

## WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT FACT SHEET

### What is the Wisconsin State Supreme Court?

- The state's highest court.
- The final court of appeals on cases that began in the state court system. Cases involving federal laws can be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court).
- Responsible for determining if laws violate the Wisconsin Constitution.
- Establishes and enforces procedural rules and codes of conduct for Wisconsin attorneys, judges, and justices.
- Located in Madison, Wisconsin.

#### What do I need to know about the Justices?

- The Supreme Court consists of seven justices.
- Justices are chosen in nonpartisan statewide elections to serve for ten-year terms. There are no term limits for justices.
- Justices are elected in April and take office the following August 1.
- The justices elect one of themselves to be the chief justice (administrative head of the court system) every two years.
- The justices decide which cases to review. They do not agree to hear every case brought to them.

# What Kinds of Issues Does the Supreme Court Address that Impact People with Disabilities?



## How do you evaluate judicial candidates?

# Decide what you are looking for in a candidate.

- What issues are important to you? What qualities do you want in a leader?
- Which candidate's judicial philosophies align with your values?

#### Learn about the candidates.

- Visit their websites, watch candidate forums and interviews, go to VOTE411.org, seek other nonpartisan sources for information.
- What are their qualifications?
- What are their judicial philosophies?
- What are their judicial records?
- What positions have they taken on issues that are important to you?

#### Sort it out.

- Which candidate's judicial philosophies and views on their role of a Supreme Court Justice best match your own views?
- Who seems most prepared for the job?
- Who has the leadership qualities you are looking for?



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The Wisconsin Disability Vote Coalition is a project of Disability Rights Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities.

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