Incumbent judges win both races for Snohomish County Superior Court

Judge Patrick Moriarty was winning against attorney Mary Anderson. Judge Miguel Duran led his challenger Brett Rogers.

By Jonathan Tall

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Top row: Miguel M. Duran, left, and Brett Rogers. Bottom row: Mary Anderson, left, and Patrick Moriarty.

EVERETT — Two incumbent Snohomish County Superior Court judges appeared set to retain their seats in early tallies Tuesday night.

Judge Miguel Duran held 55.2% of the vote for Position 16, while challenger Brett Rogers, a former cop, had 44.5%.

Meanwhile for Position 17, incumbent Patrick Moriarty led Mary Anderson, 56.0% to 43.5%.

Last year, Gov. Jay Inslee appointed Moriarty and Duran to <u>fill two new seats on the</u> <u>Superior Court bench</u>.

Seat 16

The duel between Duran and Rogers had <u>something of a partisan bent for a</u> <u>nonpartisan race</u>.

Rogers, 53, a Lake Stevens resident from Wisconsin, served as a Seattle police officer while getting a law degree from Seattle University. He ran for several positions as a Republican in recent years: taking 12% of the primary vote for state attorney general in 2020 and <u>losing a race for Snohomish County Prosecutor to Jason Cummings in 2022</u>.

Duran, 46, from Corpus Christi, Texas, had worked as a defense attorney in civil and criminal cases for 22 years. The governor appointed him last year.

Rogers had said a judge cannot be impartial if appointed by politicians, calling it "problematic" in our "current hyper-partisan climate."

Seat 17

The race for the other seat was about as close.

Moriarty, 58, was also appointed by Inslee in June 2022. He has worked for decades in the legal system, including over 17 years as a judge pro tem.

Anderson, 49, had the more varied resume. In addition to 12 years of experience as a trial attorney, she also operated her own construction firm, ran a mortgage brokerage firm and worked as a real estate agent. Anderson hoped to become the first Black woman to serve as a judge in Snohomish County Superior Court.

She waged a strong challenge, raising over \$78,000 in campaign contributions to Moriarty's more than \$87,000.

Jonathan Tall: 425-339-3486; jonathan.tall@heraldnet.com; Twitter: @snocojon.



Jonathan Tall covers breaking news in Snohomish County for the Herald. <u>Read more of Jonathan's stories here</u>.