



JUSTICE FREE FROM SPECIAL INTERESTS

## **VOTERS CAN ENSURE THAT WE HAVE FAIR COURTS AND EQUAL JUSTICE FOR ALL BY EXERCISING AN INFORMED VOTE FOR JUDGES.**

Today, all across the nation, the independence of courts is threatened by powerful special interests seeking to tip the scales of justice in their favor. The success or failure of special interest efforts to weaken the courts rests on their ability to mislead voters, particularly if voters lack sufficient knowledge about how independent courts uphold the rule of law. Voters must protect fair courts and equal justice for all by exercising an informed vote.

*Know The Facts. Protect The Courts.*

A PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES



# Fair and Impartial Courts are a Sacred Tenet of our Democracy.



## **COURTS ARE THE ONE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT ABOVE POLITICS.**

The Founding Fathers created the court system to uphold the Constitution and provide balance in government. We depend on courts to rule fairly and impartially in every case, based on the evidence and equal application of the law. The courts must be independent and separated from political influence. Politics have no place in an unbiased court.

## **POLITICIZED JUDICIAL RACES THREATEN THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE COURTS.**

By protecting the poor, the minority and the unpopular, courts are vulnerable to attacks by those whom they hold accountable. Supporting or opposing judges based on the popularity of their decisions undermines fairness, equality and impartiality. Voters can protect independent courts by considering a judge's character, integrity and impartiality instead of a political or special interest agenda.

## **JUDGES MUST BE SELECTED ON THEIR CHARACTER, INTEGRITY AND IMPARTIALITY - NOT POLITICS.**

Methods of selecting judges vary state to state, but all systems share one common goal – to ensure that those on the bench honor their oath to hand out fair, impartial, and equal justice under the law. Voters must understand the role of the courts and the qualities to consider when evaluating judges. Doing so will help voters make informed decisions.



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## **About The National Association of Women Judges**

NAWJ is the nation's leading voice for women jurists dedicated to preserving judicial independence; ensuring equal justice and access to the courts for women, minorities and other historically disfavored groups; providing judicial education on cutting-edge issues; and increasing the numbers and advancement of women judges at all levels to more accurately reflect their full participation in a democratic society. NAWJ members include federal, state, tribal, military and administrative law judges at both the appellate and trial levels from every state in the nation. The National Association of Women Judges "Informed Voters - Fair Judges" project is a nonpartisan voter education project developed to increase public awareness about the judicial system, to inform voters that politics and special interest attacks have no place in the courts, and to give voters the tools they need to exercise an informed vote in favor of fair and impartial courts.

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