

# For County Civil Court at Law No. 1: Clyde Raymond Leuchtag

By The Editorial Board

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Judge Clyde R. Leuchtag

Photo: file

Judge, County Civil Court at Law No. 1: Clyde Raymond Leuchtag

Clyde Raymond Leuchtag - Republican Party: ★★★1/2

George Barnstone - Democratic Party: ★★★1/2

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Consider this a testament to the collegiality of this race: Incumbent Barnstone and challenger Clyde Raymond Leuchtag carpooled to our endorsement screening. The candidates' similarities don't end at their shared amiability. Both are clearly seeking this office to help others, and "not because they're on a power trip," as noted by Leuchtag.

However, only Leuchtag — who presided over this court from June 2015 until December 2016 — has the judicial demeanor and legal experience necessary to make firm and swift decisions from the bench. Voters should put him back in office.

Currently, the South Texas College of Law Houston graduate works in the Harris County Attorney's Office and as an independent mediator for the Houston Police Department. His background also includes a stint as an in-house attorney for a major international oil company and at Baker Botts L.L.P. as an associate.

Barnstone, for his part, believes his job requires that he "scrupulously follow the law," but in doing so, he applies his "judgment and compassion." While Barnstone's heart is in the right place, his intermediate rulings have been appealed multiple times and the reviewing court reversed him too often over his short year-and-a-half on the bench.