

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO JUDICIAL OFFICE
YAVAPAI COUNTY - DIVISION 5

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications are being accepted for a vacancy on the Superior Court in Yavapai County created by the resignation of the Honorable Cele Hancock.

Note: Canon 4 of the Code of Judicial Conduct applies to candidates for judicial office. See [Ariz. Sup. Ct. R. 81](#), Application.

1. **This application is a public record. As such, all information except that specifically denoted herein as confidential (Section II) is available for public inspection and may be posted on the Governor's website. The Governor's Office will protect the confidentiality of Section II to the greatest extent permitted by law.**
2. Completely answer all questions. If a question does not apply, write "Not applicable" in the space provided. If information is not available, write "Not available" and state the reason(s) the information is not available. Sign the Waiver of Confidentiality and Release of Information Sheet.
3. Questions in the application ask about legal matters you have handled as a lawyer. You may reveal nonpublic, personal, identifying information relating to client or litigant names or similar information in the confidential section of this application.
4. You may reveal contact information for any individual in the confidential section of this application.
5. Submit applications by emailing a signed PDF copy to azgovlegal@az.gov.
6. The deadline for applications is **5:00 p.m. on Monday December 4, 2023.** Applications should be submitted by the stated deadline.

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR LETTERS OF REFERENCE AND TELEPHONE CALLS

The Governor's Office welcomes and needs written assessments of the applicants' skills, expertise, ethics, and any other characteristic relevant to an individual's qualifications to be a judge. Many applicants solicit letters of reference. "More" is not necessarily "better." Applicants are encouraged to solicit ten to twelve substantive letters of reference from those with significant experience with and insight into a candidate's professional experience and qualifications. This number provides sufficient insight into the applicant's potential for serving as an outstanding judge.

Letters regarding applicants should be emailed to azgovlegal@az.gov by **5:00 p.m. on December 4, 2023**. All letters timely submitted to that address will be considered.

SUMMARY OF THE APPOINTMENT PROCESS

1. **Application Period**: The Governor's Office announces the vacancy. The press release announcing the vacancy provides specific information about the process for the particular vacancy and advises where application forms can be obtained and the deadline for submitting applications.
2. **Application Review**: The Governor's Office reviews all applications received and the results of any investigation conducted by staff and selects applicants to be interviewed.
3. **Notification to Applicants**: Applicants selected for interview are notified by email of the date, time, and location of the interviews. Applicants not selected for interview are notified by email.
4. **Public Notice**: The Governor's Office announces the names of the applicants to be interviewed and invites oral or written public comment regarding their qualifications.
5. **Investigation**: Further investigation of the applicants to be interviewed is conducted. The credit, criminal, and professional discipline histories of the applicants are requested, and the results are reviewed by the Governor's Office. The Governor's Office seeks comments from judges, attorneys, and the community.
6. **Initial Interviews**: Selected applicants will be interviewed by Governor's Office staff in a public session. In fairness to other applicants, an applicant should not attend earlier scheduled interviews of other applicants or otherwise seek out or accept information about the content of such interviews.

Applicant Name: _____ Filing Date: _____

7. **Interviews with the Governor and Appointment:** The names of at least two applicants are selected for interviews with the Governor. The Governor will make her appointment following the interview. The appointee will be notified by telephone and letter. Applicants not selected will be notified by email.

**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO
JUDICIAL OFFICE**

**SECTION I: PUBLIC INFORMATION
(QUESTIONS 1 THROUGH 68)**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION AND
CONSTITUTIONAL
QUALIFICATIONS**

1. Full Name:

2. Have you ever used or been known by any other name? yes no
If yes, provide prior name(s):

3. Office Address:

4. How long have you lived in Arizona? What is your home zip code?

5. Identify the county you reside in and the years of your residency.

6. Have you been an Arizona resident for the last five years? (Ariz. Const. art. VI, § 22) yes no

7. Have you been a resident of Yavapai County for the last year? (Ariz. Const. art. VI, § 37(D)) yes no

Applicant Name: _____ Filing Date: _____

8. Have you been admitted to the practice of law in Arizona for the last five years? (Ariz. Const. art. VI, § 22) yes no
9. If appointed, will you be 30 years old before taking office? (Ariz. Const. art. VI, § 22) yes no
10. List your present and any former political party registrations and approximate dates of each:
11. Gender: _____
Race/Ethnicity: _____

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

12. List names and locations of all post-secondary schools attended and any degrees received.
13. List major and minor fields of study and extracurricular activities.
14. List scholarships, awards, honors, citations and any other factors (e.g., employment) you consider relevant to your performance during college and law school.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

15. List all courts in which you have been admitted to the practice of law with dates of admission. Give the same information for any administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.
16. a. Have you ever been denied admission to the bar of any state due to failure to pass the character and fitness screening? _____ If so, explain.
- b. Have you ever had to retake a bar examination in order to be admitted to the bar of any state? _____ If so, explain any circumstances that may

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____

have hindered your performance.

