse chronological order each high school, college, or any other educational course of study or institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, date of graduation, whether a degree was received, identify each degree and the date each degree was received.

Baldwin-Whitehall High School, 1974-1978

University of Pittsburgh, 1978-1982 (Bachelor of Science, Political Science; minor in Economics)

Duquesne School of Law 1983-87. Juris Doctor

6. **Employment Record:** List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

1978-1985: Boilermaker, Ironworker, Steelworkers, Laborer. (Summer employment)

1983-1987: Law Clerk, Michael Foglia, Second Avenue, Pittsburgh

1987-1989: Associate, Zagari and Scalise, Lawyers Building, Pittsburgh

1989-1997: Assistant District Attorney, Allegheny County

1987-2010: LoPresti, Melograne and Zinski, Pittsburgh

2010-2011: Court of Common Pleas of Washington County, by appointment of Gov. Rendell

2012-2015: Stewart, Melograne and Zinski

2015-Present: Melograne Law Offices, Washington Trust Building, Washington Pa.

7. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Dean's List, University of Pittsburgh

Senatorial Scholarship, University of Pittsburgh, 1978

8. **Memberships:**

- a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, to which you belong, or to which you have belonged. Provide dates of membership or participation, indicate any office you held, and describe your activity with the listed organizations. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

Boilermakers Local 154

Ironworkers Local 3

United Steelworkers of America

Laborers International Union of North America Local 1058

Italian Heritage Society of America, solicitor

Elks

Firearms Owners Against Crime

National Rifle Association

Veterans of Foreign Wars (social member)

Free and Accepted Order of Masons of Pennsylvania

- b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response Question #8a currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

I belong to no organizations that discriminate.

9. **Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:**

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

I have had unsuccessful candidacies for the Court of Common Pleas

Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, Washington County, appointed by governor.

Magisterial District Judge, Washington County, appointed by Sens. Devlin Robinson and Camera Bartolotta, unanimously confirmed by Pennsylvania State Sen., Commission signed by Gov. Tom Wolf

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

- c. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organization(s).

10. **Legal Experience:** Summarize your involvement and experience with any legal and/or judicial system(s).

More than 36 years of legal experience in both civil law and as a prosecutor in thousands of cases from low-level misdemeanors to major felonies including homicides and sexual assaults.

In private practice I handled cases in criminal, civil, family and appellate courts. As a Common Pleas Judge presided over hundreds of cases in the Family, Criminal and Civil Divisions in the Court of Common Pleas.

As Magisterial District Judge, presided over hundreds of cases including criminal preliminary hearings, civil disputes, landlord-tenant, truancy, traffic and non-traffic hearings. My duties also include reviewing and issuing arrest and search warrants. I also reviewed and issued emergency Protection-from-Abuse Orders. I presided over weddings and created diversionary programs for youthful offenders.

11. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts of interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such

conflict if it were to arise.

I foresee no conflicts-of-interest.

- b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

Recusal.

12. Relationship with the Bar: Describe your relationship with the Washington County Bar Association and how that relationship would be affected if you were to be elected Magisterial District Judge.

I enjoy cordial relationships with members of the association and would expect to continue that relationship on a professional basis while on the bench.

13. General Questions:

- a. What is the most significant challenge facing the local magisterial district courts and how can that challenge be addressed?

Prosecutors, defense attorneys, police and citizens often find themselves at a disadvantage in terms of scheduling because of an absence of evening hours. I would petition the courts to permit at least one night a week for evening sessions to ease any backlog and provide flexibility for people in search of legal relief.

- a. Do you anticipate being onsite at your magisterial district office during all normal business hours?

Yes.

- b. Would you offer or would you anticipate offering evening or alternate hours to accommodate the public?

See the above answer.