

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 7, 2026

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16 Applicants Being Considered for Two Vacancies on Superior Court in Pima County

PHOENIX - The public is invited to comment on 16 applicants for two vacancies on the Superior Court in Pima County created by the retirement of Hon. Christopher C. Browning and the appointment of Hon. D. Greg Sakall as a United States Magistrate Judge for the District of Arizona.

The applicants are:

- Caroline S. Allen
- Luke E. Brown
- Soo Conatser
- Mark A. Hotchkiss
- Marie D. Kagie-Shutey
- Nicholas A. Knauer
- Derek J. Koltunovich
- Tracey A. Miller
- Maria A. Morlacci
- Nicole P. Savel
- William R. Soland
- Grant L. Stratton
- Christina M. Vejar
- Katherine M. Voll
- Dawn R. Walton
- Antonio L. Zapata

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

The Pima County Commission on Trial Court Appointments will review applications and hear comments at a public meeting on Aug. 3, 2026. Meeting details will be 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 or send written comments 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 30 to be considered. Anonymous comments cannot be considered.

The Commission will select the applicants to be interviewed at the Aug. 3 meeting, and they will then be interviewed on Aug. 24. The logistics of this meeting will be available after the Aug. 3 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.

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