



JUDICIARY COMMITTEE 2025 LANCASTER COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS RATINGS

The following candidates have been evaluated by the LBA Judiciary Committee. The Judiciary Committee evaluates all those candidates seeking a seat on the Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas. For an explanation of the ratings used, click [here](#). To read more about the LBA's evaluation procedures, click [here](#).

The Honorable Dennis E. Reinaker (retention)

Rating: Recommended

The Lancaster Bar Association survey yielded the following results: 100 "recommended" votes and 21 "not recommended" votes. Under the Committee's bylaws, candidates for retention are only eligible to receive a rating of "recommended" or "not recommended;" retention candidates are not eligible to receive "highly recommended."

During the candidate's twenty-year tenure on the Court of Common Pleas of Lancaster County, the candidate has demonstrated strong legal knowledge and even-handedness. Members of the Bar commend the candidate's ability to manage a demanding docket efficiently while providing litigants with full and fair consideration. The candidate served as Lancaster's President Judge from 2015 through 2019, and he also was elected President of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges in 2024.

Based on the above, the Committee recommends his retention as a judge of the Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas.



The Honorable Thomas B. Sponaugle (retention)

Rating: Recommended

The Lancaster Bar Association survey yielded the following results: 111 “recommended” votes and 11 “not recommended” votes. Under the Committee’s bylaws, candidates for retention are only eligible to receive a rating of “recommended” or “not recommended;” retention candidates are not eligible to receive “highly recommended.”

During the candidate’s ten-year term on the bench, he has earned a reputation for professionalism and fairness. He is described as well-prepared and very intelligent. He handles a high volume of difficult cases and is efficient in managing courtroom proceedings. Members of the Bar report that he is effective in helping to mediate and settle ongoing disputes that may be pending before other members of the Bench. The candidate also assisted in rewriting the Local Civil Rules for practitioners.

Based on the above, the Committee recommends his retention as a judge of the Lancaster County Court of Common Pleas.