



News Release

Colorado Judicial Branch

Monica M. Márquez, Chief Justice

Steven Vasconcellos, State Court Administrator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Larimer County Court judge finalists selected

Governor to appoint new county court judge

The 8th Judicial District Nominating Commission has nominated three candidates for a Larimer County court judgeship, created by the retirement of the Honorable Kraig S. Ecton, effective Oct. 1, 2026.

Nominees Luke Douglas Birky, Leeah Brennan Lechuga, and Michael W. Deschenes, all of Fort Collins, were selected by the commission on August 13, 2026.

Under the Colorado Constitution, the governor has 15 days from today, within which to appoint one of the nominees as county court judge for the 8th Judicial District (Larimer County).

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:

- Luke Douglas Birky. 201 Laporte Ave. #200, Fort Collins, CO 80521. 970-498-7219
- Leeah Brennan Lechuga. 201 LaPorte Avenue, Suite 200, Fort Collins, CO 80521. 970-498-7200
- Michael W. Deschenes. 201 LaPorte Ave., Ste. 200, Fort Collins, CO 80521. 970-498-7200

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

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