

Selection Criteria for the Jefferson County Judicial Commission

Selection Criteria. Judicial selection criteria shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- (i) **Experience.** A candidate for judicial office should be a member of the Bar of the highest court of a state for at least 5 years for the circuit court and 3 years for the district court. The candidate must have resided in the district or circuit for at least 12 months preceding election or appointment, and must continue to reside in the district or circuit during continuance in office. The candidate may have experience in the practice or teaching of law, public interest law, or service in the judicial system. No one may be appointed after reaching the age of 70.
- (ii) **Integrity.** The candidate should be of high moral character and enjoy a general reputation in the community for honesty, industry and diligence.
- (iii) **Professional Competence.** Professional competence includes intellectual capacity, professional and personal judgment, writing and analytical ability, knowledge of the law and breadth of professional experience, including courtroom and trial experience..
- (iv) **Judicial Temperament.** Judicial temperament includes a commitment to equal justice under law, freedom from bias, ability to decide issues according to law, courtesy and civility, open-mindedness and compassion.
- (v) **Service to the Law and Contribution to the Effective Administration of Justice.** Service to the law and contribution to the effective administration of justice includes professionalism and a commitment to improving the availability of providing justice to all those within the jurisdiction.