

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**JANUARY 2015 FAIRFAX GENERAL DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL SCREENING**

**JOHN ARA KASSABIAN**

John Kassabian resides in Oakton, Virginia. He is a 1988 graduate of Old Dominion University, and received his J.D. in 1993 from the District of Columbia School of Law. Mr. Kassabian is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Virginia, the Court of Appeals of Virginia and the U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit.

**EXPERIENCE AND LEGAL ABILITY**

Mr. Kassabian began his career in private practice in 1996. From 1997-2002 he served as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in Prince William County and then Fairfax County. In 2002 he returned to private practice at Kassabian & Kassabian, P.L.C. From May of 2010 through the present he has served as Fairfax City City Prosecutor. He is now a partner at Kassabian & Kassabian, P.L.C. Approximately 60% of the time he works as a prosecutor, and 40% of the time as a criminal defense attorney.

Mr. Kassabian was appointed as a Fairfax County Substitute Judge of the General District Court and Juvenile Domestic Relations District Court in 2007. He was appointed to a second term in 2013. He sits about two days a month in these Courts.

**FAIRNESS AND TEMPERAMENT**

Mr. Kassabian exhibited a calm and pleasant demeanor. The Committee is impressed with Mr. Kassabian's temperament and believes that he would be thoughtful, courteous, compassionate and fair as a Fairfax County General District Court judge.

**PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY**

This candidate demonstrated a high degree of professionalism and integrity. The committee noted Mr. Kassabian's high level of involvement in the Fairfax Bar General District Court Committee.

**OVERALL EVALUATION**

The Committee found Mr. Kassabian refreshing in his passion and desire to serve litigants in the General District Court. Mr. Kassabian meets, and in many instances exceeds, the requirements of experience, intellect, fairness, temperament, professionalism, and integrity to be appointed as a General District Court Judge in Fairfax County.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: RECOMMENDED**