17. Describe your employment history since completing your undergraduate degree. List your current position first. If you have not been employed continuously since completing your undergraduate degree, describe what you did during any periods of unemployment or other professional inactivity in excess of three months. Please also attach a resume.

EMPLOYER	DATES	LOCATION
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18. List your law partners and associates, if any, within the last five years. You may attach a firm letterhead or other printed list. Applicants who are judges or commissioners should additionally attach a list of judges or commissioners currently on the bench in the court in which they serve.
19. Describe the nature of your law practice over the last five years, listing the major areas of law in which you practiced and the percentage each constituted of your total practice. If you have been a judge or commissioner for the last five years, describe the nature of your law practice before your appointment to the bench.
20. List other areas of law in which you have practiced.
21. Identify all areas of specialization for which you have been granted certification by the State Bar of Arizona or a bar organization in any other state.
22. Describe your experience as it relates to negotiating and drafting important legal documents, statutes and/or rules.
23. Have you practiced in adversary proceedings before administrative boards or commissions? _____ If so, state:
- a. The agencies and the approximate number of adversary proceedings in which you appeared before each agency.
 - b. The approximate number of these matters in which you appeared as:
Sole Counsel: _____

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____

Chief Counsel: _____

Associate Counsel: _____

24. Have you handled any matters that have been arbitrated or mediated? _____
If so, state the approximate number of these matters in which you were involved as:

Sole Counsel: _____

Chief Counsel: _____

Associate Counsel: _____

25. List at least three but no more than five contested matters you negotiated to settlement. State as to each case: (1) the date or period of the proceedings; (2) the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of all counsel involved and the party each represented; (3) a summary of the substance of each case; and (4) a statement of any particular significance of the case.

26. Have you represented clients in litigation in Federal or state trial courts? _____
If so, state:

The approximate number of cases in which you appeared before:

Federal Courts: _____

State Courts of Record: _____

Municipal/Justice Courts: _____

The approximate percentage of those cases which have been:

Civil: _____

Criminal: _____

The approximate number of those cases in which you were:

Sole Counsel: _____

Chief Counsel: _____

Applicant Name: _____ Filing Date: _____

Associate Counsel: _____

The approximate percentage of those cases in which:

You wrote and filed a pre-trial, trial, or post-trial motion that wholly or partially disposed of the case (for example, a motion to dismiss, a motion for summary judgment, a motion for judgment as a matter of law, or a motion for new trial) or wrote a response to such a motion: _____

You argued a motion described above: _____

You made a contested court appearance (other than as set forth in the above response) _____

You negotiated a settlement: _____

The court rendered judgment after trial: _____

A jury rendered a verdict: _____

The number of cases you have taken to trial:

Limited jurisdiction court: _____

Superior court: _____

Federal district court: _____

Jury: _____

Note: If you approximate the number of cases taken to trial, explain why an exact count is not possible.

27. Have you practiced in the Federal or state appellate courts? _____ If so, state:

The approximate number of your appeals which have been:

Civil: _____

Criminal: _____

Other: _____

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____

The approximate number of matters in which you appeared:

As counsel of record on the brief: _____

Personally in oral argument: _____

28. Have you served as a judicial law clerk or staff attorney to a court? _____ If so, identify the court, judge, and the dates of service and describe your role.

29. List at least three but no more than five cases you litigated or participated in as an attorney before mediators, arbitrators, administrative agencies, trial courts or appellate courts that were not negotiated to settlement. State as to each case: (1) the date or period of the proceedings; (2) the name of the court or agency and the name of the judge or officer before whom the case was heard; (3) the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of all counsel involved and the party each represented; (4) a summary of the substance of each case; and (5) a statement of any particular significance of the case.

30. If you now serve or have previously served as a mediator, arbitrator, part-time or full-time judicial officer, or quasi-judicial officer (e.g., administrative law judge, hearing officer, member of state agency tribunal, member of State Bar professionalism tribunal, member of military tribunal, etc.), give dates and details, including the courts or agencies involved, whether elected or appointed, periods of service and a thorough description of your assignments at each court or agency. Include information about the number and kinds of cases or duties you handled at each court or agency (e.g., jury or court trials, settlement conferences, contested hearings, administrative duties, etc.).

31. List at least three but no more than five cases you presided over or heard as a judicial or quasi-judicial officer, mediator or arbitrator. State as to each case: (1) the date or period of the proceedings; (2) the name of the court or agency; (3) the names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of all counsel involved and the party each represented; (4) a summary of the substance of each case; and (5) a statement of any particular significance of the case.

