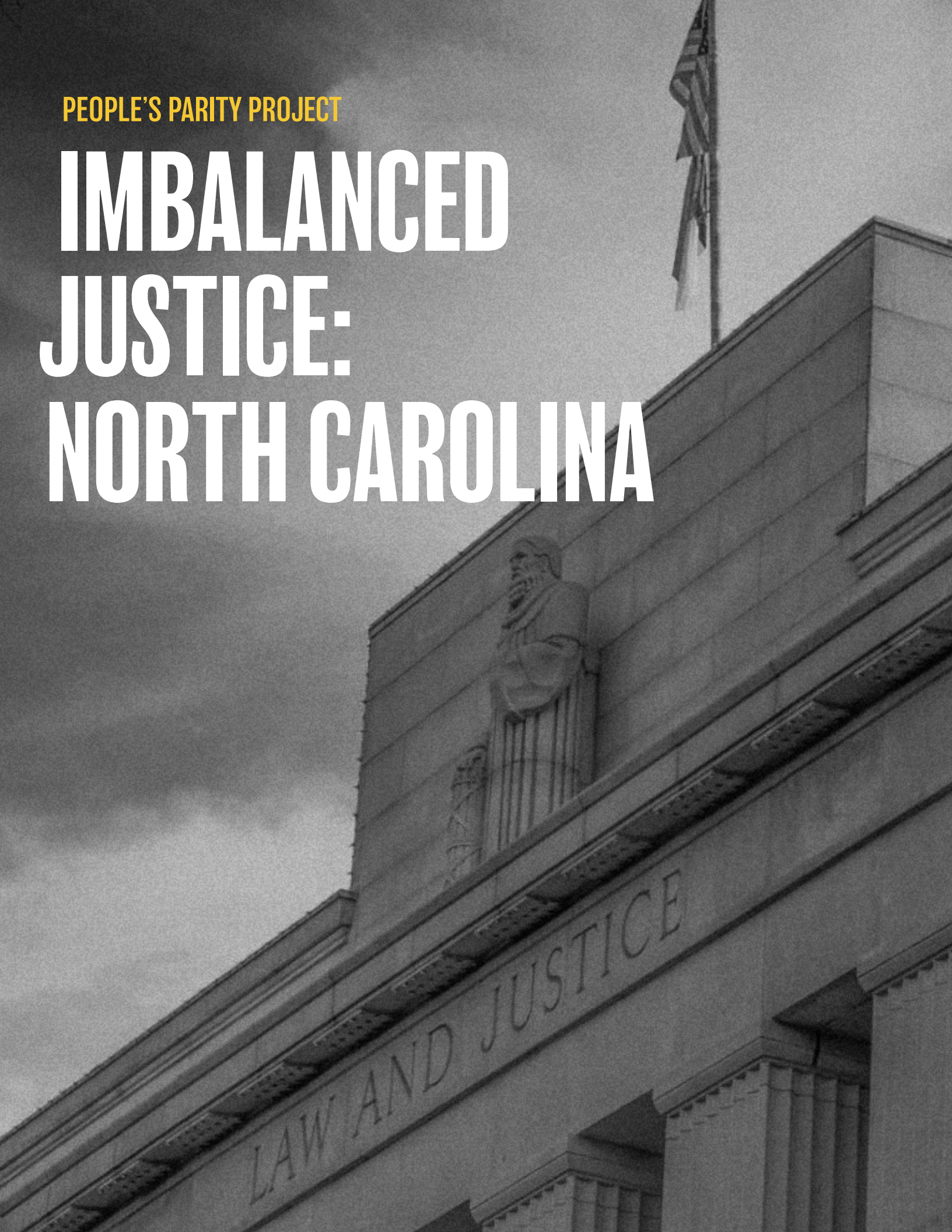


PEOPLE'S PARITY PROJECT

IMBALANCED JUSTICE: NORTH CAROLINA



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In over 95 percent of legal cases filed in the United States, state court judges will determine the outcome. From sentencing, workers' compensation, and child custody determinations, to the ability to overturn wrongful convictions, state court judges have the power to affect people's daily lives with every decision they make. Because these individuals have such enormous discretionary power and impact, it is important for the community to pay close attention to exactly who sits on the bench. In states where voters directly elect judges, it's even more important that the electorate engage closely with the judicial selection process. Critically, the public must understand what prospective judges have done professionally and who they have worked to protect before deciding whether they should sit on the bench.

