



For Immediate Release
Monday, November 11, 2013

Contact: Susan Lilly
(512) 477-7722

USAF Veteran Justice Phil Johnson files for Re-election to the Texas Supreme Court on Veteran's Day

(Austin) – On this 2013 Veteran's Day Texas Supreme Court Justice Phil Johnson, a decorated Veteran, was the first Republican to file official papers for candidacy for the Texas Supreme Court. His papers included more than 1900 signatures representing Texas voters from all 14 appellate court districts across the state. Judicial candidates for the Texas Supreme Court are required by law to have signatures of registered voters from each of the 14 appellate court districts, and Justice Johnson more than doubled the number required.

'I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God.' "This is the oath I took when I entered into military service and that all men and women take when they enter the Armed Forces of the United States. Today, I commend and honor those men and women; it is a day on which I feel compelled to offer my continued service to this great state," said Justice Johnson.

Justice Phil Johnson was a pilot and instructor pilot in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. He received many honors during his time of military service, including the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross, and Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry. He was honorably discharged as Captain at the completion of his service.

"My experiences as a lawyer in private practice and as justice and chief justice of a court of appeals, as well as my more than eight years of service as a Texas Supreme Court justice are invaluable assets as I consider cases that come before the Court. My voting record on the Supreme Court as well as that of my previous service on the court of appeals reflects my impartial judicial conservatism. I will take these records and my commitment to the Rule of Law to the voters in asking for their support in my re-election campaign," said Johnson.

Justice Johnson's judicial service began in 1998 when he was elected to the Seventh Court of Appeals after having practiced law for over twenty-three years with the Lubbock firm of Crenshaw, Dupree & Milam. In 2002, he was elected Chief Justice of the Seventh Court, and was

serving as Chief Justice when Governor Rick Perry appointed him in 2005 to fill an unexpired term on the Supreme Court. In 2006 Johnson was elected to fill the remaining two years of that term and was elected to a full six year term in 2008.

Justice Johnson attended Texas Tech University School of Law, where he was a member of the law review and graduated with honors. He has been named as a distinguished alumnus of the law school, has served on numerous committees of the State Bar, is a member of the College of the State Bar, a Life Fellow of the Texas and American Bar Foundations, has been elected to the prestigious American Law Institute, and has served as president of the Lubbock County Bar Association.

Justice Johnson is married to Carla Jean Johnson and has five children.