

JOEL N. OAKLEY

Attorney and Counsellor at Law
Board Certified Specialist in State Criminal Law

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Hello to all my friends and members of the Greensboro and High Point Bars. I am sending this announcement to give notice that I have requested that I be included on the ballot to fill the vacancy of the Honorable Tonia Cutchin's District Court seat.

To those who do not know me; I have been in the private practice of law for 37 years. During my practice, I have handled cases in virtually every type of practice available. I started my career as a general practitioner. I handled Personal Injury, Contracts, Family Law and Criminal Law. I have tried Wrongful Deaths, Small Claims, Criminal Misdemeanors and Capital Murder cases. I have argued Civil and Criminal cases before the North Carolina Supreme Court.

I will admit, the last twenty years I have concentrated on criminal cases. I was certified as a specialist in 2004. Many of my colleagues have asked "Why are you submitting your name?" I honestly did not consider such until a couple of months ago. I, without embellishing, work 12-16 hours a day. It is what I do. I was considering retirement this year. When I voiced that plan, I had several friends ask me to seek a judgeship in lieu of just stopping cold turkey. The thought of following my dear friend, The Honorable Judge Samet's footsteps would be a godsend. To practice with the compassion, wisdom and demeanor of Judge Samet would be my goal. What I would like to do is give back to the profession for all the good it has given to me.

Most of all, I want to help my fellow litigators. I have practiced in both Superior and District Courts. I know they are different, but it is still litigation the same. There is so much more, at least in volume, to litigate in District Court. This is where I believe I can give back.

I know what it is like to have multiple cases in multiple courtrooms, and even multiple jurisdictions, on a daily basis. I understand how we need the Courts to be efficient so we can handle all of our cases and finish in Court promptly so we can have office time. I acknowledge the clients have a right to trial and it is their decision. We should never suppress their rights. As officers of the Court, we deserve respect for our efforts. I firmly believe in the presumption of innocence and the law on the burden of proof.

My goal is like my creed. The "Golden Rule"; Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. I want to give back by being available, fair, respectful and just to every attorney and litigate that would appear before me.

I sincerely appreciate your time and consideration.

Joel N. Oakley

JOEL N. OAKLEY

Attorney at Law

Contact

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Education

NCCU School of Law
Class of 1986
Juris Doctor
Summa Cum Laude
Class Valedictorian

Appalachian State University
Class of 1982
Bachelor of Arts
General Speech

Achievements

Martindale-Hubbell AV Rated
2002- Present

N.C. Business Magazine
Legal Elite
2005, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2019

Best Lawyers
2011 to Present

DWI Lawyer of the Year
2016, 2018, 2021, 2022

Super Lawyers
2020, 2021, 2022

Memberships

N.C. State Bar 1986-Present
Certified Specialist in State Criminal Law
2004-Present
Specialization Committee
2014-2018

N.C. Bar Association Criminal Law Division
Criminal Law Committee
2012-2015
Editor of "The True Bill"
2013-2014

Greensboro Bar Association
Member 1986-Present
Director 2005-2008

Greensboro Criminal Defense Lawyers Association
1986- Present
Board of Directors 1987-2022
4 Terms as President

Capital Defenders
2000-2016

N.C. Advocates for Justice
1986-Present

Employment

Joel Oakley, Attorney, Greensboro, Solo Practice 1986-1988

Rumsey & Oakley, Greensboro, Partner 1988-1993

Joel Oakley, Attorney at Law, Greensboro, Solo Practice 1993-Present

Published

Co-Authored "The ABCs of DWI" with Chad Garrett
*Bar Association's Best Seller for 3 years

Conducted over 20 seminars with manuscripts
(Available upon request)

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