



News Release

Colorado Judicial Branch

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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7th Judicial District County Court judge finalists selected *Governor to appoint new county court judge*

The 7th Judicial District Nominating Commission has nominated three candidates for a county court judgeship created by the resignation of the Honorable Sean K. Murphy, which occurred on Jan. 9, 2026.

Nominees Matthew John Bayma of Telluride, John James England of Montrose, and Melanie Susan Morgan of Placerville was selected by the commission on Feb. 2, 2026.

Under the Colorado Constitution, the governor has 15 days from today, within which to appoint one of the nominees as a county court judge for the 7th Judicial District (San Miguel County).

Comments regarding any of the nominees may be sent via e-mail to the governor at: gov_judicialappointments@state.co.us

Editor's Note: Contact information for the three nominees:

- Matthew John Bayma. 305 W. Colorado Ave., Telluride, CO 81435. 970-708-1776.

- John James England. Self-Employed, Montrose, CO. 303-514-5763.
- Melanie Susan Morgan. 618 Mountain Village Blvd., Ste. 201, Mountain Village, CO 81435. 816-471-6694.

For questions about this announcement, please contact the Colorado Supreme Court Clerk's Office at: 720-625-5150.

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