

APPELLATE JUDICIAL COMMISSION

Guidelines for References

The Appellate Judicial Commission is accepting letters of references for applicants for the vacancy created on the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, by the resignation of the Honorable Laura Denvir Stith. Please send your original letter of reference to the Chair of the Appellate Judicial Commission and a copy of your letter to each of the other Commissioners. A list of the names of the Commission members is enclosed.

Your letters must be received by **April 13, 2001**. Reference letters will be held in the strictest confidence and should contain the following information:

1. Your acquaintance with the applicant, including length of acquaintance and familiarity with personal and professional qualifications.

2. The applicant's qualifications as a lawyer, including educational background, fields of law with which the applicant is familiar, and the applicant's aptitude for doing the regular work of an appellate judge in evaluating briefs, hearing oral argument, and writing reasoned and scholarly opinions.

3. The applicant's performance as practitioner, teacher, or judge or otherwise in the legal profession. For a practicing lawyer, this might include comment on forensic ability, thoroughness of preparation, trustworthiness, and courtesy to judges and opposing counsel. For a judge, there might be comment on soundness of rulings, courtesy and demeanor, promptness in moving cases, and ability to instill confidence in lawyers and litigants. For others, there should be discussion of the nature and depth of legal assignments.

4. Personal qualifications, including reputation in the community, activity in civic and charitable organizations, public positions held, whether compensated or not, and any other qualities of character appropriate for applicants on the bench.

Enclosure



**Post Office Box 150
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Phone: (573) 751-4144
FAX: (573) 751-7365**

Appellate Judicial Commission

MEMBERS

William R. Price, Chief Justice (Chair) FAX: (573) 751-7365
Supreme Court of Missouri
P. O. Box 150
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Reverend Earl Abel FAX: (816) 921-6078
7244 Cleveland
Kansas City, MO 64132

Mr. David W. Ansley FAX: (417) 890-8855
P. O. Box 4609
Springfield, MO 65808

Mr. Gerard T. Carmody FAX: (314) 259-2020
Bryan Cave
Suite 3600
211 North Broadway
St. Louis, MO 63102-2750

Dr. Peggy Tuter Pearl FAX: (417) 836-7649
901 South National Avenue
Springfield, MO 65804-0094

Mr. Fred Wilkins FAX: (816) 472-6009
1100 Main Street, Suite 2800
Kansas City, MO 64105-2112

Ms. Mildred Cohn FAX: (314) 367-8195
4504 Pershing Place
St. Louis, MO 63108