

Candidates' Forum

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If elected, what is the biggest challenge facing you? Our county's methamphetamine problem. Users commonly commit property crimes to support their habits or resort to dealing or attempting to manufacture it to feed their addiction. Many ingredients used to manufacture meth are toxic and meth users aren't always careful in their handling of these substances. This creates a hazard not only for law enforcement but also for any innocent person who stumbles upon a meth lab or its remains, not to mention the burden of exorbitant clean up costs. Domestic violence, child abuse and other person crimes are also a concern due to the aggressive states associated with meth use.

What do you plan to do about the methamphetamine problem in Morrow County? I am committed to aggressively prosecuting methamphetamine crimes. There is no quick and easy solution to this epidemic but I am encouraged by working with local law enforcement including the BENT team and by the recent addition of K-9 units to the Sheriff's Office. Recently, I was involved in the development of Drug Endangered Child protocols so that through a collaboration of prosecution, law enforcement and child protective services, our county's most vulnerable victims of meth, will not be forgotten.

Is there anything you could do to help crime victims better have their day in court? We can take advantage of the support person for Victims of Violent Crimes law that took effect at the beginning of the year. Many victims fear, with good cause, being torn apart on the witness stand by a defense attorney, and having a support person available can be invaluable. Victims' rights extend farther than just having their day in court. It's important for a district attorney to be accessible and work in cooperation with the Victim's Assistance Director, as I have experience doing, to address questions or concerns throughout the entire process and help empower victim.

What is your opinion of Jessica's Law for Oregon? We must do everything possible to protect our children from sexual predators. As

Morrow County Deputy District Attorney, I've worked with many child sex abuse victims, including one seven year old that had to testify against her abuser at trial. That little girl demonstrated a courage that most of us can only imagine and as a result her abuser is serving two Measure 11 sentences of 150 months in prison. Jessica's Law would enable law enforcement to better track the whereabouts of sex offenders by requiring those convicted of failing to register more than, twice to wear global tracking devices.

John L. Ballard, of Hermiston, has one daughter, Sarah, who is 15.

He graduated from high school in Des Moines, IA. He received his bachelor of arts degree (summa cum laude) from Buena Vista College in Iowa and his juris doctor with distinction was received from University of North Dakota School of Law. He has been practicing since 1997 and practicing in Morrow County since 1999.

Ballard has had nine years of handling complex criminal cases, extensive, jury trial experience and has a thorough understanding of advanced legal concepts including but not limited to procedural law, suppression issues, and evidence. He is a small business owner and with that has honed skills of budgeting, employee management, business operations and finance management.

Why would a voter select you over your opponent? I offer a strong work ethic. I have not had the opportunity to take significant amounts of time off work to campaign due to the responsibility to my clients- I will bring to the office of District attorney a no-nonsense approach to vigorous law enforcement and community protection for all of Morrow County. I will stand up for all citizens. I will follow-through with cases supporting law enforcement, victims, and Morrow County's best interests. The dismissal rate of cases will decline, cases charged, should be followed through on appropriate. I am a trial attorney, I will take



John Ballard

cases before juries to get convictions and tough sentences. I will begin by charging cases correctly, because I have the experience and training necessary to understand the entire process before it begins.

If elected, what is the biggest challenge facing you? After I revitalize and reinvigorate our prosecution of criminals in our county, I will advocate to our legislature the need for prison sentences for repeat drug offenders.

What do you plan to do about the methamphetamine problem in Morrow County? I intend to coordinate our various law enforcement agencies to create a streamlined approach to rapid and tough prosecution a meth users. I will insist upon an approach of zero tolerance of repeat offenders. I will be available to officers for assistance when they are at the scene of potential drug activities to properly process crime scenes.

Is there anything you could do to help crime victims better have their day in court? No plea negotiations should ever be completed without the full input of a crime victim. Crime victims should be involved in every aspect of a criminal prosecution, from charging the crime to sentencing the defendant. Communication with victims is key to providing services to them throughout the process.

What is your opinion of Jessica's Law for Oregon? It is time to get sexual predators to understand that we as a society promise to protect our children. Rape and abuse of children is as serious as murder. The sentences for such crimes should be as serious.

Running for Circuit Court Judge are Christopher Brauer, Steven Fogelson and Annetta Spicer.

Christopher R. Brauer, of Pendleton, graduated from Sam Barlow High School and received his bachelor of arts degree from Willamette University and his juris doctor at Gonzaga School of Law. He worked as a staff



Chris Brauer

attorney for Umatilla and Morrow County Public Defenders from 1985-1995. In 1995, he became district attorney for Umatilla County and currently serves in that position.

Brauer has been a member of the Rotary Club since 1995 and served two terms as director. He is also a member of Leadership Pendleton - Courts, Law and Public Safety Program Coordinator (nine years 1998 - present); and Leadership Hermiston and Leadership Milton-Freewater as speaker/participant.

