



News Release

Colorado Judicial Branch

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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5th Judicial District announces Lake County Court vacancy

Commission sets date to select nominees

The 5th Judicial District Nominating Commission will meet on July 24, 2026, at the Lake County Combined Court, 505 Harrison Avenue, Leadville, CO 80461, to interview and select nominees for appointment by the governor to the office of county court judge for the 5th Judicial District (Lake County). The vacancy is created by the resignation of the Honorable John G. Scott. The vacancy will occur on July 20, 2026.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a qualified elector of Lake County at the time of investiture and have graduated from high school or attained the equivalent of a high school education as indicated by the Department of Education, based upon the record made on the General Education Development test. The annual salary for this position is \$107,250.69 and it is a 55 percent position. The initial term of office for a county judge is a provisional two-year term; thereafter, the incumbent county judge, if approved by the voters, serves a four-year term.

Application forms are available from the office of the ex officio chair of the nominating commission, Justice Brian Boatright, 2 E. 14th Ave., Denver, CO 80203, and the office of the Court Executive Mike Pisciotta, michael.pisciotta@judicial.state.co.us, (970) 328-4487. 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 no later than 4 p.m. on July 8, 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 July 1, 2026, by 4 p.m.

The members of the nominating commission for the 5th Judicial District are: Chris Romer of Vail; Phyllis Adams of Idaho Springs, Joseph Kirwan and Karen McCarthy of Leadville; Dana Christiansen, Patricia Oliver, and Sarah Thorsteinson of Breckenridge.

Contact information for the nominating commission members:

- Dana Christiansen, **danachrislaw@gmail.com**
- Patricia Oliver, **poliver@oliver-bc.com**
- Chris Romer, **cromer@vailvalleypartnership.com**
- Joseph Kirwan, **jrk526@yahoo.com**
- Phyllis Adams, **montanepros@juno.com**
- Sarah Thorsteinson, **sarah@sarsummit.com**
- Karen McCarthy, **karen@elevation-law.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. 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 5th JD – Lake County – Scott** in the subject line

with your materials attached as outlined above, no later than **4 p.m. on July 8, 2026**, 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 July 8, 2026.
5. Call the Colorado Supreme Court Clerk's office with questions: 720-625-5150

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