A growing body of research has shown that judges' professional experience matters. A [study](#) of sentencing decisions from 2010 through 2019 found that judges with experience as public defenders handed down less punitive sentences. Another study [found](#) that former prosecutors and corporate lawyers were more likely to rule for corporations over workers in employment cases. A recent [report](#) by the People's Parity Project (PPP) looking at Housing Court judges in Connecticut found that former corporate lawyers and prosecutors were more likely to evict people than judges with experience representing individual people.

For several years, PPP has been studying the professional backgrounds of state court judges across the United States in order to assess the extent of the corporate capture of the American legal system. This report builds on that body of research by examining the professional diversity (or lack thereof) in North Carolina's Superior and Appellate Courts—courts that have outsized impacts not just on the lives of individual North Carolinians, but on the future of our democracy.

Our findings show that the judiciary in North Carolina is controlled by former prosecutors and individuals

The public must understand what prospective judges have done professionally and who they have worked to protect before deciding whether they should sit on the bench.

with general practice backgrounds. In addition, the state's appellate courts have a substantial number of former corporate lawyers. There is an urgent need for judges with public interest backgrounds throughout the state.

This report examines the professional backgrounds of North Carolina's Superior and Appellate Courts, where trials are held for felony criminal charges and lawsuits involving more money than small-claims court.¹ It will detail these findings and conclude with recommendations for how to improve the judicial selection process to advance the interests of the people of North Carolina, rather than the interests of corporations and other powerful entities.

FINDINGS

A comprehensive analysis of the professional backgrounds of North Carolina appellate and superior court judges finds a severe underrepresentation of judges who have served marginalized individuals and groups. Approximately 66 percent of both appellate and Superior Court judges have professional backgrounds in general practice.

¹ The appendix lists 108 appellate and Superior Court judges, categorized by their professional experience before joining the judiciary. Information on professional experience was obtained from LinkedIn work histories, campaign websites, and Trellis Law.

General practitioners may engage with a wide variety of legal matters such as family law, criminal defense, personal injury, and other civil matters. These individuals can work in the interest of helping others obtain justice, but they provide this representation to those with enough money to afford it. Far more concerning, our analysis finds that in the state's business court, all six judges have worked to defend and represent corporations.

General practice experience is often valuable legal work, existing at something of a midway point between corporate law—which serves the wealthiest and most powerful—and public-interest legal work aimed at serving the most vulnerable. However, the contrast between the number of judges in North Carolina who have served clients able to afford a lawyer and those who have served indigent clients is troubling.

Judges who have represented people with money overwhelmingly outweigh those who have represented people without it.

Only two percent of Superior Court judges and five percent of appellate judges in North Carolina have legal aid experience. Legal aid attorneys work on behalf of individuals who cannot afford to pay for legal services. Therefore, judges who have represented people with money overwhelmingly outweigh those who have represented people without it.

Furthermore, about 46 percent of North Carolina's Superior Court judges and 33 percent of its appellate judges are former prosecutors.

These individuals have worked on behalf of the state to investigate, charge, and imprison people. This statistic is put into perspective when compared with the backgrounds of judges who have public defense backgrounds, meaning they represented those who could not afford a criminal defense attorney otherwise. Only 16 percent of the Superior Court judges have professional experience working as public defenders. Of this 16 percent, more than half switched from public defense to prosecution before becoming a judge. Even worse, none of the appellate judges worked in public defense. There is a major imbalance in representation between the government's interests and the interests of the people.

The imbalance continues when examining the representation of judges with corporate backgrounds against those with civil rights or plaintiffs' litigation experience. While approximately nine percent of the Superior Court judges having worked to protect the interest of corporations, this outweighs the amount of those with civil rights (three percent) and plaintiffs' litigation (three percent) experience combined.

In the appellate courts, 33 percent of the judges have worked for the interests of corporations, while approximately 10 percent have civil rights backgrounds. None of the appellate judges specialized in representing injured workers and consumers. Here, our research once again shows an imbalance in representation for the rights of corporations over the rights of individuals and marginalized people.

Workers and consumers often have trouble finding justice in these appellate courts. In December 2024, for example, the North Carolina Supreme Court threw out a lawsuit by dozens of customers who were defrauded by Bank of America and kept out of a government-funded program that helped people keep their homes. The Court of Appeals ruled against a self-represented plaintiff who had lost his home and was unaware that Bank of America employees had admitted that the company instructed them to commit fraud.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

PPP has found similar discrepancies in the professional backgrounds of judges in other states across the country. Recent research has shown that most judges in California and Massachusetts had experience working as either corporate lawyers or prosecutors, while a much smaller fraction had represented real people in need.

