



1. Your name as it will appear on the ballot and zip code in which you live: David Lee Spurgeon 15131
2. Link to your campaign website, or social media whichever you prefer (this is optional):
WEBSITE: <https://judgespurgeon4commonwealth.com> FB
PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/judgedavidspurgeon4commonwealthcourt>
3. To which Court do you seek an appointment, election or retention? PA Commonwealth Court (statewide)
4. (a) What has been the general nature of your practice, and if it has changed through the years, please describe.

1996-1998 – I served as an associate attorney in a civil law firm focusing primarily on personal injury claims, insurance defense, insurance subrogation and contractual disputes.

1998 – 2001 – As an assistant district attorney my focus was on criminal law - prosecuting misdemeanor and felony cases from charging decisions to verdict.

2001- 2009 – I was promoted to the Domestic Violence Trial Unit prosecuting all cases involving intimate partner violence. During this time, I also was assigned a homicide trial calendar and became a trainer in the area of domestic violence.

2009 -2016 – I promoted to Deputy District Attorney and became the youngest person to hold that position. In addition to a full trial calendar, my responsibilities increased to supervising the attorneys assigned to the Domestic Violence Trial Unit, Mental Health Court Unit and Pittsburgh Municipal Court. I was integral in the development of the Veterans Court docket as well as the only Repeat Batterers accountability docket in Pennsylvania, and subsequently supervised attorneys assigned to that trial units.

2016 – present – Judge, Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County. I preside in the Family Division where I hear all cases pertaining to families and children. I preside over adoptions, dependency, delinquency and Protection From Abuse matters in my role. I also serve as the chair on several working groups addressing systems change within the courts.

(b) Describe your practice with particular areas of concentration, if any.

Civil, Criminal, Family and Orphans’ Court matters. I am a National expert in the area of domestic violence and have been named a National Judicial Fellow by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges for my judicial leadership.

5. With respect to the last five years:



(a) Did you appear in court regularly, occasionally or not at all? If the frequency of your appearances in court has varied during this period, describe each such variance, giving the dates thereof.

I am trial judge that appears in court everyday. I also spent nearly 19 years as a trial lawyer in court and supervising others in court on a daily basis.

(b) What percentage of these appearances was in:

1. Federal courts
2. State courts of record – 100%
3. Other courts/Administrative Agencies or other forums.

(c) What percentage of your litigation was:

1. Civil – **60%**
2. Criminal – 40%

(d) State the number of cases in courts of the record you tried to verdict or settled, indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel or associate counsel. During my nearly 19 years in the DA's Office, I tried thousands of cases to verdict as sole counsel; including misdemeanor, felonies as well as homicides. I could not report an exact number because we were in court everyday and often tried at least one case non-jury each day.

(e) What percentage of these cases was:

1. Jury – 10%
2. Non-jury – **90%**

7. Furnish at least three examples of legal articles, books, briefs, or other legal writings which reflect your personal work. If briefs are submitted, indicate the degree to which they represent your personal work: See attached

8. (a) Have you ever held judicial office? If so, give dates and details, including the courts involved, whether elected or appointed, periods of service, and a description of the jurisdiction of each of such courts with any limitations upon the jurisdiction of each court: Yes. 2016 – appointed to fill a vacancy on the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas; 2017 – elected to Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas for a full 10 year term.

(b) Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? If so, give details, including the office involved, whether elected or appointed, and the length of your service, giving dates: No.

(c) Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? If so, give details, including dates: Yes. 2015 - Court of Common Pleas withdrew after not being endorsed and did not file petitions.



9. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business or profession other than the practice of law or the holding of judicial or other public office? If so, give details, including dates:

Rental property
(managed by a real estate company) 2017 - Present

Duquesne University School of Law
600 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15282
Adjunct Professor of Law 2012 – Present

Point Park University
201 Wood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Adjunct Professor 2011 – 2013

Allegheny County Commissioner's Office
Room 103 Courthouse
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Constituent Liaison 1996

Law Office of Bruce Antkowiak
1 Northgate Square
Greensburg, PA 15601
Law Clerk 1996

Duquesne University
600 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15282
Student Aide via Financial Aid 1994 - 1996

