



**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION**

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The Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan
Chairperson

For Immediate Release

May 4, 2011

**Notice of Judicial Vacancy Created by the Retirement of the
Honorable Vanessa Ruiz**

Members of the bench, bar, and public are hereby notified by the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission (the "Commission") that a vacancy on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals will occur as a result of the retirement of the Honorable Vanessa Ruiz, effective August 31, 2011. Within 60 days of a vacancy, the Commission is to submit to the President of the United States the names of three persons for possible nomination and appointment to the Court. D.C. Code § 1-204.34. Accordingly, the Commission invites qualified individuals to apply for this vacancy.

Pursuant to D.C. Code § 1-204.33(b), no person may be nominated or appointed a judge of a District of Columbia court unless the person—

- is a citizen of the United States;
- is an active member of the unified District of Columbia Bar and has been engaged in the active practice of law in the District for the five years immediately preceding the nomination or for such five years has been on the faculty of a law school in the District, or has been employed as a lawyer by the United States or the District of Columbia government;
- is a bona fide resident of the District of Columbia and has maintained an actual place of abode in the District of Columbia for at least 90 days immediately prior to the nomination, and shall retain such residency while serving as such judge;
- is recommended to the President, for such nomination and appointment, by the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission; and

- has not served, within a period of two years prior to the nomination, as a member of the District of Columbia Tenure Commission or the Judicial Nomination Commission.

All persons interested in applying for this judicial vacancy—**with the exception of applicants for the judicial vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Noël Anketell Kramer**—shall review and comply with the Application Instructions for Judicial Vacancies on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and the Superior Court of the District of Columbia found on the Commission’s website. (See www.jnc.dc.gov.) **Applicants for the Judge Kramer vacancy who would like to be considered for the Judge Ruiz vacancy shall not submit application materials. Rather, they shall only submit a letter to the Commission (at dc.jnc@dc.gov) requesting that they also be considered for this vacancy.** Applicants shall submit an original and one paper copy of their complete application materials to the Executive Director. All application materials and correspondence shall be addressed to Kim M. Whatley, Executive Director, Judicial Nomination Commission, 515 Fifth Street, NW, Suite 235, Washington, DC 20001. Incomplete or outdated application materials will not be considered. All application materials shall be received by the close of business on July 15, 2011.

Applicants shall also email a copy of their Letter of Interest, Resume, Applicant Questionnaire, and writing samples, in separate PDF format files to the Executive Director and to each Commission member. The email subject line shall include the applicant’s name and shall state that the email contains application materials for a judicial vacancy. If the writing samples are too voluminous to send electronically, so indicate in the email and send paper copies of those documents to each Commission member by mail or courier service.

The Commission does not require letters of recommendation, letters of support, or endorsements, but will accept them. Such letters shall be received by the Commission within 30 calendar days from the application deadline date, or by August 15, 2011. Consult the Application Instructions for Judicial Vacancies on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and the Superior Court of the District of Columbia on the Commission’s website (www.jnc.dc.gov) for additional information on the procedures for submitting letters.

Questions concerning the judicial vacancy application process shall be directed to the Commission’s Executive Director at (202) 879-0478 or dc.jnc@dc.gov.

Members of the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission

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