

NOTICE OF JUDICIAL VACANCY
DISTRICT COURT BENCH
SUB-DISTRICT 2B

Notice is hereby given that the District 2B Judicial Nominating Commission will meet on Friday, May 31, 2019 at 9:00 o'clock a.m. in the Hamilton County Courthouse, 2300 Superior St., Webster City, Iowa, to nominate an applicant to fill the judicial vacancy created by the retirement of the Honorable Steven J. Oeth. Two nominees will be submitted to the Governor for appointment to the district court bench.

Applications and a commission member list for this judicial vacancy are available at the office of the District Court Administrator. Completed applications shall be submitted to and received by the District Court Administrator, Webster County Courthouse, Fourth Floor, 701 Central Ave., Fort Dodge, Iowa 50501, no later than 2:30 p.m. on May 24, 2019. Copies of your application shall be sent directly to each commission member and received by the commission members by the same deadline.

Qualifications for this judicial vacancy can be found in Iowa Code section 46.14. This judicial position covers the counties in Sub-District 2B. A District Court Judge earns an annual salary of \$147,494.00, is eligible for a pension through the Iowa Judicial Retirement Fund, and receives benefits as an employee of the State of Iowa.

IOWA JUDICIAL DISTRICT 2B
DISTRICT NOMINATING COMMISSION

Iowa Judicial Branch
Application for a District Court Judge Position

Revised: 9-28-2018

Instructions for Applicants

The Judicial Nominating Commission for Judicial Election District 2B is currently accepting applications for a **District Court Judge Position**.

There are three parts to the application. Each part is a separate document.

Part 1: *Personal Background Information Form*. It provides the District Judicial Nominating Commission with an applicant's pertinent background information. Based on advice of legal counsel, the Commission will treat this part as a **public record** pursuant to Iowa Code section 22.1(3), so it will be available to the public upon request. If you believe you cannot fully respond to a question in Part 1 without disclosing information that is confidential under state or federal law, please submit that part of your answer with the legal basis for confidentiality on a separate sheet that you mark "confidential."

Part 2A: *Confidential Information Form*.

Part 2B: *Confidential Information, Disclosure and Release Form*.

How to obtain the forms:

All three forms are Microsoft Word documents. To obtain the electronic versions of the forms please contact Bill Watson, Assistant District Court Administrator at: 515-574-3751, or via email at: bill.watson@iowacourts.gov

How to complete the forms using MS Word and deliver them to the nominating commission:

- (1) Type your response in the box immediately after or next to each numbered question or item.
- (2) After completing each form, print a copy of each and **sign** each part on the last page.
- (3) Mail the original completed application materials and writing samples to Court Administration, Webster County Courthouse, Fourth Floor, 701 Central Ave., Fort Dodge, IA 50501
- (4) Mail a copy of your application materials to each commission member, a list of commission members is available from Bill Watson. You do not need to mail a copy of the Part 2B - Confidential Information, Disclosure and Release Form to each commission member.

(7) Applications must be **RECEIVED** no later than (date):

May 24, 2019

(time):

2:30 PM

Iowa Judicial Branch
Application for a District Court Judge Position

(Revised: 7-14-2018)

Part 1: Personal Background Information Form
For Submission to the District Judicial Nominating Commission
See the "Instructions for Applicants" (a separate page)

1. Applicant's full name:

2. Current occupation/title. (Lawyers: identify name of firm, organization, or government agency; judicial officers: identify title and judicial election district):

3. City and county of residence:

4. Date of birth:

5. Gender (Female / Male):

6. Race/ethnicity:

Please provide this information so we can determine the extent to which the Iowa courts are attracting candidates from diverse racial/ethnic backgrounds. *Please write in the one or two categories that best fit(s) your background.*

- Asian/Pacific Islander (e.g., Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Indian, Pakistani, Filipino, Indonesian, native Hawaiian)
- Black/African Hispanic/Latina(o) Native American (e.g., Meskwaki, Sioux, Inuit)
- White/Caucasian Other (write it in one of the boxes)

7. Are you related (within the third degree of consanguinity) to any of the members of the District Judicial Nominating Commission involved in the selection process for the position for which you are submitting this application? (Yes or No) If your answer is "yes," please explain.

8. Have you ever had a social relationship or business relationship (e.g., as a business or law partner) with any of the members of the District Judicial Nominating Commission involved in the selection process for the position for which you are submitting this application? (Yes or No) If your answer is "yes," please explain.