Office of the Pennsylvania Attorney General
565 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Law Clerk 1994-1996

Sandcastle Water Park



1000 Sandcastle Drive
Homestead, PA 15120
Bartender/Server

Summers 1994 – 1995

Pennsylvania State Senate
The Honorable Michael Dawida – 43rd District
314 East Eighth Avenue
Homestead, PA 15120
Legislative Aide

1993 - 1994

Kennywood Amusement Park
4800 Kennywood Boulevard
West Mifflin, PA 15122
Ride Operator/Manager

Summers 1990 - 1993

10. Have you ever been convicted or pled *nolo contendere* when charged by federal, state or other law enforcement authorities for violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, county or municipal law, regulation or ordinance? If so, give details. Do not include traffic violations for which a fine of \$100.00 or less was imposed: No.

11. Do you presently have an outstanding support or alimony order against you? If so give details and dates and explanation. No.

12. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state or local authorities? If so, give particulars: No.

13. Have you ever been sued by a client? If so, give particulars: No.

14. Have you ever been a party or otherwise involved in or had a pecuniary interest in any civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give the particulars. Do not list proceedings in which you were merely a guardian ad litem or stakeholder. Include all legal proceedings in which you were a party in interest, a material witness, were named as a co-conspirator or a co-respondent and any grand jury investigation in which you figured as a subject or target. No.

15. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics or unprofessional conduct by, or been the subject of a complaint to, any court, administrative agency, bar association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? If so, give the particulars: No.



16. List any honors, prizes, awards, or other forms of recognition which you have received other than those mentioned in answers to the foregoing questions. Include any lectures delivered or symposia you have participated in within the last five years.

Edward G. O'Connor Award for Public Service – Allegheny County Bar Foundation Fellows Program

Judicial Fellow - National Judicial Fellow National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

Duquesne University School of Law – adjunct professor of law – 6 credit class for law students in their last year.

Point Park University – adjunct faculty – School of Criminal Justice

I have participated in numerous presentations in conjunction with various CLE providers including groups such as the Allegheny County Bar Association, and the Pennsylvania Bar Institute

I have appeared on a local public access channel called “Newsmakers” discussing public access to available court services

I recently served as a guest legal expert on Court TV, discussing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to family violence.

17. List any personal charitable or communal activities you are or have been involved in, and the names, addresses, and phone numbers of three persons who are not lawyers, and who know of your activities.

White Oak Animal Safe Haven, Inc.
2295 Lincoln Way
White Oak, PA 15131
Advisory Board of Directors *2012 - 2021*

Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation
611 William Penn Place, Suite 303
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Board of Trustees *2016 - Present*

McKeesport Regional History & Heritage Center



1832 Arboretum Drive
McKeesport, PA 15132
Board of Directors

2019 – Present

Karen Boros 412.491.9515; Vanessa Gobbel 412.225.0229; Juliann Kirk 412.969.3632

18. List all organizations and associations other than bar associations or professional associations or professional societies of which you are or have been a member, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social, and fraternal organizations:

Beulah Park United Methodist Church – serving in various leadership roles

Polish National Alliance

Croatian Fraternal Union of America

- (a) Do any of the above presently not have women and/or minority members? No.
- (b) If there are no women or minority members, please identify the entity and explain

19. Are you a member of a club, organization or association that by policy or practice prohibits or limits its membership on the basis of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender, disability or national origin? No

20. State briefly why you consider yourself qualified to be a judge and how you would improve our system of justice.

. He is endorsed by the Pennsylvania State Democratic Committee and the working men and women of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO. The Pennsylvania Bar Association has rated him “Highly Recommended” for the appellate seat and he is the only candidate to receive the highest judicial rating for Commonwealth Court. Judge Spurgeon has served in the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas since 2016. Assigned to the Family Division, he handles all matters involving children and families. He has been recognized as a national expert on domestic violence and has been named a Judicial Fellow by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges for his judicial leadership. Judge Spurgeon regularly participates as a panelist and contributor in various local, state, and national forums addressing intimate partner violence. He currently serves as the Chair of the Family Violence Work Group for the 5th Judicial District. Recently, Judge Spurgeon appeared as a guest legal expert on Court TV discussing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on family violence.



