



**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION**

DC SUPERIOR COURT
515 5th STREET, NW
SUITE 235
WASHINGTON, DC 20001
(202) 879-0478 (Phone)
(202) 879-0755 (Fax)
Website: <http://jnc.dc.gov>
Email: dc.jnc@dc.gov

The Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan
Chairperson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 12, 2013

**Judicial Nomination Commission Invites Comments from the Bench, Bar, and
Public on Applicants for the Judicial Vacancy Created by the
Retirement of Judge A. Franklin Burgess, Jr.**

Members of the bench, bar, and public are hereby notified by the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission (the "Commission") that there are 21 applicants for the pending vacancy on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The Commission will submit the names of three applicants to the President of the United States for his consideration to nominate and appoint a judge. The applicants are:

Maria - Claudia Theresa Christina Amato
Hon. Joseph Edmund Beshouri
Ann Marie Carroll
Hon. Claudia Anne Crichlow
Andrew Fois
Hon. Sharon Elaine Goodie
Hon. Paul Brooks Handy
Guyler Arden Hill
Teresa Ann Howie
Hon. Karen Aileen Howze
Hon. Noel Thomas Johnson

Hon. Leslie Amenia Meek
Hon. Elizabeth Ann Mullin
Hon. William Ward Nooter
Hon. Lori Ellyn Parker
Valencia Renae Rainey
Sean Curtis Staples
Jason D. Tulley
Vytas Varekojis Vergeer
Hon. Steven Michael Wellner
Hon. Elizabeth Carroll Wingo

The Commission invites comments regarding the fitness of the above-listed applicants for a judicial position on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. Applicants can be evaluated with respect to eight categories:

1. **Judicial Temperament** (e.g., ability to treat everyone with respect; willingness to listen with patience and courtesy; collegiality);
2. **Professional Skills and Abilities** (e.g., experience; intellectual ability; analytical skills; knowledge of the law and its underlying principles; knowledge of the rules of procedure and evidence; ability and willingness to learn and develop professionally);
3. **Ethics** (e.g., integrity; impartiality; objectivity; sound judgment; restraint);
4. **Commitment to Diversity** (e.g., treats people equally, fairly and with respect, regardless of gender, race, economic status, sexual orientation or any other factor; promotes inclusiveness of women and minorities);
5. **Leadership and Communication Skills** (e.g., ability to communicate clearly and succinctly; ability to inspire respect and confidence; decisiveness);
6. **Efficiency and Organizational Skills** (e.g., ability to work efficiently and under time constraints; ability to work constructively with others; ability to manage time);
7. **Writing Skills** (e.g., ability to write clearly, concisely and persuasively); and
8. **Community Service** (e.g., pro bono activities; public service; volunteer activities; civic or charitable activities or memberships).

The Commission has created a web-based [Applicant Evaluation Form](#) to facilitate the opportunity to provide comments on the applicants' qualifications. Comments also can be submitted by visiting the Commission's website at jnc@dc.gov. All comments must be received by no later than April 29, 2013.

Comments submitted to the Commission are confidential and will not be released to the public or applicant. Any comments discussed with an applicant will be discussed without revealing the source of such comment, absent written consent by the individual providing the comment.

Some users may see a security certificate message when accessing the JNC Applicant Evaluation Form. Accepting the certificate will allow a user to successfully submit the completed form. The evaluation form available in PDF format on the Commission's website can also be printed, completed, and sent to the Commission via mail, email, or fax at (202) 879-0755. Any technical problems or questions should be directed to the Commission's Executive Director at (202) 879-0478 or dc.jnc@dc.gov.

The Commission members are:

Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan, Chair
United States District Court
for the District of Columbia
United States Courthouse
333 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 354-3260
jnc@dcd.uscourts.gov

Mr. William Lucy
Vice President, AFL-CIO
1831 Sudbury Lane, NW
Washington, DC 20012
(301) 520-0576
Williamlucy1@comcast.net

Natalie O. Ludaway, Esquire
Leftwich & Ludaway LLP
1400 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 434-9103
NOludaway@leftwichlaw.com
c/o smoses@leftwichlaw.com

Woody N. Peterson, Esquire
Dickstein Shapiro LLP
1825 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 420-2212
wpetersonjnc@dicksteinshapiro.com

Karl A. Racine, Esquire
Venable LLP
575 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004
(202) 344-8322
karacine@venable.com
c/o mdcoleman@venable.com

Rev. Morris L. Shearin, Sr.
Israel Baptist Church
1251 Saratoga Ave, NE
Washington, DC 20018
(202) 269-0288
Revshearin1jnc@yahoo.com

Grace E. Speights, Esquire
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
(202) 739-5189
gspeights@morganlewis.com