



news

Colorado Judicial Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Sixth Judicial District announces La Plata County Court vacancy *Commission sets date to select nominees*

The Sixth Judicial District Nominating Commission will meet on Feb. 1, 2023, at the La Plata County Courthouse, 1060 E. 2nd Ave., Durango CO, 81301, to interview and select nominees for appointment by the governor to the office of county judge for La Plata County. The vacancy will be created by the appointment of the Honorable Anthony N. Baca to the District Court. The vacancy occurred on Jan. 4, 2023.

Judge Baca was initially appointed by the governor for this vacancy. Following the appointment and formal announcement, Judge Baca was appointed to the District Court prior to be sworn into the County Court. As a result, this opportunity has been reopened. If you previously applied for this vacancy, you need to resubmit your application and related materials.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a qualified elector of La Plata 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 \$175,908. 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 Maria Berkenkotter, 2 E. 14th Ave., Denver, CO 80203; and the office of the

court executive, Eric Hogue, La Plata County Courthouse, 1060 E. 2nd Ave., Durango CO 81301.

Applications also are available on the court's home page at

<http://www.courts.state.co.us/Careers/Judge.cfm>

The completed application must be e-mailed to the address listed in the instructions below no later than 4 p.m. on Jan. 24, 2023. 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 p.m. on Jan. 23, 2023.

Under the rules of the 6th Judicial District Judicial Nominating Commission, names of the applicants shall be made public once the application period is closed. The Commission will meet on Feb. 1, 2023, to choose applicants to interview and would appreciate receiving any public feedback about applicants before that date.

The members of the nominating commission for the 6th Judicial District are Albert Northrop of Pagosa Springs; John Wright of Silverton; Kathryn Steelman, Ingrid Alt, Barrie King, James Cross, and Paul DeBell all of Durango.

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

- Albert Northrop, pagosacowboy@gmail.com
- John Wright, wrightjo@frontier.net
- Kathryn Steelman, ksteelmanlaw@gmail.com
- Ingrid Alt, ialt@gmalawyers.com
- Barrie King, barrie@newbergerkinglaw.com
- James Cross, cross_j@fortlewis.edu
- Paul DeBell, padebell@fortlewis.edu

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 <https://www.courts.state.co.us/Careers/Judge.cfm>
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 must be saved as a PDF file and in text searchable format. The electronic application does not need to contain a signature. If your application materials include multiple documents (i.e., cover letter, personal statement, reference letters) these documents must be combined into one single PDF document with the reference letters attached last.

You must submit the names of not fewer than three nor more than five individuals from whom you are requesting a letter of reference. It is preferred that reference letters are included with your application submission. If they are submitted directly by the author, they must be submitted by email as described below in paragraph 3. It is your responsibility to ensure that all letters of reference are submitted 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 6thth JD La Plata County in the subject line** with your materials attached as outlined above no later than 4 p.m. on **Jan. 24, 2023** 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 email **Erin Graves** at the address below to confirm receipt.

4. Your application must be received no later than: 4 p.m. on Jan. 24, 2023.
5. Email Erin Graves in the Colorado Supreme Court Clerk's office with questions: erin.graves@judicial.state.co.us.