



News Release

Colorado Judicial Branch

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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18th Judicial District announces District Court vacancy *Commission sets date to select nominees*

The Eighteenth Judicial District Nominating Commission will meet on Jan. 15, 2025, at the Arapahoe County Justice Center, 7325 S. Potomac St., Centennial, to interview and select nominees for appointment by the governor to the office of district judge for the Eighteenth Judicial District (Arapahoe County). This vacancy is a new district court judge position created by HB 20-1026, which changed the boundaries of the existing 18th Judicial District and established the new 23rd Judicial District, effective January 14, 2025.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a qualified elector of the Eighteenth Judicial District (Arapahoe County) at the time of investiture and must have been admitted to the practice of law in Colorado for five years. The current annual salary for this position is \$198,798.24. A district judge's initial term of office is a provisional term of two years; thereafter, the incumbent district judge, if approved by the voters, has a term of six years.

Application forms are available from the office of the ex officio chair of the nominating commission, Justice Carlos Samour, 2 E. 14th Ave., Denver, CO 80203, and the office of the court executive, Jenni Turnidge, 7325 S. Potomac St., Centennial, CO 80112. Applications are also available on the court's home page at coloradojudicial.gov/careers/judge-opportunities.

The completed application must be emailed to the address listed in the instructions below by 4

p.m. on Dec 20, 2024. Only on-time applications will be considered. Any person wishing to suggest a candidate to fill the vacancy may do so by letter to be submitted to any member of the nominating commission, with a copy to the ex officio chair, by 4 p.m. on Dec 13, 2024.

The members of the nominating commission for the 18th Judicial District as of January 14, 2025, are: M. Michael Cooke of Englewood; Emily Valdez and Hope Szypulski of Centennial; and Eric Nesbitt, Becky Hogan, MariaJose Delgado and Thomas Hernandez, all of Aurora.

Editor's Note: Contact information for the nominating commission members.

- M. Michael Cooke, m.michael.cooke@gmail.com
- Emily Valdez, emily.valdez@coloradodefenders.us
- Hope Szypulski, hszypuls@msudenver.edu
- Eric Nesbitt, eric@nesbittlawoffices.com
- Becky Hogan, bhedgeconsulting@yahoo.com
- MariaJose Delgado, mj@mjdelgadolaw.com
- Thomas Hernandez, thomas@triberecoveryhomes.com

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The Colorado Judicial Branch works to provide equal access to justice, contribute to public safety, and strengthen the rule of law across Colorado. Together, our courts and probation departments are committed to impartial and timely dispute resolution, support for families, litigants, and victims, client rehabilitation, and meaningful community engagement.

JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION
APPLICATION FOR COLORADO STATE COURT JUDGESHIP
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

Instructions

1. The application form for a Colorado state court judgeship can be found on the Judicial Branch website at <https://www.courts.state.co.us/Careers/Judge.cfm> Please be complete and thorough in answering the questions. If an answer to any question requires more space than provided, attach a separate page for the question(s). Do not change the margins or font size on the application.
2. Your application materials should be prepared in the following manner:

The application and any attachments must be submitted as a single PDF file with reference letters attached last. The application should be in text searchable format.

You may submit letters of reference from not less than three and no more than five individuals who are able to comment upon your qualifications for a judicial position.

It is preferred that reference letters are included with your application submission. However, if they are submitted directly by the author, they must be submitted by email as described below in paragraph 3. All letters of reference are due by the filing deadline listed in paragraph 4.

3. Your application materials compiled as outlined above should be sent via email with **your name and 18th JD Arapahoe District Court** in the subject line with your materials attached as outlined above no later than 4 p.m. on **December 20, 2024** to the following email address:

judicial.applicants@judicial.state.co.us

You should receive an automatic response to your email submission. If you do not, please call the supreme court at the telephone number listed below. Please add this email address to your contacts so that email does not get filtered into your spam.

4. Your application must be received no later than: 4 p.m. on **December 20, 2024.**
5. Call the Colorado Supreme Court Clerk's office with questions: 720-625-5150