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News

Poer to run for county prosecutor

Wednesday, November 14, 2007 10:07 AM EST

Lenawee County prosecutor Irving Shaw is expected to retire at the end of next year.

By [Dennis Pelham](#)

Daily Telegram Staff
Writer

ADRIAN — Chief assistant Jonathan Poer announced Tuesday he is a candidate to succeed Lenawee County prosecutor Irving Shaw who intends to retire at the end of next year.



ELECTION 2008: Jonathan Poer announced Tuesday he is running for the top job in the Lenawee County Prosecuting Attorney's office where he has worked the past 30 years. — Telegram photo by Mike Calamungi

Poer has been a member of the county prosecutor staff since 1978 and has the backing of Shaw in his bid to win the office in next year's elections.

"I'm thinking he's probably the best qualified prosecutorial candidate running anywhere in the state of Michigan next year," Shaw said. He said Poer has an extraordinary background of experience and accomplishments.

"Jon will be wonderful for the slot and all of us in the office be supporting him, I'm sure," said Shaw.

Poer said he made up his mind to become a candidate for the elected office shortly after Shaw announced retirement plans to his staff several months ago.

"It was one of those things I had thought about for quite a while," Poer said. When Shaw made it certain he will retire next year, Poer said he felt

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a responsibility to see that the prosecuting attorney's office continue on a successful track.

"I have a great deal of loyalty to the office," Poer said.

"The office has been working well in its current situation for a long time," he said. "I don't see any wholesale changes."

Poer is seeking the Republican nomination in the August primary election next year. No other candidates have announced from either party.

A lifelong Michigan resident, Poer joined the Lenawee County prosecutor's staff in February 1978, a year after earning his juris doctor degree from the University of Detroit School of Law. He graduated from the University of Michigan with an engineering degree in 1977.

Since 1994 Poer has served as chief appellate prosecutor for Lenawee County, with the primary responsibility for researching and making legal arguments before the Michigan Supreme Court and Michigan Court of Appeals as well as in Lenawee County's circuit and district courts.

Poer and his wife, Carole, have been married 34 years and live in Adrian. They have four children and two grandchildren.

In addition to being a member of State Bar of Michigan and past president of the Lenawee County Bar Association, Poer serves on the state bar association's character and fitness committee and is a member of the Christian Legal Society, Berean Baptist Church, the Adrian Kiwanis Club and the Lenawee County Historical Society. He is an elected officer of a Union Civil War artillery re-enactment group.

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