

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
JANUARY 2016 JUVENILE AND DOMESTIC RELATIONS DISTRICT COURT
JUDICIAL SCREENING

EDWARD V. O'CONNOR, JR.

Edward O'Connor resides with his wife in Fairfax County. He received his B.A. from Duke University in 1975 and his J.D. from New York Law School in 1981. Mr. O'Connor is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Virginia (1982) and the District of Columbia Court of Appeals (1983), as well as local federal courts.

EXPERIENCE AND LEGAL ABILITY

Mr. O'Connor has practiced law in Northern Virginia for over 30 years. His practice focuses primarily on family law issues including divorce, equitable distribution, child and spousal support, domestic violence, protective orders and child custody. Mr. O'Connor has an "AV" rating from Martindale-Hubbell. He also serves as guardian *ad litem* in child custody, abuse and neglect cases at the trial and appellate levels. Mr. O'Connor was appointed by the Circuit Court in January 2007 as a substitute judge for the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. He was reappointed in 2013 and sits frequently in that position.

Mr. O'Connor lectures regularly for various bar associations and seminar providers.

FAIRNESS AND TEMPERAMENT

Mr. O'Connor impressed the committee with the sensitivity, demeanor, fairness and temperament required of a judge in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court as demonstrated by his substitute judge experience.

PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY

Mr. O'Connor's extensive record of service to the legal and general communities is most impressive. He served on the Board of Directors of Legal Services of Northern Virginia and on the Potomac Legal Aid Society, and is a former member of the Fifth District Disciplinary Committee. He is a recipient of the Pro Bono Lawyer of the Year (Fairfax County) award from Legal Services of Northern Virginia and the James Keith Public Service award from the Fairfax Bar Association.

OVERALL EVALUATION

Mr. O'Connor continues to demonstrate a high degree of knowledge and ability in the field of domestic and juvenile law. This experience, coupled with his record of service to the Bar and the Northern Virginia community at large, makes him an exceptionally strong candidate for the bench. His performance as a substitute judge further demonstrates his abilities, and his high standing in the legal community.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: HIGHLY RECOMMENDED