



News Release

Colorado Judicial Branch

Monica M. Márquez, Chief Justice
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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23rd Judicial District announces Lincoln County Court vacancy *Commission sets date to select nominees*

The 23rd Judicial District Nominating Commission will meet on Nov. 16, 2026, at the Douglas County Combined Courthouse, 4000 Justice Way, Castle Rock, CO 80109, to interview and select nominees for appointment by the governor to the office of county judge for Lincoln County. The vacancy will be created by the retirement of the Hon. Miles Cabral. The vacancy will occur on Jan. 11, 2027.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a qualified elector of Lincoln 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 Educational Development test. The annual salary for this position is \$117,000.75, and it is a 60% 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, Carol Rigato, 720-437-6200. Applications also are available on the court's home page at coloradojudicial.gov/careers/judge-opportunities.

The completed application must be e-mailed to the address listed in the instructions below no later

than 4:00 p.m. on Oct. 23, 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 4:00 p.m. on Oct. 16, 2026.

The members of the nominating commission for the 23rd Judicial District are Ara Ohanian of Castle Pines; Patrick O'Rourke of Highlands Ranch; Dr. Tracie Keesee of Elizabeth; Jennifer Vasquez-Stitt of Castle Rock; Kevin Stansbury of Hugo; and Fay Matsukage and Jayant Patel, both of Parker.

Contact information for the nominating commission members:

- Fay Matsukage, fay@doidacrow.com
- Ara Ohanian, ara.ohanian@coloradodefenders.us
- Patrick O'Rourke, patricktorourke@gmail.com
- Dr. Tracie Keesee, tdoctor45@yahoo.com
- Jayant Patel, jaypatel912@gmail.com
- Jennifer Vasque-Stitt, jennifer.vasquez@state.co.us
- Kevin Stansbury, kstansbury@lchnh.com

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

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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. 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 a 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 sent by email as described in paragraph 3 below. 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 23rd JD – Lincoln County** in the subject line, with your materials attached as outlined above, no later than **4 p.m. on October 23, 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 October 23, 2026.**
5. Call the Colorado Supreme Court Clerk's office with questions: 720-625-5150