



For Immediate Release:
Wednesday, September 23, 2009

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

Judicial Panel Accepting Applications to Fill Vacancy on Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas

Columbus, Ohio-The Ohio Judicial Appointments Recommendation Panel (OJARP) is currently accepting applications to fill a vacant seat on the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas.

The seat became vacant due to the appointment of Judge William Mallory to the 1st District Court of Appeals. The seat became vacant on September 4, 2009.

Applicants for the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas position must be a resident and registered elector of Hamilton 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 general 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 Web site 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 Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas appointment must be received by 5 p.m. October 19.

Candidates must be available to interview in person on November 6 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 Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas vacancy:

Tim Burke, partner, Manley Burke LPA

Christie A.M. Bryant, regional staff attorney, American Family Insurance

Brian Thomas, attorney, Graydon, Head & Ritchey LLP

Mary Jill Donovan, managing partner, Donovan Law Firm

William Tummler – chair, United Auto Workers Community Action Program (UAW CAP) of Greater Cincinnati

Brendon Cull, director of government affairs, the Kroger Company

At-large panel members:

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

Meg Flack – president of the board, the Ohio League of Women Voters

Derric D. McDonald – patrol officer, Dayton Police Department

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

Mike Miller, of counsel, Kegler, Brown Hill and Ritter; former Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney