List of Applicants and Interview Schedule for Iowa Court of Appeals vacancy

Fourteen Iowans have applied with the State Judicial Nominating Commission to fill the vacancy on the Iowa Court of Appeals that will occur when Judge Richard Doyle retires on August 7, 2021.

Posted below is the State Judicial Nominating Commission interview schedule for the fourteen applicants. The interview schedule and applications will also be posted on the State Judicial Nominating Commission website at https://www.iowajnc.gov/state-commission.

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 June 22, 2021 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 Friday, June 25, 2021, 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 three 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 justice.

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 Friday, June 25, 2021:

9:30 a.m. Heather Prendergast, Attorney, Roberts, Stevens & Prendergast PLLC, Denver
Application  Writing Samples  Interview

9:50 a.m. Margaret J. Reyes, District Court Judge, Fourth Judicial District, Pacific Junction
Application  Writing Samples  Interview

10:10 a.m. Romonda Belcher, District Associate Judge, Fifth Judicial District, Des Moines
Application  Writing Samples  Interview

10:30 a.m. Joel Barrows, District Court Judge, Seventh Judicial District, Bettendorf
Application  Writing Samples  Interview

10:50 – 11:00 a.m. BREAK

11:00 a.m. Mindy Larson Polberg, Director of Government Relations, Iowa Corn Growers Association, Panora
Application  Writing Samples  Interview
11:20 a.m. Jean Dickson, Attorney, Betty, Neuman & McMahon PLC, Davenport
Application Writing Samples Interview

11:40 a.m. Jennifer Bailey, District Associate Judge, Eighth Judicial District, Burlington
Application Writing Samples Interview

12:00 p.m. Gina Badding, District Court Judge, Second Judicial District, Carroll
Application Writing Samples Interview

1:00 p.m. William Miller, Attorney, Dorsey & Whitney LLP, Des Moines
Application Writing Samples Interview

1:20 p.m. Bethany Currie, District Court Judge, Second Judicial District, Marshalltown
Application Writing Samples Interview

1:40 p.m. Lisa Reel Schmidt, Assistant Attorney General, Iowa Attorney General’s Office, Des Moines
Application Writing Samples Interview

2:00 p.m. Mary Triick, Attorney, Iowa Attorney General’s Office, Clive
Application Writing Samples Interview

2:20 p.m. Tim Gartin, Attorney, Hastings, Gartin & Boettger LLP, Ames
Application Writing Samples Interview

2:40 p.m. Mary Chicchelly, District Court Judge, Sixth Judicial District, Cedar Rapids
Application Writing Samples Interview