9. Explain why you are seeking this judgeship position:

10. Explain how your appointment would enhance the court:

11. Identify any offenses for which you have ever been **convicted** or pled guilty for the violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, *excluding* convictions that have been properly *expunged*. Do not include traffic violations for which the court imposed a fine of \$250 or less, unless you were arrested. (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

Convicted of (describe offense)	Seriousness of charge (e.g., serious misdemean., felony)	Location of court (County, State)	Disposition type (Plea, judge ruling, jury verdict)	Sentence / Penalty	Sentence date (mo/day/yr)

12. Has any local, state, or federal office/agency ever assessed or threatened to assess you with a civil or criminal penalty in connection with the reporting of, or **failure to report, your federal, state, or local taxes?** (Yes or No) If yes, provide details.

13. Have you ever been the subject of a **no-contact order?** (Yes or No) If yes, provide details (case number, county, state, date issued, date rescinded, and reason for the NCO).

14. Have you ever been a **party** in any **legal proceeding** (excluding traffic violation cases for which a fine of \$250 or less was imposed, unless you were arrested)? If yes, provide the following information: (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

Case number	County, State	Date filed	Date close	Description of case and outcome

15. Have you ever been **publicly disciplined** in any manner for a breach of professional ethics or unprofessional conduct by any court, administrative agency, bar association, disciplinary board, or other professional group? If yes, provide the following information: (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

Name of discipline board or agency	Date discipline imposed	Description of the ethics violation	Description of the public discipline

16. List each **college and law school** you attended, including the dates of attendance, the degree awarded, and your reason for leaving each school if you did not receive a degree from that institution was awarded. (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

College(s) and Law School(s) – and reason for leaving, if applicable	Dates Attended (Mo/Yr to Mo/Yr)	Degree(s)	Month/Yr Received

17. List any relevant **honors, prizes, awards**, or other forms of recognition that you have received for educational, professional, or community contributions/achievements. (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

Name/Title of Honor, Prizes, Awards	Awarded by:	Month/Yr Received

18. List all **articles and books** you have published; include the citations and dates. (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

19. List all **public presentations** you have made at educational, professional, or other public forums; include the citations and dates. (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

Title of Presentation	City, State	Event Sponsor	Month & Year

20. List all part-time and full-time **teaching positions** you have held. (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

Name of School / College	City, State	Name of Course(s)	Month/Yr to Month/Yr	Full-time or Part-time

21. List the courts or **jurisdictions** in which you are, or have been, **admitted to practice law**, including any administrative bodies with special admission requirements, and the dates of admission for each. (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

State and federal jurisdictions in which you are, or have been, admitted to practice law	Month/Yr Admitted

22. List chronologically the **employment** you have had *since your initial admission to practice law* in any state or federal jurisdiction. For each time period, provide the following information as applicable:

- a. If you served as a law clerk to a judge, provide the name of the judge, the court, and the court's location.

Dates (From -- To)	Name of judge, name of court, and court location

- b. If you have practiced law, provide the following information for each position you have held:

- (1) Name of the law firm(s), company, or government agency that employed you,
- (2) City and state where the office was located,
- (3) Number of attorneys in the law firm or agency,
- (4) Whether you were a partner in the firm,
- (5) The areas of law in which you practiced, and
- (6) A description of the typical clients you represented. (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

Dates (From -- To)	Description of law practice (address topics in 22(b)(1) – (6) for each time period)

23. Regarding your legal experience:

- a. Approximately what percentage of your court appearances have been in the following types of courts?

Type of court	% of appearances
(1) Federal courts	
(2) State courts	
(3) Administrative agencies	
(4) Other tribunals	

b. Approximately what percentage of your time have you spent on the following types of cases?

Types of cases	% of your time
(1) Administrative	
(2) Civil	
(3) Criminal	
(4) Domestic	
(5) Juvenile	
(6) Probate	
(7) Other (describe):	

c. In the past **10 years**, approximately how many cases have you **tried to a conclusion** (rather than settling) before a judge and before a jury? Indicate the number in which you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

Type of trial	Total # of trials	# as sole counsel	# as chief counsel	# as associate counsel
Tried before a jury				
Tried before a judge				
Column Total				

d. In the past **20 years**, in approximately how many cases have you have represented a party in an **appeal to an appellate court in any state or federal jurisdiction**? Indicate the number in which you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

Appellate court*	Total # of appeals:	# as sole counsel	# as chief counsel	# as associate counsel	# in which you presented oral argument
Iowa Supreme Court					
Iowa Court of Appeals					

Other state appellate court (identify):					
Other state appellate court (identify):					
Other state appellate court (identify):					
Other appellate court (identify):					
Federal Circuit Court(s)					
U.S. Supreme Court					
Total					

* Count it as an appeal to an intermediate court of appeals (ICA) -- e.g., Iowa's Court of Appeals -- if the state intermediate court of appeal initially handled it; count it as a separate appeal to the supreme court (SC) if the SC accepted it upon a petition for further review from the ICA; count an appeal to the supreme court if the SC retained jurisdiction without first assigning it to the ICA. (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

