Judicial Nomination Commission FY2017

▼ FY2017 Performance Accountability Report

The Performance Accountability Report (PAR) measures each agency's performance for the fiscal year against the agency's performance plan and includes major accomplishments, updates on initiatives, and key performance indicators (KPIs).

▼ Mission

The mission of the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission (JNC) is to screen, select, and recommend candidates to the President of the United States for his consideration in appointing judges to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The JNC also appoints the chief judges of both courts.

▼ Summary of Services

The JNC advertises judicial vacancies, solicits applications, conducts background investigations, carefully reviews investigative materials, reads briefs and other application materials, interviews applicants, solicits and considers input from the bench, bar, and public regarding applicants' fitness to serve, and carefully evaluates each candidate's application and background. The JNC also appoints the chief judges of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

▼ FY17 Top Accomplishments

Accomplishment	Impact on Agency	Impact on Residents
JNC expanded outreach, educating members of the legal community about the District's judicial nomination process, and providing practical advice for prospective applicants. The goal was to increase the size and diversity of the applicant pool, while retaining the high degree of skill and qualifications of the applicants	JNC's work has become more transparent as there are frequent opportunities for interested individuals to learn about the application process and to ask questions. And, as a practical matter, JNC saw the number of first-time applicants increase substantially. This increased JNC's work in processing applications and background investigations, and increased the number of individual and panel interviews of applicants by the Commissioners. A strong and sizable applicant pool ensures that the Commission is in the best possible position to transmit a strong candidate list to the President for nomination to fill a judicial vacancy.	The impact is twofold: first, more DC residents understand how judicial selection to the DC Courts works, strengthening their overall engagement with this important branch of government. Second, expanding the applicant pool to draw in individuals with a broad range of life and professional experiences brings this depth and range of experience to the judicial bench, where judges make decisions every day that affect DC resident.

▼ 2017 Strategic Objectives

Objective Number	Strategic Objective
1	Increase the pool of highly qualified applicants to fill each judicial vacancy within the required 60- day period either prior to or following the occurrence of a vacancy in accordance with the agency's governing statute.
2	Create and maintain a highly efficient, transparent and responsive District government.**

▼ 2017 Key Performance Indicators

Measure	Freq	Target	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY 2017	KPI Status	Explanation

1 - Increase the pool of highly qualified applicants to fill each judicial vacancy within the required 60- day period either prior to or following the occurrence of a vacancy in accordance with the agency's governing statute. (2 Measures)								
Percent of candidate panels for judicial vacancies presented within statutory time frames	Annually	100%	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	100%	Met
Percent of required background investigations on judicial vacancy applicants conducted and completed within statutory time frames	Annually	100%	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	100%	Met

We've revisited a project to standardize District wide measures for the Objective "Create and maintain a highly efficient, transparent and responsive District government." New measures will be tracked in FY18 and FY19 and published starting in the FY19 Performance Plan.

▼ 2017 Workload Measures

Measure	Freq	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	FY 2017
1 - Screen, select, and recommend candidates to the President of the United States for consideration in appointing judges to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals and Superior Court of the District of Columbia. (4 Measures)						
Number of Superior Court Judicial Vacancies	Annually	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	6
Number of Court of Appeals Judicial Vacancies	Annually	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	1
Number of Superior Court Chief Judge Designations	Annually	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	0
Number of Court of Appeals Chief Judge Designations	Annually	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	Annual Measure	1

▼ 2017 Strategic Initiatives

Title	Description	Complete to Date	Status Update	Explanation
(empty) (1 Strategic Initiative)				
Continue to expand outreach, and continue efforts to automate the application submission and review process, while keeping applicant data secure.	The expected outcomes include, but are not limited to, streamlining the application process, increasing the number of highly qualified applicants with diverse backgrounds, and improving the quality of information received by the JNC to enable the JNC members to review applications and related background investigation results in a more efficient manner. This projected launch of an online application submission process is Third Quarter FY2017. Outreach activities are ongoing.	Complete	JNC held 18 'open conference calls,' providing prospective judicial applicants the opportunity, at their convenience, to learn about the application process and ask any questions. In addition, JNC worked with the Courts, institutional litigants, the DC Bar, and various voluntary bar associations to present 10 separate panels for interested attorneys on the DC judicial nomination process, with tips for applying and strengthening applications.	