

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, 4 of whom are appointed by the Governor, 3 by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the remaining 4 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 a staff of **51 FTEs** in fiscal year 2009-10, which is unchanged from 2008-09. Its main office is in New York City, with branches in Albany and Rochester. The recommended 2009-10 Budget of **\$5.3 million General Fund** is a **decrease of \$0.1 million**, reflecting the achievement of administrative savings.

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.

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.

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.

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2008-09	Appropriations Recommended 2009-10	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2009-10
State Operations	5,372,000	5,268,000	(104,000)	0
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	5,372,000	5,268,000	(104,000)	0

ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2008-09 Estimated FTEs 03/31/09	2009-10 Estimated FTEs 03/31/10	FTE Change
Judicial Conduct			
General Fund	51	51	0
Total	51	51	0

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Fund Type	Available 2008-09	Recommended 2009-10	Change
General Fund	5,372,000	5,268,000	(104,000)
Total	5,372,000	5,268,000	(104,000)

Adjustments:

Transfer(s) From Special Pay Bill General Fund	(131,000)
Appropriated 2008-09	5,241,000

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Program	Available 2008-09	Recommended 2009-10	Change
Judicial Conduct			
General Fund	5,304,000	5,200,000	(104,000)
Judicial Nomination, Commission on General Fund	30,000	30,000	0
Judicial Screening Committees General Fund	38,000	38,000	0
Total	5,372,000	5,268,000	(104,000)

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2009-10 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	3,887,000	(91,000)	3,887,000	(91,000)
Judicial Screening Committees	13,000	0	13,000	0
Total	3,900,000	(91,000)	3,900,000	(91,000)

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**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2009-10 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	1,313,000	(13,000)	55,000	1,000
Judicial Nomination, Commission on	30,000	0	0	0
Judicial Screening Committees	25,000	0	0	0
Total	<u>1,368,000</u>	<u>(13,000)</u>	<u>55,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	103,000	3,000	1,058,000	(19,000)
Judicial Nomination, Commission on	30,000	0	0	0
Judicial Screening Committees	10,000	0	15,000	0
Total	<u>143,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>1,073,000</u>	<u>(19,000)</u>

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	97,000	2,000
Judicial Nomination, Commission on	0	0
Judicial Screening Committees	0	0
Total	<u>97,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>