

Judicial Recommendation Committee

Volunteer Position Description

The Judicial Recommendation Committee screens and interviews candidates for state Court of Appeals and Supreme Court positions. Recommendations are reviewed by the WSBA Board of Governors and forwarded to the state governor for consideration when making judicial appointments.

Position overview: Members participate in interviewing and rating candidates as well as contacting references. The Committee meets 2-4 times a year; in-person attendance is required. Members are appointed for a 3-year term and may reapply for appointment to one additional term.

Time commitment: Depending on the number of candidates to interview, meetings are at least three hours long and can last the duration of the workday. For the two to three weeks prior to each meeting, Committee members are required to review candidate materials and conduct reference checks.

Requirements:

- All active WSBA members are eligible to apply.
- Committee members are bound to confidentiality regarding the Committee's work.
- Committee members are ineligible for appointment to any judicial vacancy as to which the Committee has responsibilities while a member of the Committee, and shall not seek a rating from the committee for such a position for a period of two years following the close of the individual's last term of service.
- Committee members shall not endorse, campaign for, or individually contribute to any candidates who are running for election to any office as to which the committee has responsibilities.

Preferred qualifications and skills: The JRC comprises 22 members, including a chair and vice chair. Many factors are considered in the member selection process, including number of years in practice, geographic location, size of firm, race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability status, nature of practice/areas of expertise, employer, and typical client representation (i.e., civil plaintiff or defense, criminal prosecution or defense, government regulatory).

Benefits: Members provide an important public service, and have the opportunity to learn about the qualifications and process for evaluating appellate court judges.

Reimbursement policy: This is an unpaid volunteer position. Travel expenses may be reimbursed per the WSBA Expense Reimbursement Policy.

Selection and appointment process: Applications are reviewed by a nominations team including the chair, vice chair, staff liaison and BOG liaison. Recommendations are made to the Board of Governors Nominations Committee, which makes the appointments.

For further information: See www.wsba.org/Legal-Community/Committees-Boards-and-Other-Groups/JRC.

How to apply: See instructions at www.wsba.org/joincommittee. Questions about the application? Email barleaders@wsba.org.