

10th District Bar Association Questionnaire Answers – Nathan Hansen

1. What is your full name?

Nathan Myrum Hansen

2. Does your campaign have a website or facebook page? If so, please list it.

Hansen4judge.com

3. List colleges and law schools you have attended, including your dates of attendance and degrees awarded.

St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, FL, A.A. 1994 to 1996
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, B.A. 1996 to 1998
University of North Dakota School of Law, Grand Forks, ND 2000 to 2003
University of Oslo Faculty of Law, Oslo, Norway – Summer rogram, international and comparative law focus, 2001.

4. List where you have been employed since graduation from law school, including dates, your position, and the nature of your employment responsibilities.

Nathan M. Hansen
Attorney at Law
November 1, 2003 to the present.
Solo practitioner

I handle all aspects of a solo law practice, from secretarial work to trials.

5. Have you ever been convicted of a crime or publicly disciplined by a lawyer or judicial standards board? If so, please feel free to provide an explanation.

No on both.

6. What is/was the general nature of your practice? Indicate any areas of practice in which you concentrate or concentrated.

Civil litigation with a focus on debtor/creditor, bankruptcy, and complex commercial litigation.
Criminal defense.
I have handled numerous HRO and OFPS – on both sides and I know how to do family law but have largely phased that out of my practice.

7. What percentage of your practice is/was litigation?

Presently about 90%. It has always been over 75%.

8. Why do you want to be a district court judge?

This seat, number 3, was held by Thomas Armstrong who won it as an open seat in the 1980s. Tad Jude then won it in 2010 as an open seat. Tad Jude retired and my opponent was appointed by the Governor. I think that this seat should continue to be a seat popularly elected by the people because I believe in democracy. I think that being a district court judge is a way I could serve my community and assist people with resolution of their most important affairs.

9. What qualities do you believe are most important in a district court judge? Explain how you have demonstrated that you possess those qualities.

I think that self-awareness is key to this job. An ability to recognize what one does not know or might not know. It means dealing with parties, court staff, and officers of the court with respect and dignity. It means not pre-judging parties or their issues before all the evidence is gathered. Sincerity is also an important trait. Not false or phony sincerity, true sincerity. One needs to have a willingness and an ability to understand the law and apply it fairly and impartially. I have demonstrated these qualities in over 20 years of practice. I am now an experienced lawyer who regularly engages with judges, court staff, attorneys, and clients on a nearly daily basis. My most prized referrals of clients are those I have gotten from former opponents and retired judges. I think that signifies true respect and success in the legal profession. All litigants should be treated with respect and a judge should demonstrate neutrality, including in demeanor. This requires inner confidence and strength. I volunteer at the Washington County Library for free half hour civil consultations. This provides advice to people who have had difficulty getting access to legal advice.

10. Why do you believe you are the best candidate for this district court judge seat?

I have represented all manner of people from the poor and destitute to the wealthy, and people from every conceivable background. I always treat them with the same care and dignity no matter who they are. I have handled numerous appeals over the past 20 years in the Minnesota Court of Appeals and the US 8th Circuit Court of Appeals. I have around 16 civil and criminal jury trials and I have likely handled nearly 100 bench trials/contested evidentiary hearings. Before filing and since filing for this seat, several attorneys have reached out to me about running for this seat. I am grateful for their support. My broad-based experience, including familiarity with representing businesses in complex commercial litigation make me a solid candidate for this position.