



For Immediate Release:
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Judicial Panel Accepting Applications to Fill Vacancies on Franklin, Sandusky County Courts

Columbus, Ohio – The Ohio Judicial Appointments Recommendation Panel (OJARP) is currently accepting applications to fill two future vacancies on the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas and one current vacant seat on the Sandusky County Municipal Court. Each vacancy is the result of the November 2008 election of judges to new positions.

Specific information on each vacancy follows this general information for applicants:

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. Details and the full text of the application procedure are available on the judicial panel's Web site www.ojarp.org.

Requirements for all applicants include submitting a letter of interest, resume, panel questionnaire at www.ojarp.org, and no more than six letters of recommendation.

Additional details about OJARP and the application process can be found at the Governor's Web site at www.governor.ohio.gov.

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 each appointment must be received by 5 p.m. January 20.

Franklin County Court of Common Pleas

Two seats on the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas will be vacated on February 9 due to the November 2008 election of Judge Eric Brown to the Franklin County Probate Court and Judge John Connor to the 10th District Court of Appeals.

Applicants for the Court of Common Pleas position must be a resident and registered elector of Franklin 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.

Candidates must be available to interview in person on January 29 and 30 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 Franklin County vacancy:

Jason Pappas, officer for the Columbus Police Department and vice president of the Franklin County Fraternal Order of Police (FOP)

Mary Amos Augsburger, attorney; Squire, Sanders and Dempsey, LLP

Eileen Paley, attorney, Paley Law Office, LPA

Mark Rutkus, legislative aide, Office of Columbus City Council President Michael Mentel

Zach Manifold, executive director, Franklin County Democratic Party

James Hudson, member, Laborers Local 423

At-large panel members:

Janet E. Jackson, chair, President and CEO of United Way of Central Ohio

Joy Malek Oldfield, partner at Hill Hardman Oldfield, LLC, in Akron

Meg Flack, board member of the Ohio League of Women Voters

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

John Kulewicz, attorney, Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, LLP

Sandusky County Municipal Court

The Sandusky County Municipal Court seat is vacant as of January 1 due to the November 2008 election of Judge John Dewey to the Sandusky County Court of Common Pleas.

Applicants for the Municipal Court position must be a resident and registered elector of the jurisdiction Sandusky County Municipal Court 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.

Candidates must be available to interview in person on January 30 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 Sandusky County vacancy:

Hollis McBroom, retired detective in the Sandusky County Sheriff's Office

James Ellis, attorney, Arnold, Caruso, Green and Belazis, Ltd.

Nina Pascua, MD/Ph.D., immunologist; retired mayor and councilwoman for the City of Clyde

David Pasch, retired physics/general science teacher

Joseph Albrechta, attorney, Albrechta and Coble, Ltd.

Karen Wagner, member of Fremont City Council and the Ohio Farmers Union

At-large panel members:

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

Joy Malek Oldfield, partner at Hill Hardman Oldfield, LLC, in Akron

Meg Flack, board member of the Ohio League of Women Voters

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

John Kulewicz, attorney, Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, LLP