32. Describe any additional professional experience you would like to bring to the Governor's attention.

Filing Date: _____

Applicant Name: _____

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

33. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business or profession other than the practice of law or holding judicial or other public office, other than as described at question 17? _____ If so, give details, including dates.
34. Are you now an officer, director, majority stockholder, managing member, or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise? _____ If so, give details, including the name of the enterprise, the nature of the business, the title or other description of your position, the nature of your duties and the term of your service.
- Do you intend to resign such positions and withdraw from any participation in the management of any such enterprises if you are appointed? _____ If not, explain your decision.
35. Have you filed your state and federal income tax returns for all years you were legally required to file them? _____ If not, explain.
36. Have you paid all state, federal and local taxes when due? _____ If not, explain.
37. Are there currently any judgments or tax liens outstanding against you? _____ If so, explain.
38. Have you ever violated a court order addressing your personal conduct, such as orders of protection, or for payment of child or spousal support? _____ If so, explain.
39. Have you ever been a party to a lawsuit, including an administrative agency matter but excluding divorce? _____ If so, identify the nature of the case, your role, the court, and the ultimate disposition.
40. Have you ever filed for bankruptcy protection on your own behalf or for an organization in which you held a majority ownership interest? _____ If so, explain.

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____

41. Do you have any financial interests including investments, which might conflict with the performance of your judicial duties? _____ If so, explain.

CONDUCT AND ETHICS

42. Have you ever been terminated, asked to resign, expelled, or suspended from employment or any post-secondary school or course of learning due to allegations of dishonesty, plagiarism, cheating, or any other "cause" that might reflect in any way on your integrity? _____ If so, provide details.

43. Have you ever been arrested for, charged with, and/or convicted of any felony, misdemeanor, or Uniform Code of Military Justice violation? _____

If so, identify the nature of the offense, the court, the presiding judicial officer, and the ultimate disposition.

44. If you performed military service, please indicate the date and type of discharge. If other than honorable discharge, explain.

45. List and describe any matter (including mediation, arbitration, negotiated settlement and/or malpractice claim you referred to your insurance carrier) in which you were accused of wrongdoing concerning your law practice.

46. List and describe any litigation initiated against you based on allegations of misconduct other than any listed in your answer to question 45.

47. List and describe any sanctions imposed upon you by any court.

48. Have you received a notice of formal charges, cautionary letter, private admonition, referral to a diversionary program, or any other conditional sanction from the Commission on Judicial Conduct, the State Bar, or any other disciplinary body in any jurisdiction? _____ If so, in each case, state in detail the circumstances and the outcome.

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____

49. During the last 10 years, have you unlawfully used controlled substances, narcotic drugs or dangerous drugs as defined by federal or state law? _____ If your answer is "Yes," explain in detail.
50. Within the last five years, have you ever been formally reprimanded, demoted, disciplined, cautioned, placed on probation, suspended, terminated or asked to resign by an employer, regulatory or investigative agency? _____ If so, state the circumstances under which such action was taken, the date(s) such action was taken, the name(s) and contact information of any persons who took such action, and the background and resolution of such action.
51. Have you ever refused to submit to a test to determine whether you had consumed and/or were under the influence of alcohol or drugs? _____ If so, state the date you were requested to submit to such a test, type of test requested, the name and contact information of the entity requesting that you submit to the test, the outcome of your refusal and the reason why you refused to submit to such a test.
52. Have you ever been a party to litigation alleging that you failed to comply with the substantive requirements of any business or contractual arrangement, including but not limited to bankruptcy proceedings? _____ If so, explain the circumstances of the litigation, including the background and resolution of the case, and provide the dates litigation was commenced and concluded, and the name(s) and contact information of the parties,

PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SERVICE

53. Have you published or authored any legal or non-legal books or articles (including online and including under a pen name or pseudonym)? _____ If so, list with the citations and dates of publication.
54. Are you in compliance with the continuing legal education requirements applicable to you as a lawyer or judge? _____ If not, explain.
55. Have you taught any courses on law or lectured at bar associations, conferences, law school forums or continuing legal education seminars? _____ If so, describe.

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____

56. List memberships and activities in professional organizations, including offices held and dates.

Have you served on any committees of any bar association (local, state or national) or have you performed any other significant service to the bar? _____

List offices held in bar associations or on bar committees. Provide information about any activities in connection with pro bono legal services (defined as services to the indigent for no fee), legal related volunteer community activities or the like.

57. Describe the nature and dates of any relevant community or public service you have performed.

58. List any relevant professional or civic honors, prizes, awards or other forms of recognition you have received.

59. List any elected or appointed public offices you have held and/or for which you have been a candidate, and the dates.

