

**PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE FOR LAWYER CANDIDATES**

**FOR JUDICIAL OFFICE IN LUZERNE COUNTY**

All candidates for judicial office in Luzerne County are being asked to complete this questionnaire. The information that you provide will be used by the Pennsylvania Bar Association to enable it to inform the public of your qualifications for judicial office. The PBA will make this questionnaire public by posting it on this Web site: www.pavotesmart.com.

**1. PERSONAL INFORMATION**

- a. Full Name: Michael Angelo Rendolphi
- b. Have you ever been know by any other name?  yes  no  
If so, please state other name: \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Firm Name: Michael A. Rendolphi, Esquire
- d. Firm Address: 1141 Wyoming Avenue  
Forty Fort, PA 18704
- e. Date of Birth: 9/21/65
- f. Law school where you obtained your law degree (Juris Doctor or equivalent):  
Widener University School of Law
- g. Date you obtained your law degree: 5/18/91
- h. Are you a citizen of the United States?  yes  no
- i. Have you ever had any military service?  yes  no

If so, have you ever been rejected or released from any of the armed services for reasons other than honorable?  yes  no

If so, give all details. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2. PERSONAL BACKGROUND:**

a. Are you now or have you ever been an officer or director or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise?  yes  no

i. If so, give details, including the name of the enterprise, nature of the business, the title of your position, the nature of your duties and the term of your services:

Dendolpha Holdings, Inc., President and 85% shareholder.

Subchapter 'S' Corporation I formed with my wife to purchase my commercial building to practice law.

M.T.M., Inc., Secretary/Treasurer and 50% shareholder - owns Birney Beverage Beer Distributorship.

b. Have you ever held any level of judicial office?  yes  no

If so, give dates and details, whether elected or appointed and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. Have you ever held public office other than a judicial office?  yes  no

If so, give details: LaFlin Borough Councilman (1984-1987)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3. PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND:**

a.	<u>Firm Name</u>	<u>Start Date/End Date (mo/yr)</u>
i.	<u>Sole Practitioner</u>	<u>8/91 - Present</u>
ii.	<u>Brodwarz + Randolph</u>	<u>11/91 - 8/97</u>
iii.	_____	_____
iv.	_____	_____

b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and dates of admission.

<u>PA Supreme Court</u>	<u>11/20/91</u>
<u>U.S. District Court (Middle District)</u>	<u>12/19/91</u>
<u>U.S. Court of Appeals (3rd Circuit)</u>	<u>1/24/92</u>
<u>U.S. Supreme Court</u>	<u>4/14/97</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____

**4. EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:**

a. List each college, university and law school you attended, including dates of attendance and degrees awarded:

<u>School Name</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Graduation/End Date</u>	<u>Degree/Certificate Awarded</u>
<u>UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON</u>	<u>9/83</u>	<u>5/87</u>	<u>B.S. in Public Administration</u>
<u>WIDENER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW</u>	<u>8/88</u>	<u>5/91</u>	<u>Juris Doctorate</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

5. **TRAINING AND BACKGROUND:**

a. Describe in the space below any judicial-related training that you have received, including internships, clerkships, arbitrations, mediations, CLE course study, etc.

multiple arbitrations and appointments as  
master for divorces

b. State whether you are a special trial master in the Common Pleas Court of Luzerne County or a certified mediator for the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania:

Special Trial Master             yes             no  
Certified Mediator             yes             no

c. Do you currently devote full time to the practice of law?  
 yes             no

If not, how much time do you devote to the practice? \_\_\_\_\_ (hours per week)

c. What is the general nature of your practice and if it has changed during the years?

divorce, custody, support, dependency and  
termination of parental rights, adoption,  
criminal defense and plaintiff personal  
injury

e. Describe your practice with particular areas of concentration, if any. \_\_\_\_\_

family law, criminal defense and plaintiff's  
personal injury

f. With respect to the last five years:

i. Did you appear in court regularly, occasionally or not at all?

almost on a daily basis

ii. The percentage of these appearances was the following:

Federal Court

State Courts of Record

Other courts/administrative agencies or other forums

90  
10

iii. The percentage of your litigations was the following:

Civil

Criminal

75  
25

6. **LITIGATION:**

Whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel or associate counsel within the last five years, state the following:

a. The number of civil jury trials you have tried to verdict. 5

b. The number of civil bench trials you have tried to verdict. 2

c. The number of mandatory arbitrations you have tried to verdict. 0

d. The number of underinsured motorist cases you have tried in arbitration. 0

e. The number of civil cases that you settled. 20

f. The number of criminal jury trials you have tried to verdict. 5

g. The number of criminal bench trials you have tried to verdict. 0

h. The approximate number of hearings in which you have participated, either criminal or civil, before a district justice. 200

i. The number of administrative hearings that you have presented before any administrative judge or board. 20

j. The number of cases you have presented to a U. S. Bankruptcy Judge. 0

k. The number of cases you have presented to award before a Workers' Compensation Judge. 0

l. The number of Orphan's Court proceedings resulting in litigation. 1000-1050

m. The number of juvenile proceedings in which you have participated. 50

7. **CORPORATE BACKGROUND:**

a. Do you have any business background or corporate experience?  
\_\_\_\_\_ yes                       no

b. If so, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. Does your practice include business or corporate litigation?  
\_\_\_\_\_ yes                       no

