

## Idaho District Judge Kootenai A

<b>Destry William Randles</b>	
<b>1.</b> What is your name, what office are you running for and why are you running for this position?	Destry William Randles, I am running for District Judge, First Judicial District Kootenai County Seat A. As a former prosecuting attorney and current Magistrate Judge I understand the important role an independent and unbiased judiciary serves in our form of government. While serving Kootenai County as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney I primarily prosecuted felony cases in the District Court. Prior to that I was the senior Staff Attorney for a District Court Judge. My practical experience has been in the District Court and while currently assigned to the Magistrate division, I wanted the opportunity to serve in the District Court. As a Judge the law is our constituent, but we serve the community. I have committed myself to serving my community for most of the last 25 years from my employment in public service to my volunteer activities in Kootenai County. This election affords the citizens the opportunity to select their next District Judge.
<b>2.</b> How could the judicial system be improved? Please provide your top 2-3 ideas.	I am limited as a sitting Judge and Judicial candidate in my response, but I believe education and civic engagement are important components of being a Judge. I volunteer at local schools to teach students about civil liberties and the role the judiciary plays in our form of government. We need to expand these efforts to aid people in understanding how the court system works, what it can, and cannot do, and how decisions impact their lives.
<b>3.</b> What well-known U.S. or Idaho Supreme Court judge (living or deceased) do you most admire and why?	Idaho Supreme Court Justice Cynthia Meyer hired me as a staff attorney when she was a District Court Judge. She taught me more about the law than I learned in all of my time at Gonzaga Law School. United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia inspired me to become an attorney.
<b>4.</b> Many lawsuits have been filed against Christian bakers, florists and photographers over refusing to violate their conscience on the marriage issue. How do you view religious liberty/civil rights tension?	Pursuant to the Canons of Judicial Conduct I cannot answer this question.
<b>5.</b> Do you consider yourself a strict constructionist or judicial activist? Why?	I consider myself a Judicial officer sworn to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the State of Idaho and to apply the law free from bias or prejudice.
<b>6.</b> What is your judicial philosophy on constitutional matters?	I have taken an oath to uphold the Constitution. Pursuant to the Canons of Judicial Conduct I cannot comment further.
<b>7.</b> What do you believe is the basis for law?	A Judge can only apply the law and say what the law is. The Constitution is the supreme law and the legislature is empowered to codify the law.
<b>8.</b> Do you believe the Constitution is a living document? Why or why not?	The Constitution of the United States as well as the Constitution of the State of Idaho have a finely wrought process to amend their provisions.
<b>9.</b> What do you believe is the foundation for civil order and justice?	The law. Judicial review and Judicial process ensure liberty and protect citizens from the government and one another.
<b>10.</b> What does common law mean to you?	Common law derived from England following the Battle of Hastings in 1066. It operates based on judicial decisions rather than on statutory law. Generally speaking it relies on precedent or the principle of stare decisis. In essence under common law principles, the prior decision of a Court must be followed when a case presents with analogous issues.
<b>11.</b> What is your background and why do you feel it qualifies you for this position?	The qualifications for District Judge in the State of Idaho are that you have been a member of the bar in good standing for at least ten years and that you reside in the county where you will preside. I satisfy both of those requirements. I have been a Judge for the last four years, handling thousands of cases, I have handled very complex civil cases as a staff attorney, and prosecuted a wide range of cases from traffic infractions to homicide as a former prosecutor. I am invested in my community and in the State of Idaho. I have volunteered in my community, raised my family here, and will retire here.