



William Stickman

President Trump nominated William Stickman to serve on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania on May 6, 2019. Stickman is anti-choice.

Career¹

- B.A., Duquesne University, 2002
- J.D., Duquesne University, 2005
- Associate, Reed Smith LLP, 2005-2006
- Clerk, Hon. Chief Justice Ralph Cappy, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, 2006-2007
- Adjunct Faculty, Duquesne University, 2007
- Associate, Del Sol Cavanaugh Stroyd LLC, 2007-2013
- Partner, Del Sol Cavanaugh Stroyd LLC, 2013-present

Record on Choice-Related Issues

Notable Information

- Stickman wrote a letter to the editor in which he referred to “the abortion industry” as “grotesque.”² Stickman was responding to another letter that evidently criticized the “Catholic response to Sen. John Kerry’s abortion positioning.” He wrote: “In the United States, since *Roe vs. Wade* more than 39 million babies have been killed by abortion. To argue that there is moral equivalence between the accidental deaths of Iraqi civilians while liberating them from a murderous tyrant and the intentional deaths of many millions of babies is specious at best.” He continued, “The opposition of many Catholics to Sen. Kerry, one of the most pro-abortion members of Congress, is based on the official teaching of the church, which steadfastly opposes abortion.”

Record on Other Key Issues

- Stickman defended offensive statements made by then-Sen. Rick Santorum in which Santorum compared same-sex relationships to incest and polygamy. Santorum said, “If the Supreme Court says that you have the right to consensual (gay) sex within your home, then you have the right to bigamy, you have the right to polygamy, you have the right to incest, you have the right to adultery. You have the right to anything.”³ When Santorum came under fire for those remarks, Stickman was quick to come to his defense in an op-ed: Santorum’s “words have been misconstrued by gay rights

groups, power-hungry Democrats and the media in an obvious attempt to create a public outcry against him. But for what? Even if the senator did equate homosexual intercourse with adultery, bigamy and incest, isn't that his prerogative?... Does the very Constitution that homosexual groups say protects their activities no longer protect those who disagree with them?"⁴

- On behalf of a restaurant and hospitality association, Stickman is challenging a Pittsburgh law that requires businesses in the city to offer paid sick leave to their employees.⁵
- Stickman joined the Republican Committee of Robinson Township in 2015, and served as Vice Chair of the group from 2019-2019.⁶

May 29, 2019

¹ *Questionnaire for Judicial Nominees: William Shaw Stickman IV*, UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/William%20Stickman%20SJQ%20-%20PUBLIC.pdf>

² William Stickman, *Accidental Deaths vs. Intentional Deaths: No Comparison*, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Oct. 29, 2004)

³ Sean Loughlin, *Santorum under fire for comments on homosexuality*, CNN (April 22, 2003), <http://www.cnn.com/2003/ALLPOLITICS/04/22/santorum.gays/>

⁴ William Stickman, *Free to Disagree*, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (April 30, 2003)

⁵ *Questionnaire for Judicial Nominees: William Shaw Stickman IV*, UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/William%20Stickman%20SJQ%20-%20PUBLIC.pdf>; Daniel Moore, *Ahead of court hearing on controversial Pittsburgh law, restaurants remain divided on paid sick leave*, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Oct. 22, 2018), <https://www.post-gazette.com/business/career-workplace/2018/10/22/Paid-sick-leave-Pittsburgh-law-restaurants-health-care/stories/201707300004>

⁶ *Questionnaire for Judicial Nominees: William Shaw Stickman IV*, UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, <https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/William%20Stickman%20SJQ%20-%20PUBLIC.pdf>