

**JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION
OF THE
STATE OF MONTANA**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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To: All media organizations

From: Beth McLaughlin
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Subject: Interviews for 1st Judicial District Judge Applicants

On Monday, November 9, 2015, the Judicial Nomination Commission will interview the following applicants for the position of district court judge for the 1st Judicial District (Lewis and Clark and Broadwater counties):

- Christopher David Abbott
- Melissa Culpepper Broch
- Marc George Buyske
- DeeAnn Gribble Cooney
- Daniel Mark Guzynski
- Barbara Claassen Harris
- Donald Ford Jones
- Michael F. McMahon

Interviews will begin at 8:30 a.m. at 301 South Park Avenue (former federal building), third floor conference room in Helena. Deliberations will follow the last interview. The interviews and deliberations are open to the public; however, public comment regarding the applicants will not be taken because the comment period has closed.

The Commission will forward the names of three to five nominees to the Governor for appointment. The person appointed by the Governor is subject to election at the primary and general elections in 2016. The candidate elected in 2016 will serve until January 2019.

Judicial Nomination Commission members are District Judge Richard Simonton of Glendive; Mona Charles of Kalispell; Elizabeth Halverson of Billings; Hal Harper of Helena; Lane Larson of Billings; Ryan Rusche of Columbia Falls; and Nancy Zadick of Great Falls.