



# News Release

## Colorado Judicial Branch

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**April 27, 2026**

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### **4th Judicial District announces County Court Vacancy** ***Commission sets date to select nominees***

The 4th Judicial District Nominating Commission will meet on June 30, 2026, at the El Paso County Judicial Building, 270 S. Tejon St., Colorado Springs, CO 80903, to interview and select nominees for appointment by the governor to the office of county judge for the 4th Judicial District (El Paso County). The vacancy will occur due to the retirement of the Honorable D. Denise Peacock, effective August 1, 2026.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a qualified elector of El Paso County at the time of investiture and must have been admitted to the practice of law in Colorado. The current annual salary for this position is \$195,001.25. The initial term of office of a county judge is a provisional term of two years; thereafter, the incumbent county judge, if approved by the voters, has a term of four years.

Application forms are available from the office of the ex officio chair of the nominating commission, Justice Richard L. Gabriel, 2 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., Denver, CO 80203, and the office of the Court Executive, Scott Sosebee, 719-452-5000 at 270 S Tejon St., Colorado Springs, CO 80903.

Applications are also available on the court's home page at  
<https://www.coloradojudicial.gov/careers/judge-opportunities>.

The completed application must be emailed to the address listed in the instructions below by 4:00 p.m. on June 10, 2026. 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 June 3, 2026, by 4:00 p.m.

The members of the nominating commission for the 4th Judicial District are:

Andrew Pappadakis of Woodland Park; Michael Allen of Monument; Shahera Shalabi, Paul Hurcomb, Ian Kalmanowitz, Roland Rainey, and Misty Plowright, all of Colorado Springs.

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

- Shahera Shalabi, [sshalabi@usada.org](mailto:sshalabi@usada.org)
- Paul Hurcomb, [pwh@sparkswillson.com](mailto:pwh@sparkswillson.com)
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**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](http://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, 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 4th JD El Paso County Court – Peacock Vacancy in the subject line** with your materials attached as outlined above no later than 4 p.m. on **June 10, 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.

4. Your application must be received no later than: **4 p.m. on June 10, 2026**.
5. Call the Colorado Supreme Court Clerk's office with questions: 720-625-5150

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