

Responses of Brian C. Wimes
Nominee to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri
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: A judge should be fair, impartial, open-minded, and even tempered with parties that appear before the court and apply the facts of the case to the applicable law. A judge's role is to resolve disputes between parties in a just, timely, efficient, and professional manner in accordance with the law and rules of procedure.

- 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 believe that a judge's demeanor should instill trust, confidence, and faith in our legal system. Having had the privilege of sitting on the bench for ten years, I believe I have always treated all parties appearing before me equally, respectfully, and in a fair and impartial manner. If confirmed, I will continue to perform my duties in a manner that instills trust, confidence, and faith in our legal system.

- 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 judges should commit themselves to the legal principle of stare decisis. I believe it promotes stability and predictability in our legal system. I believe this commitment should not vary depending on the court.