



Honored Committee Member,

I am Marybeth McCarthy, and I'm a lifelong advocate for justice and equality. I write today to humbly ask for your support for my candidacy for Monroe County Court Judge in the upcoming special election on August 10th at 11am. The meeting will be held at RSCS School 12 999 South Ave Rochester NY.

In my nearly ten years serving the community as a Senior Assistant Public Defender, I have witnessed judges fail to hold prosecutors and police to the rule of law. As an advocate, I have found there is no objection loud enough to prevent judges from allowing outside political pressures, personal relationships and prejudices from influencing their decisions. I am outraged when judges jump to conclusions based on my client's race, gender or indigence. This is why I am seeking your support for my candidacy.

The inequities in our system of justice are felt every day, most deeply in communities of color. Police chase black men down the street and tackle them for jaywalking. They use excessive force and racial slurs while their body cameras are rolling. We've witnessed them put their knees on someone's neck while they cry out for help and yell they can't breathe. I have seen prosecutors held to a lower standard than the law requires. Black men are offered state prison time while white men are offered probation for the same crimes. I watch judges turn a blind eye to the misconduct, even while I loudly object. Too many of these judges are former prosecutors who, despite their best efforts to be impartial, can be tainted with the biases of that office.

Five out of six of our current Monroe County Court Judges are former prosecutors. It is time for a new perspective, one shaped by a diversity of experience, compassion, and fierce commitment to equality under the law. I am the only candidate who embodies all of these characteristics. Monroe County deserves a judge who will not turn a blind eye to injustice. I am that candidate.

Throughout my career, I have worked to ensure that every individual receives the representation they deserve. I have handled over 3,000 cases and gained essential trial experience. As a respected leader within the Public Defender's Office, I am responsible for equipping new attorneys with the skills required in County Court. I am also proud to be a founding member of our union through SEIU Local 200 United.

My unwavering commitment to justice and community extends beyond the courtroom. I am actively engaged in serving our most vulnerable populations. I am the proud Founder and former President of North Paw Rescue, a local non-profit. I regularly provide essential resources and support to our refugee community, local veterans, and our homeless population. I also serve as an advisor to a local restorative justice organization. It is my privilege and responsibility to do what I can to create a more just and equitable society for all.

If elected as County Court Judge, my oath to you and to the community is that I will always ensure that every individual is treated with dignity and respect, and that justice is served without prejudice or bias. Thank you for considering my candidacy. Together, we can uphold the values of fairness and equality, and make our community a better place. If you would like to discuss further, please reach out to me at 585-857-9713 or marybeth.mccarthy.esq@gmail.com.