- e. Describe the general nature of your **current law practice**, including the substantive areas of the law in which you practice (e.g., civil, domestic, criminal) and the approximate percentage of time you have spent on each area over the **past five years**:

24. Describe three of the most significant legal matters that you have personally handled. For each of the significant legal matters include the following information:

- a. Title of the case and the county and state of venue,
- b. A brief summary of the substance of each matter,
- c. A succinct statement of what you believe to be the significance of it,
- d. The name of the party you represented,
- e. The nature of your participation in the case,
- f. Dates of your involvement,
- g. The outcome of the case,
- h. Name(s) and address(es) [city, state] of co-counsel (if any),
- i. Name(s) of counsel for opposing parties in the case, and
- j. Name of the judge before whom you tried the case.

Note: if the matter was *confidential*, please avoid the use of any information that may allow disclosure of the identity of the parties.

Significant legal matter #1:

Significant legal matter #2:

Significant legal matter #3:

25. Have you served as a judicial officer in any state? (Yes / No): If "No" – skip to # 26.

a. If "Yes" - provide the following information: (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

Dates (From -- To)	Judicial title	County or District	Types of cases within your jurisdiction

b. If you have been a judicial officer in **Iowa** during the previous **five years**:

(1) How many times did you **fail** to file the monthly Rule 22.10 reports by the report deadline?

(2) During the past **five years**, how many **cases** did you list on your Rule 22.10 reports that were more than the following number of days old from the time they were submitted for a ruling?

	120 days old	180 days old	240 days old	One year old
# of cases more than:				

26. If you are **currently** an officer, director, partner, sole proprietor, or otherwise engaged in the **management of any business enterprise or nonprofit organization** other than a law practice, provide the following information about your position(s) and title(s): (Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)

Name of business / organization	Your title	Your duties	Dates (From -- To)

27. List all county, state, and national **bar association and professional organization memberships** and the years you have been a member of each (e.g., 1998 to present), and identify any committees on which you have served and offices you have held in those organization(s) - and the titles and dates of any offices you have held. *(Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)*

Professional associations to which you have belonged	Committees / Offices	Dates (From -- To)

28. List all local, county, state, and national government (including but not limited to judicial branch) **commissions, task forces, or advisory committees** on which you have served - and any titles (e.g., chair) you have held on such commissions or committees. *(Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)*

Dates (From -- To)	Government commissions, task forces, etc. on which you served

29. Describe your **pro bono** work during the past **10 years**:

a. Approximate number of pro bono cases you've handled:	
b. Average number of hours of pro bono service per year:	
c. Types of pro bono cases:	

30. List any **employment outside of the legal profession** that you have had since graduating from law school that may be relevant to this application; include: (a) the dates, (b) organization or business for whom you worked, and (c) duties you performed. *(Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)*

Dates (From -- To)	Business / Organization Name, City, State	Your Duties

31. Have you ever held **public office** or have you ever been a candidate for public office? If the answer is "yes," describe the public office held or sought, the location of the public office, and the dates. *(Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)*

Dates (From -- To)	Public office(s): Indicate "Held" or "Sought" and Location

32. Provide the following information on your **military service** (if any): *(Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)*

Dates (From -- To)	Military branch	Current Rank	Location and dates of service in other countries	Current Status (Active/Inactive)

33. List any **civic, charitable, religious, educational, social or fraternal organization(s)** to which you belong or provide volunteer services. Describe the nature of your involvement with the organization(s), including any offices you have held with the organization(s). *(Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)*

Dates (From -- To)	Organization Name	Nature of your involvement

34. List all the **social media applications** (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, LinkedIn) that you have used in the past **five years** and your account name or other identifying information (excluding passwords) for each account. *(Use "Tab" in last row to add more rows.)*

Social media application name	Account name or other identifying information

35. **References:** List the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of at least **five persons** who are in a position to provide knowledgeable comments about your qualifications for this judicial position.

Name	Address	Telephone number

36. Provide any **additional information** that may reflect positively on you or which you believe would assist the District Judicial Nominating Commission in selecting nominees for this position.

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37. When you submit this **application** form, attach at least **two writing samples** (e.g., brief, opinion, or book) that reflect your personal work. Note: **Do not** submit a writing sample that includes confidential information about you or any other person unless you remove / redact the confidential

information to obscure the identity of the parties and any information that may allow disclosure of the parties' identity.

- 38. Photo:** If you are willing, please provide a photo of yourself. In the event you are one of the nominees, your photo will be shared as part of the press release.

- 39. Certification.** I certify under penalty of perjury and pursuant to the laws of the State of Iowa that the information I have provided above is true and correct.

Applicant's signature:

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Attorney PIN:

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Date:

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