

Vermont Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 1

Regulations for Nomination and Election of Attorneys to the Judicial Nominating Committee

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§ 1. Election by Attorneys at Law—Three Members

Attorneys at law admitted to practice before the Supreme Court and residing in the state shall elect three of their number to the judicial nominating board as provided in [4 V.S.A. § 601\(b\)\(4\)](#).

§ 2. One Member from Addison, Bennington, Orange, Rutland, Windham, and Windsor

One member of the board shall be elected from the area composed of Addison, Bennington, Orange, Rutland, Windham, and Windsor Counties. [Section 2](#)

§ 3. One Member from Remainder of State

One member of the board shall be elected from the remaining area of the state, consisting of Caledonia, Chittenden, Essex, Franklin, Grand Isle, Lamoille, Orleans, and Washington Counties. [Section 3](#)

§ 4. One Member from State at Large

One member of the board shall be elected from the state at large. [Section 4](#)

§ 5. Terms of Service

The Legislature determines the composition of the Board, including issues of limits on terms of service. [Section 5](#)

§ 6. Interim Terms of Service

Those members elected to and currently serving six-year terms pursuant to 4 V.S.A. § 601(b)(5) before the 1986 amendment may serve out their terms. Under the amended statute, they are not thereafter eligible to serve again. [Section 6](#)

§ 7. Method of Nomination by Vermont Bar Association

Nominations for election to the judicial nominating board for each district identified in §§ 2–4 may be made by either or both of these methods:

(a) A vote of the Vermont Bar Association at its annual meeting in even-numbered calendar years;

(b) A petition signed by at least 36 bar members residing in Vermont;

(c) If no nominations are received under subsections (a) or (b), the Vermont Bar Association Board of Managers may nominate attorneys for election, subject to §§ 2–4. [Section 7](#)

§ 8. Certification of Nominations

The Vermont Bar Association, or its Board of Managers, must certify its nominations through the Association's secretary to the Clerk of the Supreme Court in Montpelier within 10 days after nomination. [Section 8](#)

§ 9. Filing of Nominations

Petition nominations must be filed with the Clerk of the Supreme Court on or before November 1 preceding the biennial meeting of the General Assembly, unless the Court directs otherwise under § 11. [Section 9](#)

§ 10. Balloting of Members

Before January 15 of each biennial year, the Court Administrator must conduct a secret ballot of bar members from each county. The ballot must state each attorney's county of residence. Election is by plurality of votes cast, and the Court Administrator may solicit and receive ballots electronically. [Section 10](#)

§ 11. Vacancy on Board

When a vacancy occurs in the attorney membership of the judicial nominating board under 4 V.S.A. § 601(b)(4), the Court directs the schedule for filing nominations, balloting, and return of votes. [Section 11](#)

§ 12. Returned Votes

Returned votes must be counted, tabulated, and recorded under the direction of the Supreme Court. [Section 12](#)

History: Amended June 2, 1981; June 20, 1986 (effective July 1, 1986); effective October 6, 2008; and January 22, 2014 (effective March 24, 2014). The 2008 amendment conformed the order to 4 V.S.A. § 601(b)(5).