

North Carolina FreeEnterprise Foundation  
2010 Questionnaire  
Candidates for North Carolina Appellate Courts

Please complete and return  
by June 11 Deadline

**SECTION I. Candidate Personal Profile Information**

Name: SANFORD L. STEELMAN JR Party (optional): Democrat Republican Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Office Sought (circle): N.C. Supreme Court N.C. Court of Appeals, seat: STEELMAN  
Address: P.O. Box 28352 City: RALEIGH State: NC Zip: 27611  
County of Residence: UNION Length of Residence in County: 34 years  
Home Phone: N/A Work Phone: 919-831-3790 Mobile Phone: 704-578-4931  
Email: judge@judgesteelman.org Fax: N/A  
Gender: N/A Race/Ethnicity: N/A Religion: BAPTIST  
Place of Birth (city/state): N/A / \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: 9/11/1951  
Marital Status (circle): Married Single Divorced Separated Number of Children: 3  
Occupation: JUDGE NC COURT OF APPEALS Employer: ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF COURTS  
Military Service: NONE High School: N/A  
Colleges/Universities Attended: DAVIDSON COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA, UNC  
Law Degree Received From: UNC  
Previous Elected/Appointed Offices: RESIDENT SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE (1994-2002); NC COURT OF APPEALS (2003-present) WEDDINGTON TOWN COUNCIL 1985-1994

**SECTION II. Candidate Campaign Information**

Name of Campaign Committee: CITIZENS FOR JUDGE STEELMAN  
Campaign Email: judge@judgesteelman.org Campaign Website: judgesteelman.org  
Campaign Phone: 704-578-4931 Campaign Fax: N/A  
Campaign Address: P.O. Box 28352 City: RALEIGH State: NC Zip: 27611  
Campaign Treasurer: STACEY SIMPSON Campaign Treasurer Phone: N/A  
Political Consultants: N/A

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Do you plan to participate in North Carolina public financing program?

Yes No Undecided *SINCE I AM UNOPPOSED, AM INELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE  
I FILED TO PARTICIPATE PRIOR TO CLOSING OF FILING*

Considering your personal and professional associations, how likely are you to receive support from each of the following groups?

	Very Likely	Likely	Unknown	Unlikely	Very Unlikely
A. North Carolina Advocates for Justice (formerly the Academy of Trial Lawyers)	①	2	3	4	5
B. Medical Groups (ex. Doctors, Hospital Administrators)	①	2	3	4	5
C. Banking & Finance Industry	①	2	3	4	5
D. Utility/Telecommunications Companies	①	2	3	4	5
E. Real Estate & Construction Industry	①	2	3	4	5
F. Labor Unions	①	2	3	4	5
G. Retail/Wholesale Businesses	①	2	3	4	5
H. State Employees Association of N.C. (SEANC)	①	2	3	4	5
I. Insurance Industry	①	2	3	4	5
J. N.C. Association of Educators (NCAE)	①	2	3	4	5
K. Business Professionals (ex. Architects, Accountants, Engineers)	①	2	3	4	5
L. Transportation Industry	①	2	3	4	5
M. Agri-business Interests	①	2	3	4	5
N. Legislative Leadership Committees	①	2	3	4	5

*SEE COVER LETTER*

Are there other groups not listed that you would expect to receive a campaign contribution or endorsement from? (Ex. Lillian's List, Anti-Tax Groups)

*NONE THAT I AM AWARE OF. AM NOT SOLICITING CONTRIBUTIONS  
NOR AM I SEEKING ENDORSEMENTS AT THIS TIME*

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**SECTION III. CANDIDATE QUESTIONS & STATEMENTS**

**Instructions:** Please respond to the following questions and statements by circling the response that best represents your position or opinion. You are invited to provide additional comments or explanations for your answers on a separate page. Please be sure to identify which question you are commenting on by noting the appropriate question number with your additional comments.

1. Of the justices currently serving on the United States Supreme Court, whose judicial philosophy most closely reflects your own? (Circle one response)

Alito Breyer Ginsburg Kennedy Roberts Scalia Sotomayor Stevens Thomas

NONE OF THE ABOVE - SEE LETTER

2. Do you believe the words and meaning of the Constitution should be interpreted in the context of our present culture or as closely to the intent of the original authors as possible?

Present Culture Original Authors Undecided

SEE LETTER

3. Do you believe judges in North Carolina should be appointed by the Governor instead of elected by the people?

Yes  No Undecided

SEE LETTER

4. Have you owned or managed a business? (If so, please describe below.)

Yes  No

I WAS A PARTNER IN 4 MEMBER LAW FIRM FOR 8 YEARS  
SOLE PRACTITIONER FOR 4 YEARS. TWO-PERSON PARTNERSHIP  
FOR 2 YEARS

5. For every \$100.00 of sales, about how much profit do you believe the average North Carolina business nets? (Circle one response)

Under \$1 \$1-5 \$5-10  \$10-25 \$25-50 Over \$50

6. Do you believe the current level of taxes paid by North Carolina businesses is too high, too low, or about right? (Circle one response)

Too high  Too low  About right





## *Citizens for Judge Steelman*

May 23, 2010

NORTH CAROLINA FREE ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION  
P.O. Box 12406  
Raleigh, NC 27605-2406

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I do not have an opponent in this fall's election, which makes my race somewhat different than the other appellate judicial races. This letter will explain some of the answers given in light of this fact.

I have indicated that it is very likely that I will receive support from all groups, since I have no opponent. Prior to the closing of the filing period, I was endorsed by the North Carolina Advocates for Justice Political Action Committee, the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys North Carolina Defense Fund, BUILDPAC of the North Carolina Homebuilders Association, and the Coca-Cola Consolidated Employee Committee for Government in North Carolina. Subsequent to the closing of the filing period, I was endorsed by the North Carolina AFL-CIO. These endorsements are from widely divergent groups, and reflect their belief that I have been an honest and fair judge who follows the law, and brings no political agenda to the bench. I am not actively soliciting contributions or endorsements from any groups at this time, but am responding to questions from various groups that are not overly "litmus test" driven.

As to the question pertaining to the current members of the United States Supreme Court. I refuse to be defined by the body of work of another person. Each of the individuals listed has personal strengths and weaknesses. I am accountable for my own strengths and weaknesses, not theirs. None of them accurately reflects my personal judicial philosophy. Each of these justices brings with them baggage that I refuse to carry.

As to the question on the election of judges. The present system of non-partisan judicial elections creates the substantial risk that judges will be elected based upon whether their name is a standard name, and by their gender. For many voters, this is the only information that they have when they cast their ballots. I favor an initial partisan election, followed by retention elections. This eliminates the weaknesses of the present system, and still preserves the right of the public to remove a bad judge.

*Citizens for Judge Steelman, P.O. Box 28352, Raleigh, NC 27611-8352  
Telephone: 704-578-4931  
Website: [www.judgesteelman.org](http://www.judgesteelman.org)*

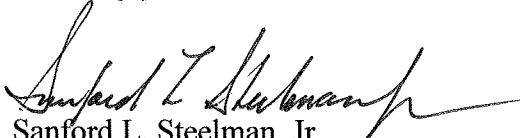
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As to the question on judicial philosophy. I believe in limited government, the separation of powers, personal freedom for all persons, and fiscal responsibility.

**You are authorized to post my responses only if they are posted as given, and in their entirety. Unless that is complied with, you may not post any of my responses.**

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely yours,



Sanford L. Steelman, Jr.