Our research has shown that the North Carolina state courts are dominated by the interests of the state, people with money, and corporations. With these findings come questions about the impact of these judges' professional experience on the decisions they make from the bench.

These disparities may give justification for individuals to believe justice cannot be found inside of the courtroom unless they can afford it. Additionally, the findings suggest a limited pathway to power in the state's judicial system. Should lawyers aspiring to be judges expect that they have to help imprison people or protect the rights of corporations to attain a seat on the bench? Should they steer away from representing vulnerable and low-income populations as well?

GETTING TO THE BENCH

In North Carolina, the district, Superior, and appellate court judges are elected to the bench. District court judges serve four-year terms while the Superior Court and appellate judges serve eight-year terms. District and Superior Court judges are elected locally, and the appellate judges are elected in statewide elections. At the end of their terms, they may run again as an incumbent for re-election. In the case of vacancies in the appellate courts, the governor has the power to appoint a new judge. But a new law, which a judge ruled unconstitutional in June, limits the governor to a choice from three

candidates recommended by the political party executive committee that the vacating judge was affiliated with. The governor also has this power to appoint for Superior Court vacancies, regardless of the vacating judge's party affiliation. The State Bar Association may provide recommendations to the governor, but they have no legal requirement to choose from these suggestions. State legislators often provide the governor with recommended appointees to local judgeships.

From the Reconstruction era until the late 1990s, judicial elections were partisan. By 2004, all judicial elections became nonpartisan—a goal achieved by the Democratic majority in the state's legislature. They even enacted legislation for the public funding of appellate campaigns. This allowed candidates like Justice Cheri Beasley, a former public defender who didn't have deep connections to wealthy lawyers, to win statewide elections.

Once Republicans gained control of the state legislature, they began to slowly return the judicial elections to partisan races and repealed the public funding legislation. By 2018, every judicial election was partisan. Since then, Republican candidates have won the vast majority of races for seats in the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court. In North Carolina, partisan elections have helped the Republicans maintain control in the state's highest courts.

The hyper-politicization of North Carolina's judicial election process has gained considerable attention since the case between Judge Jefferson Griffin and the North Carolina Board of Elections. Here, Judge Griffin (R) sought to invalidate over 60,000 votes from the 2024 election that he lost to Justice Allison Riggs (D) by 734 votes. Griffin and Riggs battled in both state and federal court, and it finally ended once Judge Griffin conceded, two days after a federal district court judge ordered that the election be certified.

Judge Griffin's attempt to invalidate the election results doubled as a method to strengthen voter ID laws in the state, which is an issue regularly raised by the Republican Party. Ultimately the months-long litigation highlighted the use of the judicial process to achieve partisan goals and how this politicization of the judiciary can infringe upon the rights of voters.

Not only was this case important in helping to prevent further partisan imbalance in the Supreme Court, but it also was important for helping to lessen the disparities in the professional diversity of the Court. According to our research, Judge Griffin's professional background is that of the two most overrepresented categories: he worked in general practice and then became a prosecutor before becoming a judge. In contrast, Justice Riggs dedicated her professional life to practicing civil rights law in the interest of helping marginalized people. Her presence on the bench increased the civil rights background representation from one justice (Justice Anita Earls (D)) to two. To have multiple civil rights judges on a state Supreme Court is extremely rare, and exposes that the issue of professional diversity is not exclusive to North Carolina.

Justice Riggs dedicated her professional life to practicing civil rights law in the interest of helping marginalized people.

While Justice Riggs's election to the Supreme Court was a win for pro-people representation in North Carolina's Supreme Court, the Republicans still maintain the majority in both appellate courts. Furthermore, according to the 2024 election results, the Superior Court's partisan makeup is relatively even between Republicans and Democrats with

many judges remaining unaffiliated. However, the Republicans did gain almost twice as many seats in the Superior Court elections than the Democrats.

ACHIEVING A MORE DIVERSE JUDICIARY

With the 2026 elections coming up, North Carolina's electorate has the chance to address the issues highlighted by this report regarding the lack of public interest backgrounds in the judiciary and the harmful effects of partisan elections. Through organizing and voting efforts that focus on not just the political affiliation of judicial candidates, but also their professional backgrounds, we can elect pro-people judges into power.