An accomplished trial lawyer, Judge Spurgeon began his career in private practice in 1996. He joined the Allegheny County District Attorney’s Office as an Assistant District Attorney in 1998 where he remained until 2016. He prosecuted all crime types, including homicide. Judge Spurgeon was promoted to the Domestic Violence Trial Unit, where he tried some of the most heinous cases involving women, children and pets as victims. In 2009, Spurgeon was the youngest person promoted to Deputy District Attorney. He became a certified police instructor at the Allegheny County and City of Pittsburgh Police Academies, while he maintained a full trial calendar and supervised a large group of attorneys. An advocate of diversionary courts, he assisted in the creation of Veterans’ Court and supervised the attorneys assigned to Mental Health Court. Spurgeon was integral in the development of the first specialized accountability docket in Pennsylvania to address repeat batterers of violence. He was the County Coordinator for the STOP grant under the Violence Against Women Act and co-chair of the DV Task Force. Spurgeon implemented the first Intimate Partner Violence Homicide Review Team to identify systematic breakdowns and prevent future violence. During his tenure, he was the first prosecutor honored by the Allegheny County Bar Foundation with the O’Connor Fellows Award for his contributions to public service and was recognized as one of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County’s Top Public Servants by Champion Enterprises.

Judge Spurgeon has served as adjunct faculty at Point Park University and is currently an adjunct professor at Duquesne University School of Law. Judge Spurgeon is a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association serving on various committees within the organization, including the Diversity Committee. He was rated “Highly Recommended” by the Judiciary Committee of the Allegheny County Bar Association when he ran for Judge. His community involvement includes past participation on the Board of Directors at the Center for Victims, WomansPlace and White Oak Animal Safe Haven – a no kill animal shelter. He currently serves on the Board of Directors on the McKeesport Regional History and Heritage Center and is a Trustee at the Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation. Judge Spurgeon also serves on multiple boards and committees within his family church.

Always interested in improving our courts, Judge Spurgeon serves on multiple committees to address systems changes to alleviate obstacles and inherent flaws in the current system. He recently received a research grant that he is using to study whether the courts have become more accessible during the pandemic because of the used of advanced communication technologies. His goal is be elected to the statewide appellate court and make a larger impact for all citizens of the Commonwealth.

21. State any other information which you regard as pertinent.

“HIGHLY RECOMMENDED” top rating for Commonwealth Court by the Pennsylvania Bar Association (the only candidate to receive this rating by either party)



22. List all endorsements received to date.

Pennsylvania State Democratic Party (PA Dems)
Pennsylvania National Organization for Women (PA NOW)
Black Clergy of Philadelphia and Vicinity, Inc.
Pennsylvania Democratic Latino Caucus
Congressman Dwight Evans
Senate Leader Jay Costa
House Leader Joanna McClinton
Rep. Malcolm Kenyatta
Rep. Brian Sims
1st Ward - Philadelphia
2nd Ward - Philadelphia
5th Ward - Philadelphia
8th Ward – Philadelphia
22nd Ward Open Caucus – Philadelphia
Liberty City LGBTQ+ Democratic Club
Steel City Stonewall Democrats
Pennsylvania AFL-CIO
Pennsylvania Council of Teamsters
Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers
Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties
Senator Jim Brewster
Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski
Rep. Austin Davis
Rep. Ryan Bizzarro
Rep. Robert Merski
Rep. Marty Flynn
Rep. Pam Snyder
Rep. Anita Kulik
Rep. Rick Krajewski
Rep. Mike Carroll
Rep. Emily Kinhead
Rep. Mike Schlossberg
Rep. Jeanne McNeill



Rep. Peter Schweyer
Ricky's Pride PAC
14th Ward Independent Democratic Club
Gertrude Stein Political Club
Lehigh Valley 4 All
Pennsylvania Professional Firefighters
Pittsburgh Firefighters
Philadelphia Firefighters
Erie Firefighters
Allentown Firefighters
Allegheny-Fayette Central Labor Council
Philadelphia Central Labor Council
Greater Harrisburg Central Labor Council
Westmoreland Central Labor Council
Lehigh Valley Central Labor Council
Philadelphia Building Trades
Pittsburgh Building Trades