

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS

MISSION

New York State's three Judicial Commissions play important roles in maintaining the integrity of the court system. The Commission on Judicial Nomination and the Judicial Screening Committees screen potential nominees for high-level judicial appointments by the Governor. The Commission on Judicial Conduct investigates and acts upon allegations of judicial misconduct.

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT

The State Constitution established the Commission on Judicial Conduct, which is responsible for investigating complaints of misconduct against State judges and local justices. The Commission has disciplinary powers which include the authority to remove judges and justices from office for serious misconduct, subject to review by the Court of Appeals.

The Commission on Judicial Conduct has 11 members, four of whom are appointed by the Governor, three by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the remaining four by the Legislature. Commission members serve without pay and meet periodically to consider complaints, hear testimony and determine the disposition of cases. The Commission will have 26 staff in fiscal year 2000-01. Its main office is in New York City, with branches in Albany and Rochester. Its budget of \$1.9 million is supported entirely by State tax dollars from the General Fund.

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL NOMINATION

The State Constitution established the Commission on Judicial Nomination to evaluate candidates and make recommendations to the Governor for appointment to the Court of Appeals, the State's highest court. One vacancy is anticipated during 2000-01.

The Commission on Judicial Nomination has 12 members appointed by the Governor, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the Legislature. These members serve without pay and conduct the search for qualified candidates upon formal notification of a vacancy on the Court of Appeals. They are supported by volunteer legal staff also serving without pay.

GOVERNOR'S JUDICIAL SCREENING COMMITTEES

The Governor's Judicial Screening Committees are established by Executive Order to evaluate the qualifications of candidates and make recommendations to the Governor for appointment to judgeships other than those on the Court of Appeals. The Committees are located throughout the State. In fiscal year 2000-01, a total of \$150,000 in State tax dollars will support the Committees.

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ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS

Category	Available 1999-00	Appropriations Recommended 2000-01	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2000-01
State Operations	\$2,107,500	\$2,091,800	-\$15,700	....
Aid To Localities .....	....	....	....	....
Capital Projects .....	....	....	....	....
Total	\$2,107,500	\$2,091,800	-\$15,700	....

ALL FUND TYPES LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Program	Available 1999-00	2000-01 Recommended Average Fill Level			Change
		Personal Service (Regular)	Maintenance Undistributed	Total Recommended 2000-01	
Judicial Conduct General Fund	26	26	....	26	....
Total	26	26	....	26	....

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS

Fund Type	Available 1999-00	Recommended 2000-01	Change
General Fund	\$2,107,500	\$2,091,800	-\$15,700
Total	\$2,107,500	\$2,091,800	-\$15,700

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS

Program	Available 1999-00	Recommended 2000-01	Change
Judicial Conduct General Fund	\$1,947,500	\$1,911,800	-\$35,700
Judicial Nomination, Commission on General Fund	10,000	30,000	+20,000
Judicial Screening Committees General Fund	150,000	150,000	....
Total	\$2,107,500	\$2,091,800	-\$15,700

STATE OPERATIONS — GENERAL AND OFFSET FUNDS SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2000-01 RECOMMENDED

Program	Total Personal Service		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)		Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	\$1,522,400	-\$35,700	\$1,504,700	-\$35,700	\$17,700	....
Judicial Nomination, Commission on .....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Judicial Screening Committees
Total	\$1,522,400	-\$35,700	\$1,504,700	-\$35,700	\$17,700

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**STATE OPERATIONS — GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2000-01 RECOMMENDED**

<u>Program</u>	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	\$389,400	....	\$29,600	....
Judicial Nomination, Commission on	30,000 +\$20,000	....	....	....
Judicial Screening Committees ...	150,000	....	....	....
Total	\$569,400	+\$20,000	\$29,600	....

<u>Program</u>	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	\$29,600	....	\$317,300	....
Judicial Nomination, Commission on .....	....	....	....	....
Judicial Screening Committees ...	....	....	....	....
Total	\$29,600	....	\$317,300	....

<u>Program</u>	Equipment		Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	\$12,900	....	....	....
Judicial Nomination, Commission on .....	....	\$30,000	+\$20,000	....
Judicial Screening Committees ...	....	....	150,000	....
Total	\$12,900	....	\$180,000	+\$20,000

