



## 2011 Wisconsin Supreme Court Candidate Bios

### Asst. AG JoAnne Kloppenburg

**From the Candidate:** Assistant Attorney General Kloppenburg has been a litigator and prosecutor at the Wisconsin Department of Justice since 1989, serving under Attorneys General from both parties: Don Hanaway, Jim Doyle, Peg Lautenschlager and JB Van Hollen.

Her legal experience is broad and deep and includes constitutional law, appellate law, civil litigation, environmental prosecution and administrative law. She has argued numerous cases before the Wisconsin Supreme Court and in the Wisconsin Court of Appeals and she has tried cases in circuit courts around the state.

Assistant Attorney General Kloppenburg graduated with honors from the University of Wisconsin Law School (1988). She has an undergraduate degree from Yale (1974), also with honors, and a Masters in Public Affairs from Princeton University (1976). During Law School, she was an intern for Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson and later was a law clerk for Chief Judge Barbara Crabb of the United States District Court.

A teacher at the UW Law School since 1990, she was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Botswana (1976-1979) and remains active in professional, civic and community life. She is a member of the Legal Association for Women (LAW), a mentor with the Dane County Bar Association, an English as a Second Language (ESL) tutor, and a member of her neighborhood association board, and has volunteered with various nonprofit groups.

Assistant Attorney General Kloppenburg and her husband Jack are the proud parents of two daughters and one son. They live in Madison.

#### **Information regarding endorsements from the Wisconsin Civil Justice, Council, Inc.**

The Wisconsin Civil Justice Council, Inc. (WCJC) was formed in early 2009 to represent Wisconsin business interests on emerging civil litigation challenges before the Legislature. Their primary goal is to achieve fairness and equity, reduce costs, and enhance Wisconsin's image as a place to live and work.

#### **JoAnne Kloppenburg**

JoAnne Kloppenburg is running a campaign painting her as an independent. To prove this independence, Kloppenburg lists mainly individual people who have endorsed her, with a few elected officials, such as Madison Mayor Dave Cieslewicz and Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk.

What her campaign website does not tell you are the numerous interest groups that have supported her campaign. According to MediaTrackers.org, Kloppenburg has support of officials representing a number of liberal environmental groups, including Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters, Midwest Environmental Advocates, Clean Wisconsin, Midwest Environmental Justice Organization, and 1000 Friends of Wisconsin. A number of unions have endorsed Kloppenburg including the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO, AFT Local 212 & AFSCME District Council 48. The state's teacher union WEAC is reviewing the candidates but has not endorsed either yet.

Other major supporters are individual plaintiffs' attorneys that sit on the Wisconsin Association for Justice's board, including current president J. Michael End, past-president Christine Bremer Muggli, and Dan Rottier, partner of the biggest plaintiffs' attorney firm in the state, Habush, Habush, & Rottier.





## 2011 Wisconsin Supreme Court Candidate Bios

### Supreme Court Justice David Prosser

**From the Candidate:** Justice David T. Prosser, Jr. was appointed to the Supreme Court by Governor Tommy G. Thompson in 1998, and elected to a 10-year term in 2001.

Born in Chicago, Justice Prosser was raised in Appleton, and received his bachelor's degree in political science from DePauw University in 1965, and his law degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1968.

Before joining the court, Justice Prosser served on the Wisconsin Tax Appeals Commission where he conducted hearings and issued decisions on disputes related to Wisconsin taxation.

Experience matters. Justice Prosser has spent 12 years on the bench, after serving 18 years in the Wisconsin Legislature, 2 years as Outagamie County District Attorney and more than 2 years in the United States Department of Justice.

Justice Prosser was appointed to the Tax Appeals Commission following an 18-year career in the Wisconsin Legislature, where he represented the Appleton area in the Assembly from 1979 through 1996. During his tenure, he served six years as Assembly Minority Leader and two years as Assembly Speaker.

For 14 years, he was a legislative member of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. In 2005 he was reappointed to the Commission by Assembly Speaker John Gard and served until 2007.

Prior to his election to the Assembly, Justice Prosser served as Outagamie County District Attorney. He also worked in Washington, D.C., first as an attorney/advisor in the Office of Criminal Justice, United States Department of Justice; then as administrative assistant to U.S. Representative Harold Froehlich, a member of the House Judiciary Committee during the Watergate impeachment inquiry.

Justice Prosser's judicial philosophy reflects his devotion to the constitution and the rule of law. He believes the court should find the law and apply it properly, not to make it up to advance some ideological objective. He has participated in more than 900 published Supreme Court decisions and has written opinions in almost every area of law. He has a documented record for impartiality and scholarship and is well known to people who closely follow the work of the court.

Justice Prosser served on the Supreme Court Planning and Policy Advisory Committee's Court Financing Subcommittee (2002-04), the Judicial Council of Wisconsin (2002-06), and currently serves on the Supreme Court Citation of Unpublished Opinions Committee and Rules Procedures Committee.

Justice Prosser is also a member of the James E. Doyle American Inns of Court, Friends of the Fox, and the James Watrous Gallery Advisory Committee.

#### **Information regarding endorsements from the Wisconsin Civil Justice, Council, Inc.**

The Wisconsin Civil Justice Council, Inc. (WCJC) was formed in early 2009 to represent Wisconsin business interests on emerging civil litigation challenges before the Legislature. Their primary goal is to achieve fairness and equity, reduce costs, and enhance Wisconsin's image as a place to live and work.

#### **Justice David T. Prosser, Jr.**

Justice Prosser has a broad range of support, as evidenced by those groups that have endorsed him on his campaign website. His campaign chairs are former Democratic Governor Patrick Lucey and former Republican Governor Tommy G. Thompson.

Justice Prosser has received broad support from the law enforcement community throughout the state, including sheriffs and the Milwaukee Police Association. In addition, Justice Prosser has received support from district attorneys and judges, including former Justice Jon Wilcox.

Also supporting Justice Prosser are former State Bar presidents. Just recently, the Milwaukee Bar Association's members voted by a nearly 3-1 margin in favor of Justice Prosser as the more qualified person for the position compared to Kloppenburg.

Justice Prosser received the endorsement of newspapers during the general election, including the state's largest, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*.

