



Kansas Courts News Release

Office of Judicial Administration

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Nominations sought for judge vacancy in Leavenworth County

TOPEKA—The 1st Judicial District Nominating Commission is seeking nominations to fill a district judge vacancy in Leavenworth County created by the June 16 retirement of Judge Gunnar Sundby.

The 1st Judicial District is composed of Atchison and Leavenworth counties.

Justice Eric Rosen, the Kansas Supreme Court departmental justice responsible for the 1st Judicial District, said individuals can apply or be nominated, but nominations must come on a nomination form and include the nominee's signature.

A nominee for district judge must be:

- at least 30 years old;
- a lawyer admitted to practice in Kansas and engaged in the practice of law for at least five years, whether as a lawyer, judge, or full-time teacher at an accredited law school; and
- a resident of the judicial district at the time of taking office and while holding office.

Nominations must be accompanied by a nomination form available from the clerk of the Atchison County District Court, the clerk of the Leavenworth County District Court, the clerk of the appellate courts at the Kansas Judicial Center, and the Kansas judicial branch website at www.kscourts.org under *What's New*.

One original and nine copies of the completed nomination form and supporting letters must be submitted by noon July 18 to:

G. Ronald Bates, commission secretary
1st Judicial District Nominating Commission
529 Delaware St.
Leavenworth KS 66048

The nominating commission will convene to interview nominees at 9 a.m. August 8 in the Leavenworth County Justice Center, 601 S. Third St., Leavenworth. Interviews are open to the public.

The commission will select from three to five nominees whose names will be submitted to the governor to fill the position according to statutory qualification and residency requirements. If there are not three nominees who reside in the district who are deemed qualified by the commission, the commission may consider nominees who reside outside the judicial district. The governor has 60 days after receiving the names to decide whom to appoint. After serving one year in office, the new judge must stand for a retention vote in the next general election to remain in the position. If retained, the incumbent will serve a four-year term.

The 1st Judicial District Nominating Commission consists of Rosen as the nonvoting chair and Bates, Leavenworth, as the secretary; Julie Clem, Atchison; Lois Meadows, Tonganoxie; Rosemary Nies, Atchison; Mark Preisinger, Leavenworth; Kevin Reardon, Leavenworth; Todd Thompson, Basehor; and Douglas Waters Jr., Lansing.

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