First, voters should demand that the legislature use its power to provide public funding of judicial campaigns. Privately funded and partisan elections allow for people with money to heavily influence the judicial candidates' chances of winning and therefore affect what interests are represented on the bench. Recent judicial elections in Illinois and Wisconsin have seen billionaires break the record for the amount of money spent in a judicial election. The use of public funding has proven to produce a more diverse judiciary as it helps to level the playing field for judicial campaigns that rely on the support of low-income or marginalized people. Here, it could provide individuals with public interest backgrounds the funding necessary for a successful campaign.

There should be more of a focus on educating the electorate about the judiciary and finding candidates that have demonstrated a focus on working for the public interest. Here, there is a need for North Carolinians to have a better understanding of how much discretion judges have over our rights and our lives. A single Superior Court judge's ruling can determine if a person will ever see beyond a prison cell for the rest of their lives.



An appellate court decision can determine whether women have control over their bodies, or if children have the right to equitably funded public education. PPP is working with advocacy groups and law students to refocus public attention on the need for professional diversity within the judiciary. These groups could also do work to find and support potential candidates with professional backgrounds outside of working for the interests of affluent individuals, corporations, or the state.

Finally, in the face of political gerrymandering, voter ID laws, and other means of voter suppression, there is a need to restore a belief in American democracy. Attacks on our democracy will undoubtedly make it harder for the people to build a judiciary that truly serves the principle of equal justice for all, but it is not impossible. It is easy for complacency to result because it takes less energy and commitment than fighting for change. However, Justice Riggs won by only 734 votes.

Attacks on our democracy will undoubtedly make it harder for the people to build a judiciary that truly serves the principle of equal justice for all, but it is not impossible.

She showed that it is possible to put pro-people judges into power in North Carolina's highest court. We should not waver, but rather feel empowered to continue the work and seek new ways to make the courts work in favor of the people, instead of the affluent, corporate, and state interests they currently reflect.

MEET THE AUTHOR: FAITH ALLEN



Faith is a third-year law student at North Carolina Central University School of Law. She is originally from Greensboro, North Carolina, and earned her B.A. in Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2021.

Faith is committed to public service and her community. In addition to being a State Court Fellow with PPP, she currently serves as the Vice President of her law school's Business Law Society. Her legal experience includes working in NCCU Law's Trademark and Patent Clinics, completing a summer internship with Georgia Legal Services, and engaging in Pro Bono opportunities to service her community.

ABOUT PEOPLE'S PARITY PROJECT

The People's Parity Project is a movement of law students and attorneys organizing for a democratized legal system which empowers working people and opposes subordination in any form. Together, we are dismantling a profession that upholds corporate power and building in its place a system that reflects our values of justice, equity, and solidarity. [Join us!](#)

ABOUT THE REPORT

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with People's Parity Project

