



PRESS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Natalie Medved

Forward Party Communications

media@forwardparty.com

FORWARD PARTY ENDORSES DAVE LARSON FOR WASHINGTON STATE SUPREME COURT, POSITION 5

Former Federal Way Municipal Court Judge Backed by Forward Party to preserve the integrity and independence of the judiciary

Seattle, Washington — May 28, 2026 — The Forward Party today announced its endorsement of Dave Larson for Washington State Supreme Court, Position 5. In backing Larson, the Forward Party is making a clear statement that Washington voters deserve to have the most qualified candidate sit as a justice on their highest court, not the Governor's hand-picked selection.

The seat Larson is seeking is currently occupied by Theo Angelis, who was appointed by Governor Bob Ferguson in March 2026, the Governor's second appointment to the Washington State Supreme Court in less than a year. Washington voters will now face a November ballot in which the incumbent justice is not someone they elected. The Forward Party believes this is the kind of arrangement that erodes public trust in the independence of the judiciary and is precisely why this race matters.

Voters should choose who sits on the state's highest court, and Dave Larson has earned that choice. He served as a Federal Way Municipal Court judge for 18 years, was a well-respected trial lawyer for 23 years, is a leader in criminal justice reform, was recognized statewide for his work on judicial independence, and received the 2018 DMCJA President's Award for efforts that helped inspire the formation of Washington's Council on Independent Courts. As an attorney, he earned an AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest possible peer review distinction.

"Dave Larson has spent his career protecting judicial independence and serving his community. He represents the best of what independent, accountable leadership looks like," said Christine Todd Whitman, Co-Chair of the Forward Party and former New Jersey Governor. "When a governor makes back-to-back appointments to the state's highest court, it raises real questions about whose interests the court is meant to serve. Washington voters deserve a voice in that answer."

Forward supports leaders who put the rule of law ahead of political loyalty and believe that courts should be accountable to voters, not to the politicians who appoint them. Larson reflects those values.

"The Forward Party exists because Americans are tired of a system that serves itself instead of the people it is supposed to represent," said Andrew Yang, Co-Chair of the Forward Party. "Dave Larson is exactly the kind of candidate the Forward Party was created to support, and we are proud to stand behind him."

Backing leaders who reflect more representative politics, The Forward Party believes in a system where problem-solving matters more than party labels, where elected officials are accountable to the people they serve, and where the independence of our courts is protected, not politicized.

The Forward Party is building a national movement to support independent-minded leaders and expand choices for voters across the country.

More information is available at forwardparty.com/candidates

The Forward Party is bringing moderates, conservatives, and progressives together to heal our political divisions, find our shared ground, and create a brighter future for America. Forward Party candidates are accountable to the voters, and they will focus on solutions, not partisan fighting, in order to serve their constituents better.