

JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Position:

Tennessee Judicial Nominating Commission member.

Member Recommendations:

Under TCA § 17-4-102 – Interested groups may make recommendations to the speakers who appoint.

Eligibility:

1. Application Process. Under TCA § 17-4-102(d), the Administrative Office of the Courts will develop an application form for citizens who wish to be considered for appointment. The AOC sets deadlines in advance of each scheduled vacancy with a notice on the AOC website and will then post a summary report of all qualified applicants. Interested persons and organizations make comment on applicants in fourteen-day period.
2. Qualifications. Each commission member shall be:
 - (a) at least 30 years of age
 - (b) a citizen of the United States
 - (c) a resident of Grand Division for one year
3. Disqualification. Members of the commission shall not:
 - (a) hold any office with any political party or organization
 - (b) be a salaried office holder
 - (c) be a registered lobbyist or employer of a lobbyist as provided in TCA Title 3, Chapter 6, Part 1.
4. Diversity. The speaker is to make appointments with a conscious intention of selecting a body that reflects diversity with respect to race, gender and representation of rural areas as well as urban centers.
5. Lawyers must be duly licensed.

Process:

All lawyers who submit their names during the application process will be considered. In order for a lawyer to receive recommendation of the TBA, the lawyer must receive a majority of the

votes of the Board of Governors or Executive Committee voting at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

The TBA, acting through the Board of Governors, or in the absence of the Board, the Executive Committee, will review the lawyer applicants for the Judicial Nominating Commission. The Board will recommend to each speaker up to two (2) applicants for any position.

As provided in TCA § 17-4-102, at least five (5) of the positions to be filled by each speaker shall be lawyers and up to seven (7) members selected by each speaker may be lawyers.

Since each speaker can appoint up to three (3) lawyers in two Grand Divisions and up to two in the third Grand Division and since there is no specification as to which grand division those lawyers would have to be from in the initial nomination, the TBA will recommend up to twelve (12) lawyers per Grand Division.

If a candidate or candidates receive a majority of the votes cast, they shall be deemed recommended. If one or more candidates do not receive a majority of the votes cast, then the candidate or candidates receiving the fewest number of votes shall be eliminated from consideration. The balloting shall proceed with each Board or Executive Committee member voting for candidates for the number of recommendations which remain and eliminating those receiving the fewest number of votes on each ballot. Balloting will proceed until all candidates have received a majority of the votes cast. General Counsel and Executive Director will count the votes.

Term:

Commences with the selection by the Speaker of the House or Speaker of the Senate.

Term Limits:

The term of a member of the Judicial Nominating Commission is six (6) years. Members are ineligible for reappointment for successive term unless the previous appointment was for a partial term of twenty-four (24) months or less. TCA § 17-4-406(b)