



Colorado Justice: Celebrating 41 years of fair  
and impartial courts through merit selection

# news

Colorado Judicial Branch  
Mary J. Mullarkey, Chief Justice  
Gerald Marroney, State Court Administrator

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## **Chief Justice makes appointment to ethics commission**

Colorado Supreme Court Chief Justice Mary Mullarkey announced today she has appointed Phillip M. ``Matt'' Smith of Grand Junction to the Colorado Independent Ethics Commission for a term expiring on July 1, 2011.

Smith served as a state representative for House District 54, covering western Mesa and Delta counties, from 1996-2004. An attorney in private practice, Smith most recently worked with the Grand Junction firm of Traylor, Tompkins & Black P.C. From 1990-95, he worked on water, natural resource and permitting issues as an attorney for Morrison Knudsen Corp. on the cleanup of uranium mill-tailings sites.

The Colorado Independent Ethics Commission was established by voter-approved Amendment 41 and Senate Bill 07-210, which Gov. Bill Ritter signed into law on April 26.

Among its duties, the five-member commission will provide state and local government officials and employees with advisory opinions on ethics issues. Other members have been appointed by the House and Senate and by the governor. The four commissioners now will convene to select the fifth member, who must be either a local government official or local government employee.

While in the Legislature, Smith served as chairman of the House Local Government, Joint Legal Services and Uranium Mill Tailings Oversight committees and as Vice-chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

Raised on a family ranch in Meeker, Smith earned a bachelor's degree from Mesa State College in 1980 and graduated from the University of Wyoming College of Law in 1984.

*This information is provided as an e-mail service of the Colorado State Judicial Branch, Office of State Court Administrator, 1301 Pennsylvania Street, Suite 300, Denver, Colo. 80203. To discontinue this service or update your e-mail address, please respond to this message with your name, contact information and any comments.*