



For Immediate Release:
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Contact: Amanda Wurst
614 644-0957/614 832-7512
Amanda.Wurst@governor.ohio.gov

Judicial Panel Accepting Applications to Fill Vacancy on Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court

Columbus, Ohio – The Ohio Judicial Appointments Recommendation Panel is currently accepting applications to fill a vacant seat on the Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court.

The seat has been vacant since Judge Anthony Russo was elected to the Cuyahoga County Probate Court, effective January 1.

Applicants for the Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court position must be a resident and registered elector of Cuyahoga County and not yet 70 years old on the day they begin their duties, as dictated by Ohio law. In addition, they must be admitted to practice law in Ohio and have maintained their legal license for six years prior to assuming the judicial post or served as a judge of a court of record in any jurisdiction in the United States.

To continue service in the position, the appointee must run in the November 2010 judicial election.

In the case of all judicial vacancies, applicants must follow the guidelines set forth by the Ohio Judicial Appointments Recommendation Panel to ensure their eligibility for appointment.

Applications must be submitted directly to the judicial panel and will then be distributed to the at-large and regional panel members. Additional details about OJARP and the application process can be found on the OJARP website at www.ojarp.org.

All materials submitted by applicants for a judicial vacancy will be considered public record under Ohio law. Applicant communication with panel members must be directed to the entire panel; all attempts to contact or influence a panel member are prohibited. Applicant questions and concerns should be addressed to Kent Markus or Jeff Ruppert in the Governor's Office at (614) 466-3555.

Applications for the Cuyahoga County appointment must be received by 5 p.m. February 10. The application timeframe has been shortened due to the timing of the vacancy. Candidates must be available to interview in person on February 20 in Columbus. Individual candidate times and interview locations will be determined at a later date.

Governor Strickland has selected the following individuals to serve on the regional panel for the current Cuyahoga County vacancy:

Mayor Dean DePeiro, mayor, City of Parma

Jan Roller, attorney and partner, Davis and Young

Fatima Weathers, chief operating officer and executive vice president, Magnet

Inajo Chappell, attorney and partner, Ulmer and Byrne

Harriet Applegate, executive secretary, Northshore AFL-CIO

Phylliss L. Crocker, associate dean and professor, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University

At-large panel members:

Janet E. Jackson (panel chair), president and CEO of United Way of Central Ohio

Betty Davis, president, Community Concepts, Inc.

Derric D. McDonald, patrol officer, the Dayton Police Department

Doloris Learmonth, managing partner, Peck Shaffer and Williams LLP in Cincinnati

Meg Flack, board member, Ohio League of Women Voters