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PEOPLE'S PARITY PROJECT

Superior Court Judge	Prosecutor	Corporate	General practice	Executive branch (state)	Government (other)	Public defender	Legal Aid	Civil rights	Plaintiff litigation	Background Specifics
	46.79%	11.93%	65.14%	3.67%	15.60%	16.51%	1.83%	2.75%	2.75%	
Jerry Tillet			1		1					Private Practice in Winston Salem (attorney); Merrell, Tillet, and Barnes (partner); elected to NC House of Representatives; NC Senate President Pro Tempore (Chief of Staff and Chief Legal Counsel)
Andy Womble	1					1				1st Prosecutorial District (District Attorney); 1st Prosecutorial District (Public Defender)
Seth Edwards	1		1							Schoch, Schoch, and Schoch (Attorney); Private Practice in Washington, NC; Edwards and Edwards (Partner); 2nd Prosecutorial District (District Attorney)
Wayland Sermons			1		1	1				Private Practice in Beaufort County (Attorney); Town of Bath (Town Attorney); Town of Chocowinity (Town Attorney); Office of Indigent Defense Services (Capital Defender)
Marvin Blount									1	The Blount Law Firm (Private Practice - Associate); Blount & Blount (Owner/Attorney)
Jeffrey Foster			1							Dixon Doub & Connes (Attorney); The Foster Law Firm (Attorney)
Bob Cherry	1		1							State of Florida (Assistant State Attorney); O'Brien, Riemenschneider, Kancilla and Lemonidis, PA (Litigation Associate Attorney); Beswick & Goines PLLC (Litigation Associate); Law Firm of Bob R. Cherry, PLLC (Owner/Litigation Attorney); 4th Prosecutorial District (Assistant District Attorney)
Clinton Rowe			1							Private Practice in Craven County (Attorney)
Augustus Willis	1				1	1				Wake County Public Defender's Office (Assistant Public Defender); United State's Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of North Carolina (Special Assistant United States Attorney); North Carolina General Assembly (Staff Attorney); 4th Prosecutorial District (Assistant District Attorney)
Robert Roupe	1									5th Prosecutorial District (Assistant District Attorney)
Henry Stevens	1									4th Prosecutorial District (Assistant District Attorney)
Ricardo Jensen							1			Florida 20th Judicial Circuit (Assistant Public Defender); Public Defender's Office Pulaski, VA (Assistant Public Defender); New Hanover County Public Defender's Office (Assistant Public Defender)
George Jones			1							Burney & Jones (Partner)
Richard Harrell			1							Browne, Flebotte, Wilson and Horn, PLLC (Attorney); R. Kent Harrell (Attorney)
Brenda Branch	1									Prosecutorial District 6A (Assistant District Attorney); Prosecutorial District 6B (Assistant District Attorney)
Cy Grant	1		1							Prosecutorial District 6B (Assistant District Attorney); Grant, Lewis & Grant (Partner)
Lamont Wiggins			1							Private Practice in Rocky Mount (Attorney)
Timothy Wilson			1							Poyner Spruill LLP (Partner)
Imelda Pate	1									Office of the Lenoir County District Attorney (Assistant District Attorney)
Billy Strickland			1		1					Private Practice in Goldsboro (Attorney); City Attorney for Henderson (Attorney); Strickland Law (Owner/Attorney)
Jennifer Bedford	1				1					State of North Carolina (Assistant District Attorney); North Carolina General Assembly (Staff Attorney, Senior Legal Analyst, and Committee Counsel)
Sean Cole			1							Patterson, Dilthey, Clay & Bryson, LLP (Attorney); Martin & Jones (Junior Partner); Law Offices of James Scott Farrin (Attorney); Hoomani and Cole, PLLC (Founding Partner); Riddle & Brantley, LLP (Attorney); Miller Law Group, PLLC (Attorney); Law Offices of Sean Cole (Owner/Attorney)
George Collins			1			1				Private Practice in Wake County (Attorney); Wake County (Public Defender)
Mark A. Davis (Special Business Complex Cases)		1		1						Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice (Attorney); North Carolina Department of Justice (Special Deputy Attorney General); Office of the North Carolina Governor (General Counsel)
Keith Gregory	1		1			1				Office of the Cumberland County Public Defender (Assistant Public Defender); Office of the Wake County District Attorney (Assistant District Attorney); The Law Offices of Keith O. Gregory (Owner/Attorney); Gregory & McClinton (Senior Partner)
Matthew Houston (Special Business Complex Cases)		1								K&L Gates LLP (Partner)
Paul Ridgeway			1							Everett, Gaskins, Hancock & Stevens (Attorney)
Vinston Rozier	1									Wake County District Attorney's Office (Assistant District Attorney)
John Dunlow			1							Dunlow & Wilkinson, P.A. (Founding Partner)
Cynthia Sturges	1									Assistant DA at North Carolina State (according to her facebook)
Charles Gilchrist					1					Town of Lillington (Town Attorney)
Paul Holcombe	1									State of Tennessee (Assistant District Attorney General); Prosecutorial District 19A (Assistant District Attorney); Prosecutorial District 11 (Assistant District Attorney)
Thamas Lock	1		1							Prosecutorial District 11 (Assistant District Attorney); Private Practice in Johnston County (Attorney); Prosecutorial District 11 (District Attorney)

