



news

Colorado Judicial Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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16th Judicial District announces Otero County Court vacancy *Commission sets date to select nominees*

The Sixteenth Judicial District Nominating Commission will meet at the Otero Combined Court on Feb. 27, 2024, to interview and select nominees for appointment by the governor to the office of county judge for Otero County. The vacancy will be created by the retirement of the Hon. Douglas R. Manley. The vacancy will occur on May 1, 2024.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a qualified elector of Otero County at the time of investiture and have graduated 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 Education Development test. The annual salary for this position is \$131,931, and it is a 75 percent position. 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 Melissa Hart, 2 E. 14th Ave., Denver, CO 80203; and the office of the court executive, C.J. Montoya, 13 West Third St., Room 207, La Junta, CO 81050. 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 Feb. 12, 2024. 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 Feb. 5, 2024.

The members of the nominating commission for the Sixteenth Judicial District are: Bernice McClure of Olney Springs; Kacie Sallee of Fowler; Norma Verhoeff of McClave; James Tutchtton of Hasty; and Ashley Ferguson, Andrew Hayden and Donald Davis, all of La Junta.

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

- Ashley Ferguson, ashley.ferguson@coloradodefenders.us
- Andrew Hayden, andrewjhaydenesq@gmail.com
- Bernice McClure, candbmccclure@hotmail.com
- Kacie Sallee, rew45.kb@gmail.com
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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 <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 and any attachments must be submitted as a single PDF file with reference letters attached last. The application should be in text searchable format.

You may submit letters of reference from not less than three and no more than give 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 submitted by email as described below in paragraph 3. 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 16^h JD Otero County Court** in the subject line with your materials attached as outlined above no later than 4 p.m. on **February 12, 2024** 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 call the supreme court at the telephone number listed below.

4. Your application must be received no later than: 4 p.m. on February 12, 2024.
5. Call the Colorado Supreme Court Clerk's office with questions: 720-625-5150