

Ramsey County Bar Association
Questionnaire for Judicial Candidates in Local Contested Races

1. *What is your full name?* Timothy Patrick Carey
2. *Does your campaign have a website or Facebook page? If so, please list it.*

www.judgetimothycarey.com
3. *List the colleges and law schools you have attended, including your dates of attendance and degrees awarded.*

Saint John's University, (Collegeville, Minnesota) September 1990-May 1994, B.A.,
Psychology

Mitchell Hamline (When it was Hamline University School of Law) August 2006 to May
2009, J.D.

4. *List where you have been employed since graduation from law school, including dates employed, your position and the nature of your employment responsibilities.*

Ramsey County Community Corrections Department, March 1999-October 2010, Probation/Parole Officer: Completed Psychosexual Evaluations of the need for and amenability to sex offender treatment for the Court's use at sentencing. Completed some Pre-Sentence Investigations on cases presumed to be commits to the custody of the Commissioner of Corrections on criminal sexual conduct cases. Managed a small caseload of convicted sex offenders who transferred into Ramsey County from other jurisdictions.

Guzman Law Firm, November 2010 – June 2012, Associate Attorney: Filed petitions seeking guardianships over persons with disabilities and conservatorships over their estates. Represented petitioners through court appearances and contested hearings. Drafted estate planning documents for families who often needed to establish Special Needs and Supplemental Needs Trusts for a loved one, in addition to standard wills and health care directives.

Ramsey County Attorney's Office, July 2012 -March 2022, Assistant County Attorney: Represented the State in criminal pre-trial, omnibus, and motion hearings, and completed jury trials to verdict in the Criminal Division (July 2012-November 2012). Represented the State in paternity, child support establishment, and contempt actions within the Child Support Division (November 2012-March 2014). Filed petitions to civilly commit people for treatment as mentally ill, chemically dependent, mentally ill and dangerous, sexual psychopathic personalities, or sexually dangerous persons. Wrote appellate briefs on all forms of commitment cases and argued at the Court of Appeals. Worked extensively with community, county, and state partners towards increasing

access to care and resolving issues caused by significant gaps in the mental health infrastructure.

Represented the Minnesota County Attorney's Association on the Community Competency Restoration Task Force, identifying gaps in the mental health system relative to people charged with crimes, how to address those gaps. Assisted in drafting legislation to better address cases at the intersection of the criminal justice system and the mental health system. Supported colleagues as an AFCSME Union Steward. Co-Chair of the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee's Welcoming and Inclusive Workplace Sub-Committee. (March 2014-March 2022)

Second Judicial District Court Judge, April 2022 to Present: Preside over arraignments, omnibus, pre-trial, and motion hearings. Take pleas, sentence people convicted of Misdemeanor, Gross Misdemeanor, and Felony level offenses. Hear contested evidentiary matters, bench trials, jury trials, and requests for post-conviction relief. Issue orders stemming from these proceedings. Review and respond to requests for search warrants from local law enforcement agencies; review and respond to criminal complaints filed with the Court. Preside over Veteran's Treatment Court, Mental Health Court, and Competency Court (for people whose competence to proceed to trial on a pending criminal charge is at issue.) Hear housing court preliminary and trial calendars and some probate calendars. Work extensively with the Public Defender's Office, Ramsey County Attorney's Office, and Human Services to formalize the work of the Second District's Behavioral Health Unit.

5. *Have you ever been convicted of a crime or publicly disciplined by a lawyer or judicial standards board? If so, feel free to provide an explanation.*

No.

6. *What is/was the general nature of your practice? Indicate any areas of practice in which you concentrate or concentrated. (Response limited to 150 words.)*

As a judge, I spent just shy of two years hearing misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, and felony level matters from arraignment through bench or jury trials, pleas, and sentencing. Now, I preside over Veteran's Treatment Court, Mental Health Court, Competency Attainment Court, and Housing Court.

For over eight years of my career as a lawyer, I focused on seeking court orders for treatment or support of people whose mental illnesses, developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, or sexually harmful conduct posed a risk to the community or themselves. I worked on legislative efforts to close gaps in services to those involved in the criminal justice system, in part, due to their various diagnoses.

As a lawyer and as a judge, I have developed and maintained strong relationships with service providers, case managers, state and local hospital staff, prosecutors and defense counsel.

7. *What percentage of your practice is/was litigation?*

65%

8. *Why do you want to be a district court judge? (Response limited to 150 words.)*

As a district court judge, it is an honor to serve the community that has been my beloved home since June of 1994. This community is among the most ethnically and racially diverse in the state, which has contributed to my sincere care for the Second District and my deep roots here. My demonstrated commitment to fairness through adherence to the law and genuine concern for this community are among the primary reasons I would like to continue along my long career of public service. I have intentionally navigated the course of my career with a consistent commitment to community well-being via twelve years as a probation officer, eleven years as a lawyer, and over two years as a judge. I want to continue to use the unique expertise I have assembled to do the best work to deliver justice in our community.

9. *What qualities do you believe are most important in a district court judge? Explain how you have demonstrated that you possess those qualities. (Response limited to 250 words.)*

I am dedicated to public safety. For twelve years, I developed my professional skills to meet the needs of community safety, relative to people who commit sex crimes. This required ongoing training in research-validated risk assessments, excellent writing skills in service to the sentencing judge, direct supervision in the community, and collaboration with specifically trained service providers, to decrease recidivism of the most difficult assaults people endure. This commitment to community safety is an important quality, applicable through many of the judicial assignments; and I have engaged it to help guide my decisions as a lawyer and a judge.

I am a hard-working public servant. I continued my work as a probation officer as I completed law school. In my work as a lawyer and a judge, I have never remained consigned to the basic duties of the job. I have always taken on extra projects to help improve the goals of the work. Most significantly, I have worked to help develop the Behavioral Health Unit on the Second District's bench, to implement the procedures necessary to meet complicated new statutory requirements for improved access to mental health care, and to train other judges, lawyers, and treatment providers.

I am an empathic listener who provides a space for people of all walks of life to be meaningfully heard on the issues that mean the most to them. I give the parties and their concerns, the time, focus, and respect they deserve.

10. *Why do you believe you are the best candidate for this district court judge seat? (Response limited to 250 words.)*

I have a deep knowledge of the law based on over ten years of courtroom-based practice as a lawyer and application of the rule of law to the cases and controversies that have come before me as a judge. On the bench, I have applied the law in the face of heart broken litigants and frustrated lawyers. I have presided over careful jury selection

processes, that sometimes required potential jurors to discuss privately held painful experiences. I have a demonstrated capacity for making immediate evidentiary rulings at contested hearings. And, as a judge, I have had the ability to sit in the difficult spaces that the facts and law create, for longer periods of time, through protracted litigation processes. I am intellectually nimble enough to learn and apply the law for each case that arises, while also understanding the best practices, scientific knowledge, or policy implications the specific fact patterns represent. I am fair to both sides and to the community. I uphold the law, even when its application can fall far short of repairing the harm the controversy represents to a person. I move beyond the immediate work to problem solve for better outcomes for personal well-being and community safety.