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Gale Adams	1				1	1			Federal Public Defender's Office - Eastern District (Assistant Federal Public Defender); Judge Advocate General's Corps of the United States Navy (Judge Advocate); Cumberland County District Attorney's Office (Assistant District Attorney)
James Ammons	1		1						Ammons & Flora Attorneys at Law (Associate); State of North Carolina's District Attorney's Office (Assistant District Attorney)
George Hicks	1		1						Harris, Mitchell & Hancox (Associate); Cumberland County District Attorney's Office (Senior Assistant District Attorney)
Stephen C. Stokes	1				1				U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps (Prosecutor); Department of Justice (Special Assistant U.S. Attorney); 82nd Airborne Division (Defense Attorney); U.S. Army Special Operations, Civil Affairs, and Psychological Operations Commands (International Law Attorney)
Jason Disbrow			1						Stiller and Disbrow, P.C. (Managing Partner)
Carolyn Gore	1		1						Gore Law Firm (Associate Attorney); Prosecutorial District 15 (Assistant District Attorney)
Josephine Kerr	1			1		1		1	Durham County (Assistant District Attorney); Center for Death Penalty Litigation (Criminal Defense Attorney); North Carolina Department of Justice (Assistant Attorney General - Labor and Environmental Sections); Fayetteville Public Defender's Office (Assistant Public Defender)
Michael O'Foghluha			1				1	1	Private Practice (Solo Practitioner); East Central Community Legal Services (Staff Attorney); 12th District (Legal Aid Attorney); 12th Judicial District (Assistant Public Defender); Pulley, Watson, King, & Lischer, P.A. (Managing Attorney)
Shamieka Rhinehart	1		1						Law Office of Willie R. Perry, Jr. (Staff Attorney); Browne, Flebotte, Wison, Horn & Webb, PLLC (Staff Attorney); Prosecutorial District 16 (Assistant District Attorney)
Brian Wilks	1		1		1		1		Durham County (Assistant Public Defender); Private Practice (Sole Practitioner); North Carolina Attorney General's Office (Assistant Attorney General); Durham District Attorney's Office (Assistant District Attorney)
Douglas Green			1		1				Smith Giles Law Firm (Partner); North Carolina Department of Justice (Assistant Attorney General)
Andrew Hanford			1						Hunt & White (Attorney); Hanford Law Firm (Owner/Attorney)
Allen Baddour	1		1						Baddour & Milner, PLLC (Partner); Chatham County (Assistant District Attorney)
Alyson Grine	1						1		Orange and Chatham Counties (Assistant Public Defender); Durham County (Assistant District Attorney)
Nathaniel Poovey			1						Sigmon, Sigmon, Isenhower & Poovey (Partner)
Sheri W. Elliott			1						Isenhower, Wood, Ciley, P.A. (Attorney)
James Bell			1		1		1		Lumbee River Legal Services (Staff Attorney); North Carolina Division of Employment Security (Appeals Referee); James Gregory Bell, Attorney at Law (Owner/Attorney)
Tiffany Powers			1						Tiffany Peguise-Powers Attorney at Law (Owner/Attorney)
Stephan Futrell			1		1				Kitchen, Neal, Webb, Webb & Futrell, PA (Attorney); Hamlet City (City Attorney); Richmond County (County Attorney)
Dawn Layton	1								Prosecutorial District 21 (Chief Assistant District Attorney); Prosecutorial District 20 (Assistant District Attorney)
John Morris			1		1				Morris Law, PLLC (Attorney); Rockingham County (County Attorney)
Jason Ramey	1								Prosecutorial District 17A (District Attorney); Prosecutorial District 22 (District Attorney)
Angela Puckett	1								Prosecutorial District 17B (Assistant District Attorney)
Robert Albright	1		1						Forman, Rossabi, Black, Marth, Iddings & Albright (Managing Partner); Guilford County (District Attorney)
Tonia Cutchin			1				1		State of North Carolina (Public Defender); Capote & Associates (Attorney)
Stephanie Reese	1	1							Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton (Associate); Guilford County (Assistant District Attorney); Rockingham County (Assistant District Attorney)
Julianne Theall Earp (Special Complex Business Cases)		1							Smith, Moore, Leatherwood, LLP (Civil Litigator); Fox Rothschild, LLP (Managing Attorney)
Martin McGee			1						Williams, Boger, Grady, Davis & Tuttle (Attorney)
William Wood	1								Guilford County (Assistant District Attorney)
Carla Archie	1	1			1				Mecklenburg County (Chief Assistant District Attorney); Wachovia Corporation (Assistant General Counsel); North Carolina Education Lottery (General Counsel); Wells Fargo & Company (Senior Counsel)
George Bell			1						Bell & Bell Law Firm (Owner/Attorney)
Todd A. Brown (Special Complex Business cases)		1							Hunton Andrews Kurth Law Firm (Managing Partner)
Adam M. Conrad (Special Complex Business Cases)		1							King & Spalding (Associate); King & Spalding (Partner)
Donald Cureton			1				1		Mecklenburg County (Assistant Public Defender); Bush & Powers (Associate Attorney)

