

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 30, 2026

*Contact: Rachel Mackie
602-452-3308*

16 Applicants Being Considered for Two Vacancies in Division One of the Arizona Court of Appeals

PHOENIX - The public is invited to comment on 16 applicants for two vacancies in Division One of the Arizona Court of Appeals created by the retirements of Hon. David B. Gass and Hon. Samuel A. Thumma.

The applicants are:

- Molly P. Brizgys
- Sheena S. Chiang
- Monica N.B. Edelstein
- Grace M. Guisewite
- Jonathan E. Hauer
- Karen L. Johnson Stillwell
- Alice M. Jones
- Shalanda M. Looney
- Suzanne S. Marwil
- Randal B. McDonald III
- Timothy W. Overton
- Alexander W. Samuels
- Amy D. Sells
- Mikel P. Steinfeld
- Barry G. Stratford
- Erik Thorson

Applications can be viewed online at the Commission's website, azcourts.gov/jnc.

The Commission on Appellate Court Appointments will review the applications and hear comments at a public meeting on July 16, 2026. The meeting will be held in Conference Room 101 of the Arizona State Courts Building, 1501 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007. Meeting details will be available on the public meeting notice. The public meeting notice and meeting agenda will be posted on the Commission's website at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public may address the Commission on the day of the meeting. Written comments may also be submitted via email to jnc@courts.az.gov or mailed to 1501 W. Washington, Suite 221, Phoenix, AZ, 85007. It is not necessary to submit multiple copies of written comments - email is preferred. Comments must be received no later than July 13 to be considered. Anonymous comments cannot be considered.

The Commission will select the applicants to be interviewed at the July 16 meeting, they will then be interviewed on Aug. 20. The logistics of this meeting will be available after the July 16 meeting. After the interviews, the Commission will recommend at least three nominees for each opening to Gov. Katie Hobbs, who will appoint the new judges.

###