

Responses of Miranda Du
Nominee to be United States District Judge for the District of Nevada
to the Written Questions of Senator Amy Klobuchar

- 1. If you had to describe it, how would you characterize your judicial philosophy?
How do you see the role of the judge in our constitutional system?**

Response: My judicial philosophy and belief as to the role of the district court judge are the same. The district court judge should be open-minded, fair and impartial and should make decisions based solely on the merits of the case. In doing so, the district court judge should apply the laws to the facts of the case as presented to the court.

- 2. What assurances can you give that litigants coming into your courtroom will be treated fairly regardless of their political beliefs or whether they are rich or poor, defendant or plaintiff?**

Response: I can give absolute assurance that litigants appearing in my courtroom, if I was fortunate to be confirmed, will be treated fairly and equally regardless of their political beliefs or wealth. I think everyone should have equal access to our judicial system. I also think a judge's impartiality affects how advocates and litigants view our legal system. As an advocate, I appreciate and respect judges who are fair and impartial even when they may rule against my clients. I also think litigants are more accepting of a ruling from a judge who gave them a fair chance to be heard.

- 3. In your opinion, how strongly should judges bind themselves to the doctrine of stare decisis? How does the commitment to stare decisis vary depending on the court?**

Response: I believe that district court judges must follow and apply binding precedents established by the United States Supreme Court and the court of appeals with jurisdiction over the circuit. District court judges must commit to the principles of *stare decisis* and this commitment should not vary depending on the court.