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Karen Eady-Williams	1	1				1				26th Judicial District (Assistant Public Defender); Western District of North Carolina (Assistant U.S. Attorney); U.S. Attorney's Office (Prosecutor); Wachovia Corporation (Vice President and Assistant General Counsel)
Reggie McKnight		1	1							Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice (Attorney); Browne, Flebotte, Wilson & Horn (Attorney); McKnight Law Firm, PLLC (Owner/Attorney)
Matthew Osman	1			1		1				Judge Advocate General's Corps for the United States Navy (Judge Advocate); Weaver, Bennet & Bland, PA (Attorney); Union County (Assistant District Attorney)
David Strickland				1				1		Mecklenburg County (Public Defender); Whitesides & Walker (Associate); Law Office of David H. Strickland, PLLC (Owner/Attorney); Soni Brendle, PLLC (Partner)
Louis Trosch			1			1		1		NC Office of Public Defender (Assistant Public Defender); Conrad, Trosch & Kemmy, PA (Attorney); Children's Law Center (Staff Attorney)
Michael Adkins	1	1	1							Mingo County, West Virginia (Assistant Prosecutor); Adkins & Adkins (Attorney); Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice (Attorney); Law Firm of David R. Tanis (Attorney); Wallace & Whitley (Attorney); Wallace, Graham & Adkins (Partner); Whitley Law Firm (Attorney); Klutz, Reamer, et al (Partner); Adkins Carter, LLC (Owner/Attorney)
Adam Elkins	1			1						Private Practice (Owner/Attorney); 26th Prosecutorial District (Prosecutor); 26th Prosecutorial District (Chief Assistant District Attorney)
Patrick Nadolski	1									20th Prosecutorial District (Prosecutor); 20th Prosecutorial District (Chief Assistant District Attorney); Alamance County (District Attorney)
Warren McSweeney	1									Moore County (Assistant District Attorney); Randolph County (Prosecutor); Montgomery County (Prosecutor); Davidson County (Prosecutor); Davie County (Prosecutor)
Michael Stone				1						Private Practice in Hoke County (Sole Practitioner); Hatley & Stone (Partner); Stone & Associates (Partner)
Jonathan Perry	1				1					Union County (Assistant District Attorney)
Matthew Smith				1						Law Office of Matthew B. Smith (Owner/Attorney)
Aaron Berlin	1									Forsyth County (Assistant District Attorney)
Logan Burke	1			1						Private Practice in Forsyth County (Attorney); Kinston and Forsyth Counties (Assistant District Attorney)
Richard Gottlieb		1								Petree Stockton, LLP (Attorney); Kilpatrick, Townsend & Stockton, LLP (Attorney)
David Hall	1			1						Forsyth County (Assistant District Attorney); 22nd Prosecutorial District (Assistant District Attorney); Hutchins, Tyndall, Doughton & Moore (Associate); Hutchins, Tyndall, Doughton & Moore (Partner)
Eric Morgan	1	1	1							Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice (Attorney); Forsyth County District Attorney's Office (Volunteer Prosecutor); Private Practice in Kernersville (Sole Practitioner)
Michael L. Robinson (Chief Special Judge for Complex Business cases)		1								Robinson & Lawing (Partner); Petree Stockton & Robinson (Partner)
Joseph Crosswhite				1		1				Judge Advocate General's Corps for the United States Army (Judge Advocate); Crosswhite Law, PLLC (Attorney)
William Long				1						Private Practice in Raleigh, Winston-Salem, and Statesville (Attorney)
Robert Broadie				1						Law Office of Robert A. Broadie & Associates (Senior Partner)
Lori Hamilton				1						General Law (Practitioner)
Michael Duncan				1						William F. Brooks Law Firm (Attorney at Law)
Gary Gavenus	1			1				1		Western North Carolina (Assistant District Attorney); Hemphill & Gavenus (Partner); Wright & Gavenus (Partner)
Theodore McEntire	1			1						24th Prosecutorial District (Assistant District Attorney); Private Practice (Attorney)
Robert Ervin				1						Byrd, Byrd, Ervin, Whisnant, McMahon & Ervin (Partner); Private Practice in Charlotte (Attorney)
Daniel Kuehnert				1		1				Law Office of Stephen T. Daniel (Attorney); Law Office of Dan Kuehnert (Attorney); Simpson, Kuehnert, Vinay & Jones (Partner/Attorney); Kuehnert & Jones (Founding Partner); Glen Alpine (Town Attorney); Burke County (County Attorney); Town of Rutherford College (Town Attorney)
William Browne				1				1		Office of the Guilford County Public Defender (Assistant Public Defender); Bell & Browne (Partner)
James Hill				1						Private Practice in Durham (Attorney)
Craig Collins	1			1						Gaston County (Assistant District Attorney); Law Office of Craig Collins (Owner/Attorney)
Justin Davis	1			1						Mullen, Holland & Cooper (Partner); Assistant District Attorney
David Phillips				1						The Phillips Law Firm, PLLC (Sole Practitioner)
William Stetzer (Special)	1									Gaston County (Assistant District Attorney); Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office (Supervising Prosecutor for Homicides); Western District of North Carolina (First Assistant US Attorney)
Sarah Kirby-Turner	1									Cleveland County (Assistant District Attorney); Lincoln County (Assistant District Attorney)
William Pomeroy				1						Jonas Law Firm (Partner)

