

**From the personal desk of: Brian T. McGuffin**

April 23, 2015

Michael Geer, President  
Pennsylvania Family Institute  
23 N. Front St.  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Via Email to [ekreps@pafamily.org](mailto:ekreps@pafamily.org)

Re: 2015 Pennsylvania Family Institute Voter's Guide Questionnaire for Judicial Candidates

Dear Mr. Geer:

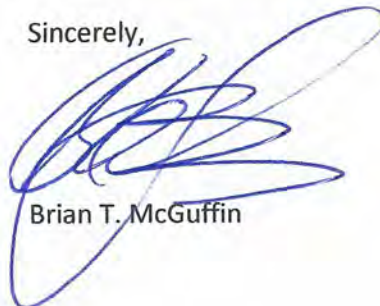
Sir, I am in receipt of the email and questionnaire from the Pennsylvania Family Institute and rather than not respond at all, I wanted to let you know that I am respectfully declining to answer the questionnaire as I have made the very personal decision not to respond to these questionnaires, regardless of the organization that submits them. I understand your Institute's position, and I have reviewed the case of PFI vs. Celluci case which was cited in your email to me. I regret that your Institute will likely be disappointed with my decision, but my own personal opinion is that in my position in which I am now a sitting Judge, and also a Judicial candidate, that the correct course of action is to refrain from answering any questions which might possibly impact the independence and integrity of this office or politicize it in any way. As indicated in Canon 1: *"An independent and honorable judiciary is indispensable to justice in our society. Judges should participate in establishing, maintaining, and enforcing, and should themselves observe, high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary may be preserved..."*

In an effort to provide your organization with some information regarding my candidacy, I am attaching a Summary of my Qualifications and Experience. I would like to also state that I have a strong working class background, having worked my way through High School, College and Law School. I was a lawyer for 29 years during which I handled a wide variety of cases on behalf of individuals, families, and small businesses. At all times, I made every effort to treat everyone I encountered with common courtesy and respect. I believe my reputation in the legal community was that I was a hardworking, well prepared, honest and reasonable lawyer. As a Judge, I plan to bring these same traits to the Courtroom and to treat all who come before me with dignity and respect. My hope is that everyone who leaves my Courtroom will feel that they had an opportunity to be heard and that they got a "fair shake."

As to my view of what a Judge's role is, I firmly believe that there are three equal and separate branches of government, each of which has its own role. The role of a Judge is to fairly and independently determine, as best as he or she can, the true and relevant facts of the case and then apply the correct legal principles to that set of facts in reaching the decision.

Thank you very much for your organization's interest in my candidacy. I wish you well.

Sincerely,



Brian T. McGuffin

**Brian T. McGuffin**  
**Judge of the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas**

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**SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:**

Practicing Attorney with 29 years of diverse experience representing individuals, families, small businesses, and government entities before numerous Courts and Administrative Agencies including:

- Courts of Common Pleas and District Courts in all Counties surrounding Philadelphia
- Common Pleas and Un-insured/Under-insured Motorist Arbitrations
- Masters and Support Conferences and Hearings in Bucks and Montgomery County, PA
- Appellate Practice with Pennsylvania Superior Court
- PA Unemployment Compensation Referee Hearings and UC Board of Review
- PA Human Relations Commission with concurrent EEOC jurisdiction
- Administrative Hearings with PennDot, Workers' Compensation and Social Security
- Mental Health Procedures Act Hearings and PA Probation and Parole Board Matters
- PA Dept. of Environmental Protection and Federal Environmental Protection Agency
- Supervised and coordinated litigation in U.S. District Court, Eastern District of PA

**DETAILED AREAS OF PRACTICE:**

**Civil Litigation:** Representation of individuals and small businesses in various matters including: Contract Enforcement, Commercial and Residential Real Estate, Employment matters and Personal Injury Matters.

**Criminal Litigation:** Representation of individuals in Felony/Misdemeanor/Traffic offenses including: Bail and Arraignment, Preliminary Hearings, Conferences, Jury/Non-Jury Trials, Suppression, Pleas and Sentencing.

**Business Law:** Representation of Manufacturing/Service/Automobile/Real Estate entities including: Incorporation of the Business, Partnership/Operating Stock/Asset Purchase Agreements, Business Planning, Employment Law, Contracts, Leases, Franchise Agreements, Commercial Litigation.

**Family Law:** Representation of individuals and families in Divorce, Equitable Distribution, Support, Custody, Termination of Parental Rights, and PFA matters in Bucks and Montgomery Counties, PA.

**Wills, Estates, Probate and Orphans' Court Matters:** Representation of individuals and families in the preparation of Estate planning documents, Estate Administration, and Orphans' Court litigation.

**ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES:**

- Bucks County Bar Association, Doylestown, PA  
President – 2013/Vice President – 2012/Past President, 2014, Three terms on Board of Directors  
Past Chair – Criminal Law Section Law Day Tour Guide and Mock Trial Presenter  
Prior Asst. Editor and frequent Published Contributor to Writs Newsletter  
Panelist and Moderator for several CLE Presentations in Criminal Law and Ethics  
Pro bono Plaintiff representation through Legal Aid in Protection from Abuse matters
- Bucks County Prison Oversight Board - Vice-Chair and Community Member
- Board of Directors - Today, Inc. A Drug and Alcohol Treatment Program in Newtown, PA
- Board of Directors and Solicitor - Greater Warminster (Bucks Mont) Chamber of Commerce
- Langhorne Athletic Association Coach of Boys and Girls Baseball and Softball
- St. Andrew CYO Coach of Boys and Girls Basketball and Soccer

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County, Doylestown, PA	March 2015 – Present
Law Offices of Brian T. McGuffin, LLC, Warminster, PA - Sole Practitioner	2010-2015
Drexler & McGuffin, Warminster, PA - Managing Partner	1998-2009
Drexler, Lyons & McGuffin, Warminster and Doylestown, PA – Admin. Partner	1991-1998
Connolly, Chandor & McAndrews, Doylestown and Warminster, PA – Associate	1988-1991
Bucks County Public Defender's Office, Doylestown, PA - <u>Asst. Public Defender</u>	1986-1988

**EDUCATION:**

- Temple University School of Law, Philadelphia, PA - Juris Doctor Degree - Dean's List (1983).
- La Salle University, Philadelphia, PA - B.A. Degree - Political Science - Magna Cum Laude.