Brauer's political experience comes from serving as district attorney for Umatilla County for 11 years, being elected and re-elected. He also served as the Oregon District Attorneys Association President in 2002. He is the former Special Deputy Prosecutor in Deschutes, Union, Linn and Morrow counties.

Other qualification and experiences he has had include: Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (1995-present); Umatilla County Community Corrections Advisory Committee (1985-1995); Umatilla County Senior Management Team (1995-present); Umatilla County Jail Advisory Board (1985-present); State Prison Advisory Committee at EOCI (2000-present); Oregon State Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (1999-2005); Oregon Judicial Department Criminal Caseflow Management Pilot Project (2006).

Why would a voter select you over your opponent? I am a hard-working, principled and ethical public servant whose dedication to public safety, human dignity and the rule of law has directed my professional life for more than two decades. I bring a scholar's approach to legal issues and a tough, no nonsense, approach to crime.

I am an advocate for learning and education who has participated for years in educating Oregon's lawyers. I am an enthusiastic participant in the leadership programs of several municipalities. I will use my legal acumen and scholastic aptitude to carefully, and meticulously serve the Circuit Court as judge.

For more than 20 years I have been a respected

legal practitioner in the courthouses of Umatilla and Morrow counties.

I have emphasized criminal law for 25 years as both a prosecutor and defender with experience as a partner in a law firm and as a sole practitioner in civil practice.

If elected, what is the biggest challenge facing you? The biggest challenge facing the courts is the staggering effect on the legal system (civil, criminal, and juvenile) caused by the use of intoxicating substances, particularly drugs and alcohol. Combinations of strategies including drug court, social programming, education and consequential punishment must be developed to address this huge issue.

What is your opinion of Measure 11 and should judges have more discretion in sentencing? Measure 11 requires mandatory minimum sentences for the most heinous criminal offenses such as murder, rape, robbery, sexual abuse, kidnapping and so on. The original complaint that judicial discretion in sentencing is thwarted, has largely been addressed by changes in the law (ORS 137.712), which restore judicial discretion in most second-degree offenses. The other controversial issue with Measure 11 is its treatment of 15, 16 and 17 year old offenders as adults. If Measure 11 is to be modified further, one line of thinking could be to afford these youngest offenders a "second look" and a hope of sentence reduction if good conduct and attention to programming merit it after a portion of the sentence has been served.

Is there anything you could do to help crime victims better have their day in court? Victims deserve to be treated with dignity and respect and are now afforded constitutionally protected rights. Victims are not second-class citizens to the offenders who have victimized them and are entitled to be seriously consulted in serious cases. Every judge should insure that this consultation has occurred pursuant to the law and, further, should allow the victim every opportunity to be heard and to be afforded restitution by the offender.

What would you do to make sure Morrow County has adequate judicial coverage? There is simply no excuse for lack of judicial coverage in Morrow

County whenever needed and for whatever purpose. Electronic technology and dedication of an "on-call" judge can help to accomplish this important requirement.

Steve Fogelson, and his wife of four years, Teresa, live in Pendleton. Fogelson has two children, Reid, 21 and Leslie, 19.

Fogelson graduated from Southern Eugene Senior High School and received his bachelor of science degree and his juris doctor from the University of Oregon. He has been a member of the Oregon State Bar since 1983.

Currently, he is employed as a sole private practitioner. He has also worked as a police officer in Oregon City and Reno, NV. In the law field, he has worked as a law clerk; as a student intern for the Lane County District Attorney's Office; served as deputy district attorney and promoted to chief deputy district attorney for Umatilla County; and served a tribal public defender for the Confederate Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation for Oregon.

Fogelson has been a member of the Pendleton Lions since 1985 and is a fundraiser for MDA and was the top money raiser three years in a row.

Other experience or qualification that Fogelson has includes: taught criminal law and fire law at Blue Mountain Community College; taught criminal law in Saturday Academy Program; developed program for high schools on dangers of drinking and driving; was co-chair of the West End Child Abuse Protection Team; have worked with diverse groups of people and agencies including police, DHS, counselors, child advocates, domestic violence services and attorneys in developing programs and protocols for handling sexual, physical and mental child abuse; have taught law enforcement in areas of criminal law, search and seizure, testifying, investigation of child abuse, and vehicular homicide.

Why would a voter select you over your opponent? I have real life experiences, which are valuable in a trial court judge. I have been married, raised children, divorced and custodial and non-custodial parent. Family law is a major component of the court docket. Along with 14 years of family practice, these are valuable to understanding of the needs of the parties and children. I have been police officer and have more criminal law experience than

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Steve Fogelson

ELECT



LOYAL BURNS

MORROW COUNTY COMMISSIONER


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Family & Friends of **Brian Holtz** are invited to help celebrate his **30th birthday**, Saturday, April 29 at the Morrow County Fair Pavilion. Potluck-style dinner served at 6 p.m., meat provided. No gifts, please.



VOTE STEVEN FOGELSON

for **CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE**

Umatilla/Morrow Counties (Position No. 5)

