



HBA-DC JUDICIAL PIPELINE PROJECT COMMITTEE

Committee Co-Chairs: Hon. Marisa J. Demeo & Maritza Perez
Judicial Selection Commissions Working Group

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION

Authority: D.C. Code §§ 1-204.33–34.
Established by Congress on Dec. 24, 1973.

Mission: To provide DC citizens with the best possible court system.

Focus: Judicial vacancies on the DC Court of Appeals and the Superior Court of DC. Designates the Chief Judges of the DC courts (four-year terms).

Responsibilities:

- **Solicit** a diverse and talented pool of applicants for each judicial vacancy.
- **Screen** applicants to ensure they have the requisite experience, skill, temperament and qualifications for judicial office.
- **Recommend** the 3 most qualified applicants to the President of the United States for his or her consideration in selecting a nominee to fill each judicial vacancy on the DC Court of Appeals and the Superior Court of DC.

Commission Member Requirements:

- U.S. Citizen.
- Bona fide D.C. resident (and maintain actual place of abode for at least 90 days prior to appointment).
- May not be a “member, officer, or employee” of the legislative or judicial branch, a U.S. executive or military department or agency, or the D.C. government (including judicial branch).
- Lawyer members shall have the qualifications prescribed for persons appointed as judges for the D.C. courts.
- Service is uncompensated.

Membership: Seven members (6 appointed to 6-year terms, 1 to a 5-year term):

- 2 appointed by the DC Mayor (1 lawyer).
- 2 by the Board of Governors of the unified DC Bar.
- 1 non-lawyer by the DC Council.
- 1 by the U.S. President (5-year term).
- 1 judicial member (active or retired serving in DC) appointed by the Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for DC.

Current JNC Members:

The Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan (Chair)
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
Chief Judge’s Appointee

Addy R. Schmitt, Esquire
Miller & Chevalier, Chtd.; *President’s Appointee*

The Honorable Marie C. Johns
PPC-Leftwich; *DC Council’s Appointee*

Benjamin F. Wilson, Esquire
Beveridge & Diamond, PC; *Mayor’s Appointee*

The Honorable Linda W. Cropp
Mayor’s Appointee

Vincent H. Cohen, Jr., Esquire
Dechert LLP; *DC Bar Appointee*

Yaida O. Ford, Esquire
Ford Law Pros P.C.; *DC Bar Appointee*

Additional Information:

- Website: <https://jnc.dc.gov/>
- [FAQs about JNC’s Application Process](#)
- JNC’s [Newsroom](#)
- JNC’s [Application Process](#)
- [Sign up](#) for Judicial Vacancy Notices
- [Video](#) of 2021 JNC Event (featuring [JNC Members](#))
- [JNC Application Forms](#)