

# Senators say Bounds not suitable for judicial position

By **JADE MCDOWELL**  
STAFF WRITER



Ryan Bounds

Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley say they no longer believe Hermiston graduate Ryan Bounds is a "suitable nominee" for the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals after reading a collection of opinion pieces he wrote during college, including one criticizing multicultural student groups that "divide up by race for their feel-good ethnic hoedowns" and foster "race-think."

Bounds, a Hermiston High School graduate and an assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Oregon, was chosen by a bipartisan committee of attorneys appointed by Wyden, Merkley and Rep. Greg Walden as one of four finalists for a judicial vacancy on the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

However, Wyden and Merkley issued a joint statement Monday saying that after the committee named Bounds they learned that

he had "failed to disclose inflammatory writings that reveal archaic and alarming views about sexual assault, the rights of workers, people of color and the LGBTQ community."

"While we have followed through on our commitment to forward to the White House the names reported by the committee, we do not believe Mr. Bounds is a suitable nominee for a lifetime appointment to the bench," they stated.

Walden's office issued

a statement that although Bounds had not been required to provide "college kid columns" to the review commission, he had provided the columns to the Senate Judiciary Committee that will hold confirmation hearings and "has fully denounced them."

"Ryan Bounds is a talented and effective prosecutor who should be judged on his adult record of working to make Oregon safer by holding lawbreakers accountable and by his unblemished record of public service, including chairing the bar committee on diversity and inclusion," Walden said.

Bounds, according to The Oregonian/Oregonlive, apologized to the Multnomah Bar Association's equity, diversity and inclusion committee — of which he is chair — in an email stating that "the objectionable words and views recited from three or four of my college opeds do not reflect the views I have hewn to as a

lawyer and, frankly, as a grown-up."

In the email Bounds, now 44, called the words he wrote years ago as a Stanford University student "tone-deaf" and "mortifyingly insensitive."

The op-eds came to light through a report by the liberal advocacy group Alliance for Justice opposing the nomination of Bounds, who is considered politically conservative.

Many of the quotes highlighted in the report came from a piece in the student-run Stanford Review titled "Race-Think: A Stanford Phenomenon?" The op-ed describes the characteristics of group-think — including rationalizing a group's actions and pressuring dissenting members to conform — and criticizes the "Multiculturalistas" on campus for similar "race-think" and for seeing themselves as "universally and unbearably persecuted."

"Race-focused groups foster race-think, and the

only way to rid our multicultural community of race-think is to rid it of these invidious factions," he wrote in 1995. "We should be cheered, however, to know that our task is not impossible. The existence of ethnic organizations is no inevitable prerequisite to maintaining a diverse community—white students, after all, seem to be doing all right without an Aryan Student Union."

Alliance for Justice also criticized Bounds' views on campus sexual assault from an opinion piece Bounds wrote for the Stanford Review during his time as an opinion editor titled "Reasonable Doubts?" arguing that universities should not expel or otherwise punish students accused of sexual assault unless their guilt can be proven "beyond a reasonable doubt."

"Expelling students is probably not going to contribute a great deal toward a rape victim's recovery; there is no moral imperative to

risk egregious error in doing so," he wrote in 1994.

Alliance for Justice also cited pieces in which Bounds criticized students protesting a union-busting hotel and mocked the idea of "sensitivity" after a group of intoxicated athletes vandalized a statue celebrating gay pride.

Bounds was born in Umatilla and grew up in Hermiston before graduating from Stanford and then Yale. He spent time in commercial law in Portland, was a federal prosecutor for the District of Columbia, served as an assistant to the President on domestic policy and is now an assistant U.S. attorney.

When he was tapped for nomination, 15 Oregon senators including Bill Hansell sent Merkley and Wyden letters of support on behalf of Bounds, along with the Oregon Criminal Defense Bar, the Oregon Wheat Growers League, Hermiston Mayor David Drozmann and Pendleton Mayor John Turner.

## COURTS

### SENTENCES

PENDLETON — The following sentences have been imposed in Umatilla County courts:

### FELONY

•Miranda Alicia Longoria, 21, Hermiston, pleaded guilty to Burglary I: sentenced to 3 years probation, 180 sanction units, 90 maximum jail units and 240 hours community service, plus restitution to be determined; pleaded guilty to Possession of Methamphetamine, Theft I, Attempt to Commit Class C/Unclassified Felony and Theft III: sentences to discharge.

•Jason Michael Francisco Garza, 28, Irrigon, pleaded no contest to Fleeing or Attempting to Elude a Police Officer: sentenced to 25 months Oregon Dept. of Corrections (DOC), 3 years post-prison supervision, \$100 fine, \$114.60 restitution and 90 days driver's license suspension; pleaded no contest to Possession of Forged Instrument I: sentenced discharged; pleaded guilty to Driving While Suspended/Revoked: sentenced to 364 days jail, \$300 fine and \$700 fine-suspended; pleaded guilty to Failure to Appear II: sentenced to 364 days jail.

•Nicholas Geraldo Guerra, 27, Hermiston, pleaded guilty to Possession of Heroin: sentenced to 60 days jail, 1 year post-prison supervision, \$200 fine and 6 months driver's license suspension.

### MISDEMEANOR

•Karen May Rice, 56, Heppner, pleaded guilty to DUIII (diversion revoked): sentenced to 2 days jail, 178 days jail-suspended, 2 years probation, 80 hours community service, \$2,000 fine, \$255 fine-suspended and 1 year driver's license suspension, plus court costs and fees.