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Jacqueline Grant				1							Robert & Stevens (Partner)
Alan Thornburg				1							Private Practice in Buncombe County (Attorney)
James Davis				1		1					Forest City (Town Attorney); Private Practice (Attorney)
Peter Knight				1							Private Practice in Henderson (Attorney)
Tessa Sellers	1			1		1					30th Prosecutorial District (Assistant District Attorney); Law Office of Tessa Shelton Sellers (Owner); Clay County Sheriff's Office (Counsel)
Roy Wijewickrama	1			1							Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (Tribal Prosecutor); 30th Judicial District (Assistant District Attorney); Kersten, Davis & Wijewickrama (Partner/Attorney)
Appellate Court Judge	Prosecuto r	Corporate	General practice	Executive branch (state)	Government (other)	Public defender	Legal Aid	Civil rights	Plaintiff litigation		Background Specifics
	33.33%	33.33%	66.67%	0.00%	14.29%	0.00%	4.76%	9.52%	0.00%		
John Arrowood (D)				1							James, McElroy & Diehl, P.A. (Attorney)
Jeffery Carpenter (R)				1							Carpenter & Flake, PLLC (Attorney/Manager)
Allegra Collins (D)				1							Allegra Collins Law (Appellate Attorney)
Chris Dillon (R)			1	1							Young Moore Henderson (Attorney)
Julee Flood (R)			1								Business with Husband (Business Advisory Partner)
Christopher Freeman (R)	1										Rockingham and Caswell Counties (Assistant District Attorney)
Fred Gore (R)	1										Brunswick, Bladen, and Columbus Counties (Assistant District Attorney)
Jefferson Griffin (R)	1			1							Kinston (Solo Practitioner); Wake County (Prosecutor)
Toby Hampson (D)				1							Patterson Dilthey, LLP (Appellate/Civil Law Attorney); Wyrick, Robbins, Yates & Ponton, LLP (Partner/Appellate Specialist)
Thomas Murry (R)	1					1		1			North Carolina Administrative Office of the Courts (Chief Legal Counsel for External Affairs); Eleventh Prosecutorial District (Assistant District Attorney); North Carolina National Guard Legal Assistance (Judge Advocate General)
Michael Stading (R)	1			1							Richard L. Robertson & Associates (Attorney); Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office (Assistant District Attorney); Michael J. Stading, Attorney at Law (Solo Practitioner)
Donna Stroud (R)				1							Kirk, Gay, Kirk, Gwynn & Howell (Attorney); Gay, Stroud & Jackson, LLP (Partner)
John Tyson (R)			1	1							Family Dollar Stores (Counsel); John M. Tyson, Revco Drug Stores (Counsel); Attorney at Law (Private Practitioner); Tyson, Byrd, Hudson & Moore, PLLC (Partner); Tyson, Matheson, & Cumble, PLLC (Partner); Tyson & Associates, PLLC (Private Practitioner)
April Wood (R)				1							Solo Practice in Family Law/Mediation (Attorney/Mediator)
Valerie Zachary (R)			1	1							Kennedy Covington Lobdell & Hickman/K & L Gates (Attorney); Zachary Law Offices (Attorney/Partner)
Trey Allen (R)				1		1					United States Marine Corps (Judge Advocate General); Tharrington Smith LLP (Partner); NC Administrative Office of the Courts (General Counsel)
Tamara Barringer (R)			1								Barringer Sasser, LLP (Managing Partner)
Philip Berger Jr. (R)	1			1							Private Practice (Solo Practitioner); The Berger Law Firm (Partner); 17A Prosecutorial District (District Attorney)
Richard Dietz (R)			1								Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP (Partner)
Anita Earls (D)									1		Ferguson, Chambers & Sumter (Attorney); Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department (Deputy Assistant Attorney General)
Paul Newby (R)	1	1		1		1					Van Winkle, Buck, Wall, Starnes, and Davis, PA (Attorney); Cannon Mills Realty and Development Corporation (Vice President/General Counsel); Eastern District of North Carolina (Assistant United States Attorney)
Allison Riggs (D)									1		Southern Coalition for Social Justice (Staff Attorney/Co-Executive Director/Chief Counsel)