



news

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Colorado Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation appoints new executive director, seeks new commission members across the state

DENVER – The State of Colorado’s Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation, which is responsible for evaluating the state’s trial and appellate court judges and justices standing for retention, recently appointed Kent J. Wagner as its new executive director.

Wagner, formerly the judicial education manager for the Office of the State Court Administrator, is seeking to fill 134 openings for the state’s Commission on Judicial Performance in each of Colorado’s 22 trial court judicial districts, as well as the statewide commission that evaluates judges on the Colorado Court of Appeals and justices on the Colorado Supreme Court. A list of openings is attached.

Commissions on Judicial Performance are non-partisan and are made up of volunteers who evaluate judicial officers’ performance against established criteria. Their findings are reported to Colorado voters and include recommendation as to whether a justice or judge should be “retained” or “not retained” in office after the election. Commissioners play a vital role in making sure Colorado judges conduct their judicial responsibilities at the highest level of performance.

In 2013, the Chief Justice and the Governor each will appoint two non-attorney commissioners in each judicial district. Each also will appoint one non-attorney and one attorney member to the state commission. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House are responsible for appointing an attorney member to each of the district commissions. The Speaker will appoint an attorney member to the state commission while the President of the Senate will appoint a non-attorney member.

New commission members start their terms on December 1, 2013. All commissioners will attend a one-day training offered around the state by the Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation between January and March of 2014. The majority of the commission's work takes place between March and August of the election year, as they look at judicial performance survey results, observe judges in the courtroom, conduct interviews with each judge standing for retention and develop a recommendation for voters to be published in the Colorado Voters Guide, or "Blue Book," prior to the November election.

Those interested in becoming a commissioner on the state or one of the judicial district commissions can find information and an application on the Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation web site at <http://www.coloradojudicialperformance.gov/>. Questions can be directed to Kent J. Wagner, Executive Director of the Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation, at 303-928-7779.

Below is the list of openings on the state and district Commissions on Judicial Performance for which applicants are being sought. An asterisk or asterisks next to an entry indicate the incumbent member or members are not eligible for reappointment.

- State Commission
 - Governor: One attorney and one non-attorney
 - President of the Senate: One non-attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney
 - *All members with terms expiring November 30, 2013, are eligible for reappointment*

- 1st Judicial District (Gilpin and Jefferson counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney *
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 2nd Judicial District (Denver County)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions *
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions *
 - President of the Senate: One attorney *
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 3rd Judicial District (Huerfano and Las Animas counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions *
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney

- 4th Judicial District (El Paso and Teller counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney *
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney

- 5th Judicial District (Clear Creek, Eagle, Lake and Summit counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions *
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney

- 6th Judicial District (Archuleta, La Plata and San Juan counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions *
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 7th Judicial District (Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray and San Miguel counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions *
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 8th Judicial District (Jackson and Larimer counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 9th Judicial District (Garfield, Pitkin and Rio Blanco counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 10th Judicial District (Pueblo County)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions *
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney *
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney

- 11th Judicial District (Chaffee, Custer, Fremont and Park counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 12th Judicial District (Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande and Saguache counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 13th Judicial District (Kit Carson, Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington and Yuma counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions *
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney

- 14th Judicial District (Grand, Moffat and Routt counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions *
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions *
 - President of the Senate: One attorney *
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 15th Judicial District (Baca, Cheyenne, Kiowa and Prowers counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions *
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney *
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney

- 16th Judicial District (Bent, Crowley and Otero counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions **
 - President of the Senate: One attorney *
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 17th Judicial District (Adams and Broomfield counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions *
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney *
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney

- 18th Judicial District (Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney *
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney

- 19th Judicial District (Weld County)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions *
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions *
 - President of the Senate: One attorney *
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney

- 20th Judicial District (Boulder County)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *

- 21st Judicial District (Mesa County)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions **
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions *
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney

- 22nd Judicial District (Dolores and Montezuma counties)
 - Chief Justice: Two non-attorney positions
 - Governor: Two non-attorney positions
 - President of the Senate: One attorney
 - Speaker of the House: One attorney *