

David Robert Shelvey for Washington Supreme Court Pos 7

Olympia Indivisible Candidate Profile

As the highest court in the State of Washington, the mission of our court is to uphold the constitution and when called upon through cases, interpret laws passed by the legislature and enforced by the executive branches of government.

The nine state Supreme Court justices are elected to six-year terms. Each term is staggered to maintain continuity of the court. The only requirement for the office is that a prospective justice be admitted to the practice of law in Washington state. Vacancies are filled by appointment of the Governor until the next general election.

Due to two resignations, rather than the normal three seats in an election year, five of the nine seats on the Washington Supreme Court are up for election this year, creating a rare chance to reshape the state's highest court. The outcome could prove pivotal for major legal questions expected to reach the court, including Washington's so-called millionaire's tax.

Candidate Background and Qualifications:

- Education:
 - 2016 - LL.M. in Tax, Western Michigan University Cooley Law School
 - 2012 - J.D. and LL.M. in Intellectual Property, Thomas M. Cooley School of Law
 - 2013 - M.B.A., M.P.M., & Accounting Classes, City University of Seattle
 - 2008 - B.S. in Business Administration, Herzing University
 - 2007 - Associate of Science in Paralegal Studies, Crown College
- Work experience:
 - Attorney at Law, Admitted in North Dakota
 - Attorney at Law, Admitted in Washington State
 - Admitted to the US Tax Court Bar
 - Admitted to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals
 - Registered as an Enrolled Agent with the IRS
 - Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity Member
 - Served in the Army Reserve with an honorable discharge, 1981-1982
 - Volunteer with the Fraternal Order of Eagles Tacoma Eagles 3 and the Sumner Senior Center
 - Family law, estate planning and tax matters as a sole practitioner at Rockcraft, PLLC since 2015. Has worked seasonally as a tax adviser at H&R Block since 2016. Worked as an associate attorney at Robert, Taub & Associates from 2019-23. Worked as a paralegal from 2006 to 2009 before going back to school.
- Elected experience: None.
- Shelvey's first run for office was for Washington Supreme Court Justice Pos. 2, State of Washington in the 2024 Washington Primary Election, Aug. 6. Sal Mungia won that race.
- Shelvey ran for Mayor of Sumner in the 2025 Washington Primary Election, Aug. 5. Carla Bowman won that race. Included in his campaign statement was "I believe in the morals taught in the book of Genesis and the values of the Golden Rule."
- Shelvey initially filed to run for Supreme Court Justice Pos. 4 in the 2026 Washington Primary Election, but switched to Pos. 7 during May filing week.

Funding:

- Funding/spending compared to other candidates*

Candidate	Contributions	Expenditures
STEPHENS DEBRA L (Debra L. Stephens) *	\$18,450.00	\$2,030.90
Todd A. Bloom *	\$3,007.68	\$3,007.68
Karim A. Merchant *	\$0.00	\$0.00
David Robert Shelvey (David R Shelvey) *	\$0.00	\$2,847.87

*Source: [Public Disclosure Commission](#), as of 6/11/2026

Endorsements:

- Shelvey doesn't solicit endorsements or list them on his website. From his previous website: "However, endorsements send a message to the public of a candidate's acceptance of a particular political agenda, possibly limiting a judge's ability to hear future cases." ([source](#))
- Reported to be supported by Full Court Press, a conservative campaign focused on Washington courts.

Candidate Positions:

- "Shelvey is supportive of changes to the bar exam but not of removing the exam entirely. He was not aware of the proposed new pathways. "That I disagree with, because the whole reason behind the bar exam is to show that you have some general knowledge about the law," Shelvey said." ([source](#))
- "Shelvey said he's supportive of efforts to remove bias in the court system." ([source](#))
- "One of his [2024] campaign priorities is supporting the Court in re-evaluating past cases in which they are understood to have made a wrongful conviction or ruling." ([source](#))
- Q: What characteristics or principles are most important for an elected official? A: "An elected official needs to be open to discussion before taking sides or forming an opinion. We are all people - no matter our skin color, wealth, race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexual preferences, and the list goes on. They need to keep in mind they did not choose us citizens, it is us citizens that chose them." (2024 Ballotpedia survey, [source](#))
- Q: What areas of public policy are you personally passionate about? A: "Doing what is in the best of interest for our children. It takes a entire state, not just a family, a community, or a tribe, to raise a child here." (2024 Ballotpedia survey, [source](#))

Candidate Resources:

- [Candidate Website](#)
- [Candidate "X" \(Twitter\) page](#)
- [Candidate FB page](#)
- [Candidate Instagram](#)