

List of Applicants and Interview Schedule for the Iowa Court of Appeals Vacancy

Eighteen Iowans have applied with the State Judicial Nominating Commission to fill the vacancy on the Iowa Court of Appeals arising from the retirement of Chief Judge Thomas Bower.

Posted below is the State Judicial Nominating Commission interview schedule for the applicants with links to the applicants' applications and writing samples.

The commission welcomes written comments from the public about the qualifications of any of the applicants. Comments must be submitted to the commission members via email no later than **11:59 P.M. on May 23, 2024**, at the email addresses on the State Judicial Nominating Commission website and by email to the Secretary of the commission at sjnc@iowa.gov. Please note that any comments provided to the commission members may be subject to disclosure pursuant to Iowa's Open Records Laws.

The commission will meet Wednesday, May 29, 2024, in the Iowa Supreme Court Courtroom on the fourth floor of the Judicial Branch Building to interview the applicants for the vacancy. The public is invited to observe the interviews in the courtroom. The interviews will be live-streamed and the videos archived on the [Iowa Judicial Branch YouTube channel](#) until the Governor selects a nominee to fill the vacancy.

Immediately following the interviews, the commission will begin deliberations to select a slate of five nominees from the group of applicants. Once the commission selects its slate of nominees, the commission will forward those names to the governor. The governor will then have thirty (30) days in which to appoint the new judge.

The 17-member commission is composed of eight commissioners elected by lawyers licensed to practice law in Iowa, and nine commissioners appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Iowa Senate. The names of the commissioners are on the [Iowa Judicial Nominating Commissions website](#).

List of Applicants and Interview Schedule for Wednesday, May 29, 2024:

9:00 a.m. Karen Kaufman Salic, District Associate Judge, Second Judicial District, Goodell
[Application and writing samples](#)

9:20 a.m. Aaron Ahrendsen, Attorney, Eich Werden Steger & Ahrendsen PC, Assistant Carroll County Attorney, Manning
[Application and writing samples](#)

9:40 a.m. Heather Quick, First Assistant Federal Public Defender, Appellate Chief, Iowa Federal Public Defender's Office, Cedar Rapids
[Application and writing samples](#)

10:00 a.m. Amy Moore, District Court Judge, Second Judicial District, Ames
[Application and writing samples](#)

- 10:20 a.m. Jeffrey Farrell, District Court Judge, Fifth Judicial District, Urbandale
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 10:40 a.m. BREAK
- 10:50 a.m. Jeffrey Bert, District Court Judge, Seventh Judicial District, Bettendorf
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 11:10 a.m. Christopher Spencer, Attorney, Peddicord Wharton LLP, Des Moines
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 11:30 a.m. David Faith, District Court Judge, Fifth Judicial District, Indianola
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 11:50 a.m. Thomas Mayes, General Counsel, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 12:10 p.m. LUNCH
- 1:00 p.m. John Gish, Chief, Victim Assistance Section, Iowa Attorney General's Office, Adel
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 1:20 p.m. Adam Witosky, Attorney, Gribble, Boles, Stewart & Witosky Law, West Des Moines
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 1:40 p.m. Alan Heavens, District Court Judge, First Judicial District, Garnavillo
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 2:00 p.m. Aaron Lindebak, Attorney, Grefe & Sidney P.L.C., Des Moines
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 2:20 p.m. John Sandy, District Court Judge, Third Judicial District, Spirit Lake
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 2:40 p.m. BREAK
- 2:50 p.m. Henry Latham, District Court Judge, Seventh Judicial District, Eldridge
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 3:10 p.m. Maura Sailer, Attorney, Lohman, Reitz, Sailer, Ullrich & Blazek, Denison
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 3:30 p.m. Christopher Kemp, District Court Judge, Fifth Judicial District, Grimes
[Application and writing samples](#)
- 3:50 p.m. Shawn Showers, District Court Judge, Eighth Judicial District, Washington
[Application and writing samples](#)