NOTICE OF VACANCY OF 2A DISTRICT JUDGE

TO: All applicants for 2A District Judge Vacancy
DATE: October 1, 2026

The Bar and public are hereby notified that a vacancy exists in the office of district judge for the 2A Judicial Election District. The person appointed to fill this vacancy will be expected to carry out any assignment made by the Chief Judge of the Judicial District that is within the jurisdiction of a district judge.

Any interested and eligible attorney is encouraged to apply. To be considered by the Judicial Nominating Commission, the original completed application must be delivered or emailed to the District Court Administrator at tina.thomason@iowacourts.gov no later than 4:00 p.m. on October 23, 2026, and a copy sent to each Commissioner at the email addresses listed by the same date and time.

The application and instructions may be found at the following link: https://www.iowajnc.gov/district-commissions/judicial-district-2. Copies of the application and instructions may also be obtained by emailing the District Court Administrator's office at tina.thomason@iowacourts.gov or by calling 515-574-3756.

No application will be accepted after 4:00 p.m. on October 23, 2026, regardless of the reason. Any application, together with supporting documents and letters of support, must be emailed to the Commissioners at the email addresses listed.

Applicants for the position must be members of the Iowa Bar, and a district judge must be a resident of the 2A Judicial Election District or of a county contiguous to the 2A Judicial Election District before assuming office and during the entire term of office. Applicants must also be of an age that will allow them to complete **the initial and one regular** term of office before reaching age seventy-eight. The present salary for the position is $174,531.00.

The 2A Judicial Nominating Commission has set October 30, 2026, as the date for a meeting at which applicants for the position will be interviewed by the Commission. All valid applications which meet the statutory requirements will be considered. However, if there are more applicants than can be effectively interviewed, the Commission may elect to screen the applicants and interview less than all. Applicant interviews shall be open to the public. The public will be allowed to observe and listen but not interact. Commission deliberations and voting will not be open to the public.

Following the interviews, the Commission will, in all probability, proceed by ballot to nominate two applicants for the position. The interviews and balloting will take place at the Cerro Gordo County Courthouse in Mason City. The names of the two nominees will

then be sent to the Governor, who has 30 days within which to appoint one of the two nominees to fill the vacancy.

The person appointed to the position will serve an initial term of one year after appointment and until January 1 following the next judicial election after expiration of such year. The regular term of office of a district judge retained at a judicial election is six years from the expiration of the initial or previous regular term. Retirement of a district judge in Iowa is mandatory at age seventy-eight.

There is no requirement for applicants to individually interview with the Commissioners, nor is there a requirement for applicants to obtain letters of support. It is up to each individual Commissioner to determine whether or not he or she will schedule personal interviews with applicants; however, the individual policy of a Commissioner in this regard is to be applied consistently to all applicants who request an interview in a timely manner.

To facilitate any personal contact with a Commissioner which an applicant may wish to make, a complete list of names and email addresses of the Commissioners is provided below.

Prior to the interviews, the public will be permitted to submit comments or recommendations regarding the qualifications of an applicant to the District Court Administrator's Office at the following address: 701 Central Avenue, 4th Floor, Fort Dodge, IA 50501 or by emailing tina.thomason@iowacourts.gov. Comments and recommendations must be received by October 28, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

The Commission members are:

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