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## **Liability Reform Coalition announces 2006 judicial candidate recommendations**

SEATTLE—The Liability Reform Coalition (LRC) today marked 20 years of lawsuit reform advocacy by announcing its candidate recommendations for the Washington Supreme Court and Court of Appeals positions up for election this November.

“Typically, voters have a difficult time finding adequate information with which to make informed decisions on judicial candidates,” said LRC Chairman Cliff Webster. “To fill this void, the LRC intensively interviews judicial candidates, weighing their qualifications, experience and background, and then recommends candidates that share our ideal goal of ending lawsuit abuse.”

Webster emphasized that lawsuit abuse is a rampant problem that brings higher costs to doing business in Washington state, costs that are ultimately passed on to the consumer.

The LRC recommendations for the Washington Supreme Court are Stephen Johnson for Position 2 and John M. Groen for Position 8.

The LRC recommendations for the Washington Court of Appeals are: Mary Kay Becker for Division I, District 3; Christine Quinn-Brintnall for Division II, District 1; and Joel Penoyar for Division II, District 3.

The LRC, with a membership that includes more than 70 of Washington state’s most influential businesses and trade associations, supports qualified candidates who share its views on limiting the expansion of tort liability and reducing the cost of litigation, yet speeding the resolution of civil actions and improving fairness and certainty within the civil justice system.

The LRC’s judicial candidate recommendations will also be posted on its Web site at [www.walrc.org](http://www.walrc.org).