Have you ever been removed or resigned from office before your term expired? ___ If so, explain.

Have you voted in all general elections held during the last 10 years? _____ If not, explain.

60. Describe any interests outside the practice of law that you would like to bring to the Governor's attention.

HEALTH

61. Are you physically and mentally able to perform the essential duties of a judge with or without a reasonable accommodation in the court for which you are applying? _____

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

62. The Governor seeks to consider the diversity of the county's population in making her appointment. Provide any information about yourself (your heritage, background, life experiences, etc.) that may be relevant to this consideration.
63. Provide any additional information relative to your qualifications you would like to bring to the Governor's attention.
64. If selected for this position, do you intend to serve a full term and would you accept rotation to benches outside your areas of practice or interest and accept assignment to any court location? _____ If not, explain.
65. Attach a brief statement explaining why you are seeking this position.
66. Attach two professional writing samples, which you personally drafted (e.g., brief or motion). **Each writing sample should be no more than five pages in length, double-spaced.** You may excerpt a portion of a larger document to provide the writing samples. Please redact any personal, identifying information regarding the case at issue, unless it is a published opinion, bearing in mind that the writing sample may be made available pursuant to a public records request.
67. If you have ever served as a judicial or quasi-judicial officer, mediator or arbitrator, attach sample copies of not more than two written orders, findings or opinions (whether reported or not) which you personally drafted. **Each writing sample should be no more than five pages in length, double-spaced.** You may excerpt a portion of a larger document to provide the writing sample(s). Please redact any personal, identifying information regarding the case at issue, unless it is a published opinion, bearing in mind that the writing sample may be made available pursuant to a public records request.
68. If you are currently serving as a judicial officer in any court and are subject to a system of judicial performance review, please attach the public data reports and commission vote reports from your last three performance reviews.

**-- INSERT PAGE BREAK HERE TO START SECTION II
(CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION) ON NEW PAGE --**

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Name: _____ Filing Date: _____
Page 15

**SECTION II: CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION
(QUESTIONS 69 THROUGH 85)**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

69. Home Address:
70. E-mail Address:
71. Office Telephone:
72. Home Telephone:
73. Cell Phone Number:
74. Date of Birth:
75. Place of Birth:
76. Social Security Number:
77. State Bar Number:
78. Driver's License Number:
79. List all public social media accounts and public blogs:
80. If your parents, siblings, spouse or children are employed or engaged in any
Filing Date: _____

Applicant Name: _____

business or profession, state their names and the name and address of their employer or the business in which they are engaged.

Applicant Name: _____ Filing Date: _____
Page 17

REFERENCES

81. List the names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of three references who are lawyers or judges, and who are familiar with your professional activities, who would enthusiastically recommend you as qualified to serve on the judiciary.

82. List the names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of three persons who are neither lawyers nor judges, with whom you have had contact other than professionally, who would enthusiastically recommend you as qualified to serve on the judiciary.

83. List the names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of three lawyers with whom you have continuously dealt on substantive matters as adversaries in the last five years. If you have been a full-time judicial or quasi-judicial officer for the last five years, list the names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of three lawyers who have frequently appeared before you in contested matters.

84. List the names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of three references who have served with you and could comment on your participation in bar or professional association committees or activities.

85. List the names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of three references who have served with you and could comment on your participation in community organizations or activities.

-- INSERT PAGE BREAK AFTER ALL CONFIDENTIAL CONTENTS, TO START REMAINDER OF APPLICATION (INCLUDING ATTACHMENTS) ON NEW PAGE --

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____

WAIVER OF CONFIDENTIALITY AND RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I, _____, hereby authorize the committees of the State Bar of Arizona, all bar associations, references, employers, credit reporting agencies, business and professional associations, and all government agencies to release to the Governor's Office any information requested by the Governor's Office in connection with the processing of my request for consideration as a candidate for judicial office. I understand that the fact that I have applied and all responses provided in Section I of the application are not confidential and the information provided may be verified and is subject to public disclosure.

Upon submission of this application to the Governor's Office, I expressly consent to the release of my name and the contents of Section I of this application to the public. Furthermore, I waive the benefits of any statute, rule, or regulation prescribing confidentiality of records or information that is disclosed in Section I. Further, while the Governor's Office intends to protect the confidentiality of information in Section II to the greatest extent permitted by law, I understand that it may be publicly disclosed if ordered by a court.

All of the statements made in this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and submission expresses my willingness to accept appointment to the judicial position for which I have applied, should I be selected by the Governor of the State of Arizona.

(Signature) (Date)

Filing Date: _____
Applicant Name: _____