

## news

Colorado Judicial Department Brian D. Boatright, Chief Justice Steven Vasconcellos, State Court Administrator

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Dec. 8, 2022

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## Rio Blanco County Court and Rio Blanco Associate County Court judge finalists selected Governor to appoint new county court judge

The Ninth Judicial District Nominating Commission has nominated three candidates for

the Rio Blanco County and Rio Blanco Associate County Court judgeship created by the death

of the Hon. Joe Fennessy, effective Nov. 11, 2022. Nominees Jay Edwards of Meeker, Phillip

Smith of Grand Junction, and Janelle Surace of Rifle, were selected in an online meeting on Dec.

7, 2022.

Under the Colorado Constitution, the governor has 15 days from Dec. 8, 2022, within

which to appoint one of the nominees as county court judge for the Rio Blanco County Court and

Rio Blanco Associate County Court.

Comments regarding any of the nominees may be sent via e-mail to the governor at

gov\_judicialappointments@state.co.us

Editor's Note: Contact information for the three nominees

- Jay Edwards, 101 Ute Road, Meeker, CO 81641, 970-878-3403
- Phillip Smith, 3074 Alegre Court, Grand Junction, CO 81504, 970-216-6492
- Janelle Surace, 109 8<sup>th</sup> St., Glenwood Springs, CO 81601, 970-384-3502