

How does a Judge become a Judge?

1. Merit Selection

A nominating commission selects two or three candidates and recommends them to the Governor.

2. Appointment

The Governor has 15 days to decide which candidates will be appointed to the judgeship.

3. Performance Surveys

During the Judge's term surveys are filled out by attorneys, jury members, court staff, Appellate Judges, and citizens.

4. Commission Evaluation

Every judge is evaluated by a Judicial Performance Commission using survey results, case data, interviews, etc. Voters receive their retention recommendation for each Judge up for retention.

5. Voters

Voters choose if a Judge stays on the bench. If voters say "yes" the judge serves another term.