



news

Colorado Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Paul Farley, Chair
State Commission on Judicial
Performance

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Judge Evaluations Available on Internet August 3

The State Commission on Judicial Performance and local judicial district performance commissions have completed their evaluations of 134 justices and judges who are scheduled to stand for retention in the November 2010 election. The commissions are charged with providing voters with fair, responsible, and constructive evaluations of individual judges seeking retention, and providing judges with useful information concerning their performance.

The commissions evaluate judges on a wide range of criteria, including integrity, legal knowledge, communication skills, judicial temperament, and administrative performance. To do this, commissions review information from several sources: written opinions and decisions, caseload statistics, interviews, courtroom observations, judges' self-evaluations, and independent surveys. Earlier this year, surveys were sent to over 63,000 people who have had recent involvement with the judicial system, including prosecutors, public defenders, and private attorneys, litigants, jurors, crime victims, law enforcement officers, court employees, and probation officers.

The commissions then produce recommendations and supporting narratives for each judge standing for retention, which are included in the "Blue Book" published by the Legislative Council and are mailed to every voter household in the State. The recommendation, narrative, and complete statistical survey results, will be available on the Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation website at www.coloradojudicialperformance.gov, starting on August 3 no later than 1:00 p.m.

“Colorado’s judicial performance process tries to strike an extremely difficult balance by making judges accountable to the public without becoming involved in politics,” said Paul Farley, Chair of the State Commission on Judicial Performance. “It is important that citizens take the time to review the information the commissions have provided and cast informed votes in the November election.”

Editor’s Note: Below are the media contact for each judicial district.

Supreme Court and Court of Appeals

Contact: Jane Howell, 303-866-6465

1st Judicial District (Gilpin, Jefferson Counties)

Contact: Forrest Lewis, 303-830-2190

2nd Judicial District (Denver – County and District Court)

Contact: Dan Recht, 303-573-1900

3rd Judicial District (Huerfano, Las Animas Counties)

Contact: Theresa Garrison, 719-846-7282

4th Judicial District (El Paso, Teller Counties)

Contact: Mr. Alanson Higbie, 719-475-0304

5th Judicial District (Clear Creek, Eagle, Lake, Summit Counties)

Contact: Kristine Word, 970-453-2327 x 118

6th Judicial District (Archuleta, La Plata, San Juan Counties)

Contact: Michael McLachlan, 970-247-8236

7th Judicial District (Delta, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, San Miguel Counties)

Contact: David White, 970-252-4531

8th Judicial District (Jackson, Larimer Counties)

Contact: Mac Hester, 970-221-0664

9th Judicial District (Garfield, Pitkin, Rio Blanco Counties)

Contact: Mary Elizabeth Geiger, 970-379-1489

10th Judicial District (Pueblo County)

Contact: Joyce Vigil, 719-543-5995

11th Judicial District (Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, Park Counties)

Contact: Patricia Schlatter, 719-539-2723

12th Judicial District (Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, Saguache Counties)

Contact: Victor Devereaux, 970-944-2307

13th Judicial District (Kit Carson, Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington, Yuma Counties) Contact: Robert (Bo) Chapin, 970-842-5561

14th Judicial District (Grand, Moffat, Routt Counties)

Contact: Kristopher Hammond, 970-879-6060

Sharon Timmerman, 970-870-0830

15th Judicial District (Baca, Cheyenne, Kiowa, Prowers Counties)

Contact: Susan D. Crites, 719-336-7543

Wendy S. Shinn, 719-336-4313

16th Judicial District (Bent, Crowley, Otero Counties)

Contact: Ed Zimmer, 719-267-3123

17th Judicial District (Adams, Broomfield Counties)

Contact: David Gill, 720-913-4709

18th Judicial District (Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert, Lincoln Counties)

Contact: Susan M. Thornton, 303-798-0844

19th Judicial District (Weld County)

Contact: Kelley Hekowczyk, 970-356-2726

20th Judicial District (Boulder County)

Contact: Patrick Furman, 303-492-2638

21st Judicial District (Mesa County)

Contact: William Price, 970-243-8409

22nd Judicial District (Dolores, Montezuma Counties)

Contact: Diana Buza, 970-564-1195, ext. 41

Leslie A. Taylor, 970-562-4721

This information is provided as an e-mail service of the Colorado State Judicial Branch, Office of State Court Administrator, 101 W. Colfax Ave., Suite 500, Denver, Colo. 80202. To discontinue this service or update your e-mail address, please respond to this message with your name, contact information and any comments.