

## CHRIS MARTIN ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY FOR OPEN 54B DISTRICT COURT SEAT IN 2022

January 31, 2022

Chris Martin announced today that he is running for Judge of the 54B District Court in East Lansing. Martin is running for the seat occupied by the Honorable Richard Ball, who is expected to retire at the conclusion of his term this year.

Chris Martin has served as an assistant prosecutor in Ingham County since 2015. Prior to joining the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office, Martin worked as an associate attorney at the Abood Law firm in East Lansing and served as a court-appointed Public Defender representing indigent defendants.

Chris Martin is currently the lead prosecutor in Ingham County's Drug Response Unit. Martin has worked closely with Ingham County Prosecutor Carol Siemon to shift the focus of the majority of drug possession prosecutions away from incarceration and toward treatment, services, and improved health outcomes. Martin's work in recent years has expanded access to treatment courts, grown innovative rehabilitation and mental health programs in Ingham County, and promoted other alternatives to traditional prosecution and the cycle of incarceration for low-level offenses.

In addition to his legal work in Ingham County, Chris Martin was elected to the East Lansing Public Schools Board of Education in 2018. He currently serves as the School Board's Vice President. During his tenure on the School Board, Martin has chaired multiple committees and previously served as the Board's Secretary. Martin worked as a teacher in New York City Public Schools and as a congressional aide in Washington, DC prior to becoming an attorney.

Chris Martin is a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law (J.D.), the University of Texas at Austin (B.A.) and Pace University in New York City (M.S.). Martin's spouse, Dr. Laura Tortorelli, is on the faculty of the Michigan State University College of Education. Martin, Tortorelli, and their two children live in East Lansing.

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