



News Release

Colorado Judicial Branch

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 13, 2026

Contact:
Suzanne Karrer, Chief Communications Officer
720-595-7045
Suzanne.Karrer@judicial.state.co.us

4th Judicial District Court judge finalists selected

Governor to appoint new district court judge

The 4th Judicial District Nominating Commission has nominated three candidates for a district court judgeship created by the retirement of the Honorable Michael P. McHenry, effective October 1, 2026.

Nominees David Michael Lipka, Lara Yoder Nafziger, and Kayla Michelle Wingard, all of Colorado Springs, were selected by the commission on August 12, 2026.

Under the Colorado Constitution, the governor has 15 days from today, within which to appoint one of the nominees as district court judge for the 4th Judicial District (El Paso and Teller counties). Comments regarding any of the nominees may be sent via e-mail to the governor at gov_judicialappointments@state.co.us.

Contact information for the nominees:

- David Michael Lipka. 320 S. Nevada Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903. 719-867-2217
- Lara Yoder Nafziger. 270 S. Tejon Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. 719-452-5400
- Kayla Michelle Wingard. 270 S. Tejon St., Colorado Springs, CO 80903. 719-452-5542

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

###