

Dear Members of the Guilford County Bar,

I am seeking the appointment to Judge Tonia Cutchins' seat. I have been an assistant district attorney in Guilford County for over a decade. Over that time, I have worked to develop a reputation for being professional, consistent, and fair.

I have always sought just and fair results and have not been concerned with merely getting convictions. We have all dealt with adversity in our lives and I use the challenges I have faced to try to always see both sides. Ultimately, the judicial system's job, at least in criminal court, is to keep people from coming back.

I understand the district court judge position requires a lot of time in civil court. While I do not have a lot of civil law experience, I will work tirelessly to make sure I am well versed in the law that applies to the case in front of me. I am a firm believer in doing things the right way and working until the job is complete.

I love trial work. The last few years I have been exclusively in superior court. I have tried around 25 jury trials. I am assigned to all types of felony cases, from murder to felony larceny to habitual DWI. Due to the variety of cases I get, I have dealt with all sorts of hearings and motions and issues.

Last year I became the district court supervisor. I was a little overwhelmed with the idea, but I didn't want to say no. I have always tried to be a team player and help the office anyway that I could. Once I was made supervisor, I had several attorneys reach out to me and say that I was perfect for the job because I was even keeled and didn't get involved with the daily drama of district court.

It is not easy for me to talk about myself, but I understand that it is necessary when seeking an appointment to such a critically important position. Over the last decade, I have not been overly involved with political events or courthouse events. Once I began work as an assistant district attorney, my wife went back to school, then went on to get her Master's, and now she serves our community as a clinical social worker. Both of our children, now teenagers, are active in sports. I am married with two kids. My son played football for years and my daughter is on travel sports teams. When I am not at work, I devote almost all my spare time to my family.

I was talking to a defense attorney recently about putting my name in for this appointment. I said I wasn't really sure whether or not attorneys liked me or disliked me. I come in to work and do my job and leave. I keep my personal life separate from my work life. She said, "You are well liked, but more importantly, you are respected by everyone." I hope this is true, and that I have earned your respect in the last decade.

It would be my honor to have your vote. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Parker Stone

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Statement

I have been an Assistant District Attorney in Guilford County for over a decade. During that time, I have worked to develop a reputation for being professional, consistent, and fair. In every case I prosecute, I consider the challenges that an individual may have faced, and I try to assess the case from both sides. I have extensive trial experience, both in district and superior court. In my career, I have tried hundreds of bench trials and around twenty-five jury trials. I have prosecuted crimes ranging from Second Degree Trespass to First Degree Murder. I have learned to efficiently deal with the heavy dockets that we often have in Guilford County. The second half of last year I served as the District Court Supervisor, where I help train and mentor young Assistant District Attorneys.

Educational Experience

North Carolina Central University School of Law – August 2008 to May 2011, Durham, NC
Juris Doctorate degree

University of North Carolina at Greensboro – August 2003 to May 2008, Greensboro, NC
Bachelor of Arts in History
Dean's List

Professional License

North Carolina State Bar Admission
Admitted 2011
Active Status/Good Standing
Bar Number: 43238

Legal Experience

Guilford County District Attorney's Office July 2011 to present,
Prosecuting Attorney

Volunteer Work

YMCA Flag Football coach 2016-2017
Elon Moot Court Competition Judge 2016
Assistant Coach Youth Girls' Soccer 2014-2022