



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
Michael L. Bender, Chief Justice
Gerald Marroney, State Court Administrator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 21, 2012

Contact: Robert McCallum or Jon Sarché
303-837-3633
303-837-3644
robert.mccallum@judicial.state.co.us
jon.sarche@judicial.state.co.us

Application period opens for vacancies on judicial nominating commissions *Eleven attorney positions to be filled*

DENVER – On behalf of Gov. John Hickenlooper, Attorney General John Suthers and Chief Justice Michael L. Bender, the Colorado Judicial Branch today announced the opening of the application period for 11 attorney vacancies on judicial nominating commissions in nine judicial districts.

Each judicial district in Colorado has a nominating commission comprising three attorneys and four non-attorneys who select nominees for appointment to county and district judgeships. The Supreme Court Nominating Commission is made up of seven attorneys and seven non-attorneys and one non-attorney at-large member. Each of Colorado's seven Congressional Districts is represented by one attorney and one non-attorney on the Supreme Court Nominating Commission, which selects nominees for positions on the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals.

All members of judicial nominating commissions serve as volunteers. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Oct. 22, 2012.

Application forms may be found on the Colorado Judicial Department web site at http://www.courts.state.co.us/Courts/Supreme_Court/Nominating.cfm. Completed application forms may be mailed to Cheryl Stevens, Colorado Supreme Court, 101 W. Colfax Ave., Suite 800, Denver, CO 80203; faxed to her attention at 303-861-7429; or sent via e-mail to cheryl.stevens@judicial.state.co.us.

Article VI, Section 24 of the Colorado Constitution requires that for any nominating commission, "no more than one-half of the commission members plus one, exclusive of the Supreme Court justice serving as ex officio chair, shall be members of the same political party." The Constitution also requires that at least one commissioner reside in each of the counties of the

district. Applicants must reside in the judicial district – or, for the Supreme Court Nominating Commission, the congressional district – to which they are applying for appointment.

Here is a list of upcoming nominating commission attorney vacancies along with any applicable residency and political-affiliation requirements:

- 6th Judicial District: one vacancy; appointee cannot be a registered Democrat
- 7th Judicial District: one vacancy; appointee must reside in Montrose County
- 11th Judicial District: one vacancy; appointee must reside in Chaffee County or Fremont County
- 12th Judicial District: two vacancies; appointees must reside in Alamosa County, Saguache County or Conejos County
- 13th Judicial District: one vacancy; appointee must reside in Kit Carson County
- 15th Judicial District: one vacancy
- 18th Judicial District: one vacancy
- 20th Judicial District: one vacancy; appointee cannot be a registered Democrat
- 22nd Judicial District: two vacancies