Incumbent judge winning

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Jeffrey Bassett Age: 55 Background: Attorney (criminal law, juvenile offender matters, labor and industries, personal injury, bankruptcy, family law and appellate law)



Dale Magneson Age: 65 Background: Solo practitioner representing clients in the Kitsap County Superior Court for over 28 years, in addition to representing clients in the Federal Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Washington

By Andrew Binion of the Kitsap Sun

PORT ORCHARD — Kitsap Superior Court Judge Jeffrey Bassett took a lead over challenger Dale Magneson in preliminary results released Tuesday night, accounting for 51.9 percent of ballots cast.

Bassett took 53.3 percent, or 38,060 votes, to Magneson's 46.4 percent, or 33,095 votes. More results will released Wednesday.

Bassett was appointed in February by Gov. Jay Inslee to fill out the remainder of Judge Jay Roof's term.

During the campaign, Bassett emphasized the breadth of his experience in the courtroom, while Magneson emphasized his local roots, having been raised in Bremerton.

Although Magneson had never taken a case to trial, and had no criminal law experience, he sought to assure voters that he could learn on the job.

Bassett, whose father was a judge, had experience in several areas of law, and in part was selected by Inslee based on the recommendation of other Superior Court judges.

Magneson ran unsuccessfully for Superior Court in 2004, against retired Judge Anna Laurie but was eliminated in the primary. Bassett had applied for other vacancies on the bench prior to being appointed by Inslee.



About Andrew Binion

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