

**CANDIDATE BACKGROUND INFORMATION**  
**All responses will be made available to the public**

**Name** Celeste D. Bell

**Name as it will appear on ballot** Celeste D. Bell, Judge of Circuit Court

**Community in which you live** Clayton Township

**Education**

GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, San Francisco, California  
J.D. awarded 1986 (class rank 17/143)  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, Ann Arbor, Michigan  
Bachelor of Arts in Speech & Communications granted in 1978

**Employment Record**

2015-2018	GENESEE COUNTY OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY-CIVIL DIVISION
2005-2015	GENESEE COUNTY OFFICE OF CORPORATION COUNSEL
1997-1999	CONTRACT COUNSEL, Madison Heights, Michigan
1991-1994	OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY, San Francisco, California
1986-1991	OFFICE OF STAFF ATTORNEYS, UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT, San Francisco, California

**Judicial Offices held**

Genesee County Circuit Court Judge, appointed effective February 20, 2018

**Public Office held**

Member (all positions appointed), Swartz Creek Area Fire Department Board, April 2015-February 2016

**Honors and Awards**

**List any scholarships, honorary degrees, or other public acknowledgments.**

None.

**Professional Affiliations**

Genesee County Bar Association

**Court Admission**

State of Michigan (1987)  
State of California (1986)  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (1987)  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit (2013)  
U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California (1992)  
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan (2005)  
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan (2013)

**Published Writings**

None.

### **Five Year Practice History**

- A. Did you appear in court regularly, occasionally, or not at all?** As county civil counsel, I appeared in court occasionally in the 5 years prior to my appointment. I most recently represented in the County Clerk in 2 litigation cases involving election matters.
- B. What percentages of these appearances were in: federal courts, state courts of record, other courts?** The majority (probably 90%) of my court appearances were in state court; the remainder in federal court.
- C. What percentage of your litigation was civil or criminal?** My litigation practice was entirely civil. After the merger of the Corporation Counsel office into the Prosecutor's office, I was exposed to criminal practice but did not personally litigate any criminal cases.
- D. State the number of cases you tried to verdict or judgment (rather than settled) in courts of record, indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel or associate counsel.** I have tried to a verdict or judgment perhaps half a dozen cases in the last 5 years because my role as county civil counsel was primarily advisory. I was, however, the office litigation attorney handling many of the matters kept in-house and in charge of supervising the outside attorneys hired in county matters.
- E. What percentage of these were jury or non-jury.** All were non-jury; either bench trials or proceedings before the Election Commission.
- F. If you believe the responses to A-E do not reflect your experience, please describe any experience which you consider the equivalent of trial experience.** I was a civil litigation attorney for the years I was a deputy city attorney in San Francisco. We carried caseloads of over 80 active cases in both state and federal courts.

### **Law Related Teaching**

#### **Have you ever taught a law course at a college or law school? Please detail.**

During law school I was the teaching assistant for the Writing and Research classes at Golden Gate University, School of Law. After law school, I was the adjunct professor in charge of the Golden Gate University School of Law's judicial externship program for about 5 years.

### **Endorsements**

UAW

Michigan AFSCME Council 25, AFL-CIO

Prosecutor David Leyton

Sheriff Robert Pickell

Judge Joseph J. Farah

Other elected officials and members of the legal and general community

### **Pro Bono Activities**

#### **Describe any pro bono community services activities in which you have engaged.**

None.

### **Disciplinary Action**

None.