



# News Release

## Colorado Judicial Branch

Monica M. Márquez, Chief Justice  
Steven Vasconcellos, State Court Administrator

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **1st Judicial District announces District Court vacancy** ***Commission sets date to select nominees***

The 1st Judicial District Nominating Commission will meet June 15, 2026, at the Jefferson Combined Court, 100 Jefferson County Parkway, Golden, CO 80401, to interview and select nominees for appointment by the governor to the office of district judge for the 1st Judicial District (Gilpin and Jefferson counties). The vacancy will be created by the retirement of the Honorable Philip J. McNulty. The vacancy will occur on August 1, 2026.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a qualified elector of the 1st Judicial District at the time of investiture and must be admitted to the practice of law in Colorado for five years. The current annual salary for this position is \$203,768.20. The initial term of office of a district judge 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. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., Denver, CO 80203, and the Court

Executive, Jennifer Mendoza, and Deputy Court Executive, Traci Worthan, 720-772-2751.

Applications are also available on the court's home page at [coloradojudicial.gov/careers/judge-opportunities](https://coloradojudicial.gov/careers/judge-opportunities).

The completed application must be emailed to the address listed in the instructions below by May 28, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. Late applications will not 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, no later than May 21, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

The members of the nominating commission for the 1st Judicial District are: Carolyn Collins Petersen of Nederland; Candace Gonzales of Wheat Ridge; Stephen Cook and Tracy Schroeder of Littleton; and Charles Jones and Sean Baker of Arvada.

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

- Stephen Cook, [steve@smithandcook.com](mailto:steve@smithandcook.com)
- Carolyn Collins Petersen, [cc.petersen@gmail.com](mailto:cc.petersen@gmail.com)
- Candace Gonzales, [candacegonzo49@yahoo.com](mailto:candacegonzo49@yahoo.com)
- Charles Jones, [charlesajones@live.com](mailto:charlesajones@live.com)
- Sean Baker, [baker@cruxlegal.com](mailto:baker@cruxlegal.com)
- Tracy Schroeder, [tracylynnschroeder@gmail.com](mailto:tracylynnschroeder@gmail.com)

**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 [coloradojudicial.gov/careers/judge-opportunities](https://coloradojudicial.gov/careers/judge-opportunities). Please be complete and thorough in answering the questions. If an answer to any question requires more space than provided, you may attach a

separate page(s) as needed. Do not change the margins or font size on the application.

2. Your application must include the names of not fewer than three nor more than five individuals from whom you are requesting a letter of reference. **Reference letters must be submitted directly by the author, by email as described below in paragraph 4. Reference letters shall be strictly confidential and sent directly to the Ex-Officio Chair of the Commission by email as described below by the deadline listed.** It is your responsibility to notify references of these requirements.
3. Your application must be submitted as a single PDF document in text searchable format. If you include any cover letter, extra pages, writing sample etc. it must be combined into one PDF document with your application.
4. Application materials must be sent via email with **your name and 1st JD – District Court in the subject line** with your materials attached as outlined above no later than **4 p.m. on May 28, 2026** to the following email address:

[judicial.applicants@judicial.state.co.us](mailto: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.

5. Your application must be received no later than: **4 p.m. on May 28, 2026.**
6. Call the Colorado Supreme Court Clerk's office with questions: 720-625-5150

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