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**Survey of Michigan Statewide Voters**  
**Monday, March 9 through Thursday, March 12, 2009**  
**600 sample, plus/minus 4%**

Hello, this is \_\_\_\_\_ from a research firm located in Michigan. We're conducting a random survey with voters about important issues in your community. This is NOT a sales call, it is strictly research and I'd like to take a few minutes to include your opinions in our study.

We need to have an equal number of males and females and we also need to have young voters represented. May I please speak to the youngest (**MALE/ FEMALE, depending on specified quota**) registered voter, age 18 or older, who is home now?

Are you registered to vote at \_\_\_\_\_ (**the address I'm calling**)?

**IF YES: GO TO QUESTION 1**

**IF NO:** Is there any other (**male/female, as specified**) registered voter at home who I can talk to? (**IF NOT, TERMINATE INTERVIEW**)

- 1) Did you vote in the 2008 Presidential Election in Michigan?
- |                           |     |      |
|---------------------------|-----|------|
| a. Yes                    | 600 | 100% |
| b. No (TERMINATE)         | 0   | 0%   |
| c. Unsure/DNK (TERMINATE) | 0   | 0%   |

I would now like to ask you a few questions about judges in Michigan

- 2) How much trust and confidence do you have in the Michigan judicial system - a lot, some, a little, or none at all?
- |                                      |     |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| a. A lot                             | 135 | 23% |
| b. Some                              | 275 | 46% |
| c. A little                          | 94  | 16% |
| d. None at all                       | 46  | 8%  |
| e. Other (DO NOT OFFER)              | 5   | 1%  |
| f. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER) | 45  | 8%  |

- 3) Thinking back to the last time there was an election for judges in Michigan, how much information would you say you had about the candidates in those elections - a lot, some, a little, or none at all?
- |                                      |     |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| a. A lot                             | 91  | 15% |
| b. Some                              | 211 | 35% |
| c. A little                          | 223 | 37% |
| d. None at all                       | 64  | 11% |
| e. Other (DO NOT OFFER)              | 2   | 1%  |
| f. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER) | 9   | 2%  |
- 4) How much influence do you think judicial campaign contributions have on the decisions judges make -- a lot, some, a little, or no influence?
- |                                      |     |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| a. A lot                             | 193 | 31% |
| b. Some                              | 188 | 32% |
| c. A little                          | 106 | 18% |
| d. None at all                       | 54  | 9%  |
| e. Other (DO NOT OFFER)              | 1   | 1%  |
| f. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER) | 58  | 10% |
- 5) How important is it that judges are independent of influence from contributors to their campaigns -- very important, somewhat important, not very important, not important?
- |                              |     |     |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|
| a. Very important            | 460 | 77% |
| b. Somewhat important        | 94  | 16% |
| c. Not very important        | 19  | 3%  |
| d. Not important             | 16  | 3%  |
| e. Other (DO NOT OFFER)      | 0   | 0%  |
| f. Unsure/DNK (DO NOT OFFER) | 11  | 2%  |
- 6) If there was a court case where one of the opposing parties spent \$50,000 to support a judge's election, would you doubt the judge's ability to be fair and unbiased?
- |   |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|
| a. Yes (if yes go to question 7)                      | 401 | 67% |
| b. No (if no go to question 8)                        | 131 | 22% |
| c. Other (DO NOT OFFER GO TO QUESTION 8)              | 11  | 2%  |
| d. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER GO TO QUESTION 8) | 57  | 10% |
- 7) Given this, do you have serious doubt or slight doubt in the ability of a judge to be fair and unbiased if one party donated \$50,000 to support their election?
- |   |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|
| a. Serious doubt (go to question 8)                   | 263 | 66% |
| b. Slight doubt (go to question 8)                    | 114 | 28% |
| c. Other (DO NOT OFFER go to question 8)              | 7   | 2%  |
| d. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER go to question 8) | 17  | 4%  |

