

2.70 DISTRICT COURT - MERIT SELECTION PROCESS

Sections:

- 2.70.010 Establishment.
- 2.70.020 Process.

2.70.010 Establishment. There is hereby established a merit selection process to fill judicial vacancies occurring in District Court in King County pursuant to the King County council's responsibilities under R.C.W. 3.34.100. The council desires a fair and open process which will insure the council shall select and appoint individuals of the highest quality. (Ord. 8350 § 1, 1987).

2.70.020 Process. The process to fill district court judicial vacancies shall be as follows:

A. Notice of existing or scheduled vacancies shall be advertised by the clerk of the council twice in the official county newspaper and in a newspaper of general circulation within the district. Notice of the vacancy shall also be sent to the Seattle-King County Bar Association (SKCBA), East King County Bar Association, South King County Bar Association, Washington Women Lawyers, Loren Miller Bar Association, National Conference of Black Lawyers (Northwest Chapter), Asian Law Association and other interested groups.

B. Names of individuals wishing consideration for appointment shall be submitted to the clerk of the council or directly to any of the bar associations listed in subsection 2.70.020 A. which shall review and evaluate the candidates.

C. Any other bar group with an established judicial candidate evaluation procedure may also review and evaluate the candidates. A group with an established judicial candidate evaluation procedure shall mean a bar association group:

1. With evaluation procedures open to any candidate,
2. Which has written by-laws governing its evaluation process,
3. Which has written criteria upon which the candidates are to be judged which shall be made available to the public, the council and candidates, and
4. Which has been actively evaluating judicial candidates for at least two years.

D. SKCBA shall refer to the council the names of candidates receiving the highest rating. The list shall contain no less than three names. Any other group with an established judicial candidate evaluation procedure, as defined in subsection 2.70.020 C., shall provide to SKCBA a list of the names of candidates given its highest rating. SKCBA shall note on the list referred to the council any disagreements on the respective lists by indicating names on their own list not included on the list(s) of the other evaluating committee(s) and adding names not included on the SKCBA list with the name of the group which provided the rating.

E. The committee-of-the-whole shall review the candidates and interview the final candidates and make recommendation to the council.

F. The final appointment shall be made by the council by motion from the candidates referred by the evaluation committees. (Ord. 8350 § 2, 1987).