•Eugenio Rojas Hernandez, 20, Lone, pleaded no contest to DUII: sentenced to 10 days jail, 170 days jail-suspended, 2 years probation, 80 hours community service, \$1,255 fine, \$1,500 fine-suspended and 1 year driver's license suspension, plus court costs and

fees; pleaded no contest to Reckless Driving and Recklessly Endangering Another Person: sentenced to 180 days jail-suspended, 2 years probation, \$100 fine and 90 days driver's license suspension for each count.

### SUITS FILED

PENDLETON — The following suits have been filed in Umatilla County courts (interest, court costs and fees not listed):

•Credits Inc. vs. Jasmine M. Gerard of Hermiston: seeks \$2,297.07.

•Credits Inc. vs. Scott F. and Amanda L. Clawson of Hermiston: seeks \$745.12.

•Credits Inc. vs. Ross and Bree Baker of Hermiston: seeks \$2,920.54.

•Credits Inc. vs. Peter and Kristi Lawson of Hermiston: seeks \$7,763.30.

•Credits Inc. vs. Miguel Gutierrez Velazquez of Boardman: seeks \$2,839.88.

•Quick Collect Inc. vs. Carlyle E. and Gregory H. Gallien of Hermiston: seeks \$565.86.

•Christopher Lee Barnes of Umatilla (TRCI) vs. Christina Irving, Tanya Ridley, Troy Bowser, Michel F. Gower, Greg Jones and Collette S. Peters: seeks \$250,000 from each defendant, plus compensatory damages.

•Accounts Receivable Inc. vs. Hannah N. Garver of Hermiston: seeks \$3,381.17.

•Zions Credit Corporation dba First Zions National Bank vs. Abraham Saenz of Hermiston: seeks \$56,217.30.

•LVNV Funding LLC vs. Mary Sanders of Hermiston: seeks \$635.65.

•LVNV Funding LLC vs. Gregory Martin of Hermiston: seeks \$1,566.60.

### JUDGMENTS

PENDLETON — The following judgments have been rendered in Umatilla County courts (interest, court costs and fees not listed):

•Credits Inc. vs. Ruth E. Rojas of Stanfield: judgment for \$8,415.99.

•Ray Klein Inc. vs. Christine Wizner of Hermiston: judgment for \$385.43.

•Quick Collect Inc. vs. Glenda S. Taylor of Lone: judgment for \$885.91.

•Credits Inc. vs. Fredrick E. Handel of Hermiston: judgment for \$8,800.87.

•LVNV Funding LLC vs. Tammy Wynne: judgment for \$1,213.01.

•Discover Bank vs. Raylena M. Cimmiyotti of Hermiston: judgment for \$3,627.89.

•United Finance Co. vs. Teresa Rios Resendiz of Hermiston: judgment for \$614.73.

•Credits Inc. vs. Tammy and Jerry A. Bair of Umatilla: judgment for \$3,693.43.

•Credits Inc. vs. Brandon E. Colpitts of Hermiston: judgment for \$9,824.11.

•Credits Inc. vs. Desiree and Demetrio Torres of Hermiston: judgment for \$617.48.

•Credits Inc. vs. Tirah Jo Mayenschein of Hermiston: judgment for \$1,012.96.

•Credits Inc. vs. Deianira Martinez of Hermiston: judgment for \$2,409.63.

•Evergreen Financial Services Inc. vs. Luis Meseth Aguilar of Umatilla: judgment for \$586.23.

### Divorces

PENDLETON — Divorce decrees were signed in Umatilla County Courts for:

Wendi Lin Giles of Umatilla and Scott Edward Giles of Hermiston; Kimberly Jeanne Schubert of Hermiston and Steven Richard Schubert of Kennewick.

### Marriages

PENDLETON — Marriage licenses have been registered in Umatilla County for:

Juan Manuel Zumaya Nava, 46, of Pasco, Wash., and Flor Gisela Valencia, 41, of Hermiston.

Federico Garcia, 40, and Esmeralda Guzman Madrigal, 39, both of Boardman.

## WORSHIP COMMUNITY



### Echo Community Church

21 N. Bonanza Street, Echo OR  
Phone: (541) 376-8108

Sunday School • 9:30am  
Worship • 10:45am  
Children's Church • 11:15am  
Potluck & Communion ~  
First Sunday of the Month

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Sun. Worship Service.....11:00am  
Sun. Evening Worship.....6:00pm  
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study.....6:00pm  
[www.hermistonlmbc.com](http://www.hermistonlmbc.com)

### First United Methodist Church Hermiston

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Rev. Dr. Jim Pierce, pastor

### Grace Baptist Church

555 SW 11th, Hermiston  
567-9497

Nursery provided for all services  
Sunday School - 9:30 AM  
Worship - 10:45 AM  
6:00 PM  
Wed Prayer & Worship - 7:00 PM  
"Proclaiming God's word, growing in God's grace"

### Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church

565 W. HERMISTON AVE.  
DAILY MASS: Monday-Friday  
.....English 7:00 am  
Thursday.....Spanish 6:00 pm  
SATURDAY:.....English 5:00 pm  
.....Spanish 7:00 pm  
SUNDAY:.....English 9:00 am  
.....Bilingual 11:00 am  
.....Spanish 1:00 pm  
Office.....567-5812

### Seventh-day Adventist Church

567-8241  
855 W. Highland • Hermiston

Sabbath School.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.  
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### NEW BEGINNINGS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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1 Pet. 5:7

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