8. **LICENSE:**

a. Has your license to practice law ever been suspended or revoked?  
\_\_\_\_\_ yes                       no

If so, please explain, including the date that your license was reinstated.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. Has any other professional entity or body with licensing authority denied, suspended, or revoked your registration or license (i.e. real estate, insurance, investment, etc.)?  
\_\_\_\_\_ yes                       no

If so, please explain in detail. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- c. Have you ever been a party or otherwise involved in civil or criminal proceedings? If so, give the particulars. **Do not** list any proceeding in which you were merely a guardian ad litem or shareholder. Include all legal proceedings in which you were a conspirator, co-respondent/defendant, and/or in which you figured as a subject or appeared as a witness in any grand jury investigation.

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NO

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**9. CRIMINAL BACKGROUND:**

- a. Have you ever been arrested for a felony or misdemeanor (excluding motor vehicle violations)?  
 yes                       no

If so, please explain in detail including the outcome of such proceeding.

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- b. Are you now the subject of any complaint, investigation or proceeding that may have criminal ramifications or adversely affect your professional license?

yes                       no

If so, please explain in detail.

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c. Have you ever been the subject of any complaint or proceeding that alleged sexual harassment or any form of discrimination?

\_\_\_\_\_ yes  no

If so, please explain in detail. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

d. Have you ever been charged with DUI? \_\_\_\_\_ yes  no

If so, when did this happen and what was the outcome in detail?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. **PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNAL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATIONS:**

a. List all bar associations and professional societies of which you are or have been a member. Provide the titles and dates of any office(s) that you have held in such groups and list chairmanships of any committee or memberships on any committee that you believe to be of particular significance.

Chairman, Young Lawyers Division of Luzerne County Bar Association  
Wilkes-Barre Law Library Association  
PA Bar Association  
PA Trial Lawyers Association

b. I have lectured or taught for the following law schools or bar/professional organizations:

Luzerne County Community College Paralegal Program  
Lackawanna Junior College Municipal Police Officer Training Program  
National Business Institute (divorce proceedings)



c. I have lectured on or taught about the following subjects:

divorce, custody, support, criminal defense, case preparation, corporate law, mock trial preparation

d. I have written for the following publications and the topics were as follows:

N/A

e. List any honors, prizes, awards or other forms of recognition that you have received other than those mentioned above.

Chairman, Young Lawyers Division of Luzerne County

11. **PERSONAL POSITION**

Please fully describe below or on a separate sheet the reasons why you consider yourself qualified to be a judge and how you would improve our current system of practice.

We need judges who are honest, have integrity and that will adjudicate disputes over a level playing field, regardless of the parties before them or the lawyers representing

them. My three point campaign that separates me from the other candidates are as follows:

(1) Trial Experience

I have unparalleled trial experience trying every single type of case over 18 years, resulting in me being in a courtroom practically five days a week. I have the experience to hit the ground running and do not need on the job training.

(2) Change

I have a multi point plan for change which will create more transparency and openness within the judiciary and make my courtroom more taxpayer friendly by putting the public interests above the public officials. Some examples are as follows:

(a) Court en banc meetings should be transcribed by a court reporter with the transcript being available to the public and/or the press.

(b) The presentation of motions should be in an open courtroom and not in a judicial chamber.

(C) all court-related hirings should be made by a majority vote of the court in banc after due publication and advertisement.

(D) The cases on my docket shall be scattered on an hourly basis throughout the day in lieu of requiring 40-50 parties to be present at 9:00 am, waiting for their cases to be called

(E) I will reestablish motions court in the family law division / orphan's court to further allow lawyers to handle family law emergencies.

(F) advocate for additional funding for children & youth dependency families so that they will receive the necessary services to be reunited with their children

(3) accountability to the People and work ethic

My background is from a blue collar / coal mining family who have founded a strong work ethic into me all of

my life. I will bring that work ethic to the court with the intent on putting the public interest above public officials.

**THE APPLICANT MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING AFFIRMATION**

I swear or affirm that I have read and understand the preceding questions and that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I assume the responsibility of promptly informing the Pennsylvania Bar Association of any changes to the answers provided for the questions contained on this form.

SIGNATURE: 

PRINT NAME: Michael A. Pendolphi

DATE: 4/28/09