- 8) If there was a court case where one of the opposing parties spent one million dollars to support a judge's election, would you doubt the judge's ability to be fair and unbiased?
- |  |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|
| a. Yes (if yes go to question 9)                       | 462 | 77% |
| b. No (if no go to question 10)                        | 90  | 15% |
| c. Other (DO NOT OFFER GO TO QUESTION 10) 6            |     | 1%  |
| d. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER GO TO QUESTION 10) | 42  | 7%  |
- 9) Given this, do you have serious doubt or slight doubt in the ability of a judge to be fair and unbiased if one party donated one million dollars to support their election?
- |  |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|
| a. Serious doubt (go to question 10)                   | 381 | 82% |
| b. Slight doubt (go to question 10)                    | 69  | 15% |
| c. Other (DO NOT OFFER go to question 10) 2            |     | 1%  |
| d. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER go to question 10) | 10  | 2%  |
- 10) If there was a court case where one of the opposing parties spent \$50,000 to support the judge's campaign, do you think the judge should be able to hear the case, or should a different judge hear the case instead?
- |  |    |     |
|--|----|-----|
| a. The judge should be able to hear the case               | 61 | 10% |
| b. The judge should ask another judge to hear the case 507 |    | 85% |
| c. Other (DO NOT OFFER)                                    | 7  | 1%  |
| d. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER)                       | 25 | 4%  |
- 11) When one side in a lawsuit believes a judge might be biased, lawyers can ask for a different judge. Should the judge who is being asked to step aside have the final decision on whether or not to participate in the case, or should another judge make the final decision?
- |   |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|
| a. The judge being asked to step down should make the final decision                    | 40  | 7%  |
| b. Another judge should make the decision on whether the initial judge should step down | 518 | 86% |
| c. Other (DO NOT OFFER)   | 8   | 1%  |
| d. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER)  | 34  | 6%  |
- 12) How important is it that all sources of spending for judicial elections are publicly disclosed - very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not important at all?
- |                                      |     |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| a. Very important                    | 481 | 80% |
| b. Somewhat important                | 96  | 16% |
| c. Not very important                | 6   | 1%  |
| d. Not important at all              | 10  | 2%  |
| e. Other (DO NOT OFFER)              | 1   | 1%  |
| f. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER) | 6   | 1%  |

I would now like to read you two different proposals on how Michigan can appoint or elect Michigan Supreme Court justices. Please let me know if you favor or oppose each proposal.

**(ROTATE QUESTIONS 13 and 14)**

- 13) Under this proposal, Michigan Supreme Court candidates would no longer raise money from private sources. Instead, each candidate would receive a set amount of money from a publicly financed election fund, and their spending would be limited to the amount they receive from the fund. Generally speaking, do you favor or oppose this proposal?
- |                                      |     |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| a. I favor this proposal             | 477 | 80% |
| b. I oppose this proposal            | 94  | 16% |
| c. Other (DO NOT OFFER)              | 4   | 1%  |
| d. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER) | 25  | 4%  |
- 14) Under this proposal, the governor would appoint Michigan Supreme Court justices from a list of candidates deemed qualified by legal professionals and a citizen advisory board. Those selected would be subject to approval by the legislature. Generally speaking, do you favor or oppose this proposal?
- |                                      |     |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| a. I favor this proposal             | 291 | 49% |
| b. I oppose this proposal            | 258 | 43% |
| c. Other (DO NOT OFFER)              | 1   | 1%  |
| d. Unsure/Do Not Know (DO NOT OFFER) | 50  | 8%  |

I just need to ask you some quick questions about yourself

- 19) How old are you?
- |  |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|
| a. 18-35 years old                                     | 47  | 8%  |
| b. 36-49 years old                                     | 115 | 19% |
| c. 50-64 years old                                     | 239 | 40% |
| d. 65 years or older                                   | 183 | 31% |
| e. Unsure/Do Not Know/ Refused ( <b>DO NOT OFFER</b> ) | 16  | 3%  |

- 20) With regards to race and ethnicity, do you consider yourself White, African-American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, of mixed-race or some other race?
- |  |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|
| a. White   | 492 | 82% |
| b. African-American                                    | 46  | 8%  |
| c. Hispanic/Latino                                     | 10  | 2%  |
| d. Asian   | 2   | 1%  |
| e. Mixed-race  | 13  | 2%  |
| f. Other race  | 14  | 2%  |
| g. Unsure/Do Not Know/ Refused ( <b>DO NOT OFFER</b> ) | 23  | 4%  |

21) In general, do you consider yourself to be a Democrat or a Republican?

**IF Independent:** do you consider yourself to be more of a Democrat or Republican?

a.	Democrat	235	39%
c.	Dem leaning Independent	21	4%
d.	Independent	92	15%
e.	Republican leaning Independent	16	3%
f.	Republican	180	30%
g.	Other ( <b>DO NOT OFFER</b> )	24	4%
h.	Unsure/ Do Not Know/ Refused ( <b>DO NOT OFFER</b> )	32	5%

22) Gender of Respondent (**DON'T ASK, DETERMINE FROM CONVERSATION**)

a.	Male	288	48%
b.	Female	312	52%

23) Which portion of the state are you from? (**DO NOT ASK, indicate county unless they are from Detroit, indicate Detroit**)

**Methodology:**

**This was a survey of the Michigan electorate. 600 respondents were surveyed between March 9 and March 14, and the participation was stratified based on census data and past voter behavior. A screen was employed to include only those participants who said they voted, either at the polls or by absentee ballot, in the November 2008 Election. The margin of error is plus/minus four percent. Percentages were rounded and may not equal 100%.**