



Judicial Nomination Committee JNC (RL)

MISSION

The Mission of the Judicial Nomination Commission is to promote justice by recruiting, screening, selecting and recommending candidates to the President of the United States for nomination to judicial vacancies on the District of Columbia Superior Court and the Court of Appeals, and to appoint the chief judges to those courts.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

- Notify bench, bar and public of upcoming judicial vacancies.
- Recruit, screen, select and recommend candidates to the President of the United States for nomination to judicial vacancies on the D.C. Superior Court and the D.C. Court of Appeals.
- Appoint the chief judges to the D.C. Superior Court and the D.C. Court of Appeals.

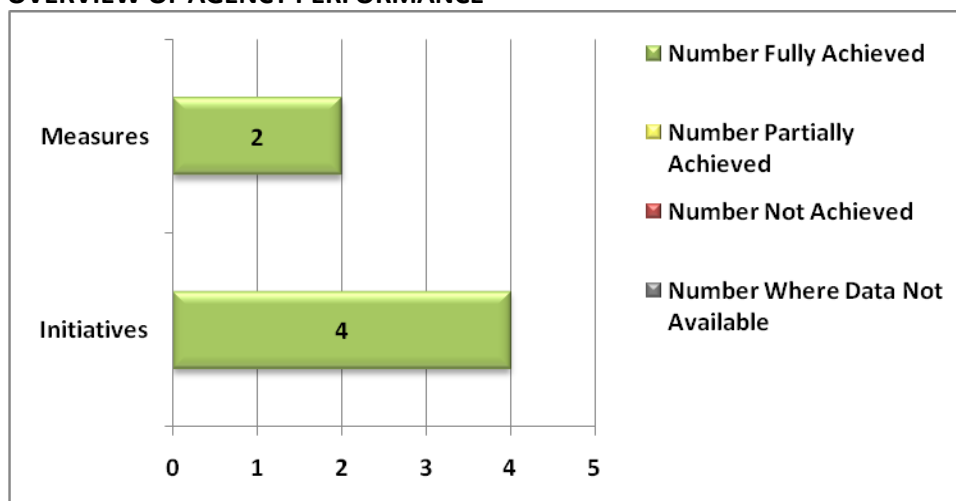
AGENCY OBJECTIVES

1. Solicit highly qualified applicants to fill judicial vacancies within the required 60- day period either prior to or following the occurrence of a vacancy as indicated by the agency's statute.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ The JNC advertised vacancies, processed applications for the vacancy, conducted required investigations, screened, selected, and recommended to the President of the United States three candidates to fill the vacancy on the D.C. Superior Court created by the retirement of the Honorable Linda D. Turner, the Honorable Rafael Diaz and the Honorable Jerry S. Byrd.
- ✓ The JNC redesignated The Honorable Eric T. Washington as Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals for a second four-year term.
- ✓ The JNC maintained an electronic component of the application process for judicial vacancies to encourage a higher number of applicants and to make the application process more efficient.

OVERVIEW OF AGENCY PERFORMANCE



Performance Initiatives – Assessment Details

Performance Assessment Key:

-  Fully achieved  Partially achieved  Not achieved  Data not reported

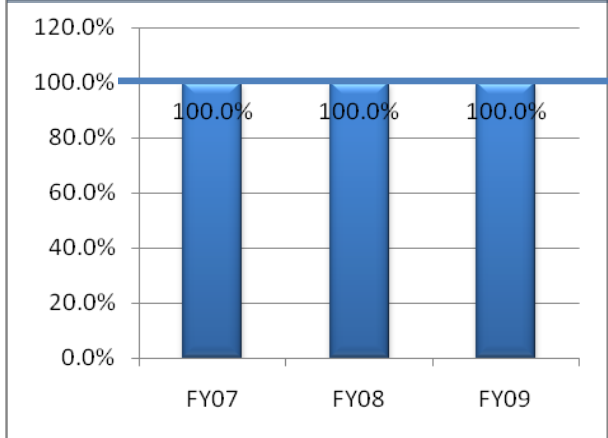
OBJECTIVE 1: SOLICIT HIGHLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS TO FILL JUDICIAL VACANCIES WITHIN THE REQUIRED 60- DAY PERIOD EITHER PRIOR TO OR FOLLOWING THE OCCURRENCE OF A VACANCY AS INDICATED BY THE AGENCY’S STATUTE.

- **INITIATIVE 1.1: Revise judicial application materials, process, and procedures.**
This initiative has been consistently improved over the past year and has greatly improved the availability of very important application materials that continue to be easily accessible through the website. These improvements have enabled the Commission members to receive all applications and related information in a timely manner in order to meet critical deadlines.
- **INITIATIVE 1.2: Create an electronic tracking system to control the flow of responses and provide the ability to gather insightful statistics for future reference.**
The management of the Commission has been greatly improved through the cooperation and electronic components available within these agencies. Most agencies used by the Commission to generate the background investigative information on applicants are now operating on an automated electronic system. This has reduced greatly the time it takes to receive paper responses.
- **INITIATIVE 1.3: Establish procedures for soliciting and reviewing public comment regarding fitness of applicants for judicial office.**
As a result of this initiative, the Commission has improved and updated all electronic application forms on its website. A thorough review of all electronic forms indicated revisions were necessary in order to improve on the information provided by applicants. This initiative has proved to be effective and the Commission is receiving public comments that are more thorough and complete on applicants’ qualification for judicial vacancies.
- **INITIATIVE 1.4: Perform outreach efforts to improve the diversity of judicial applicants.**
 1. This initiative continues to be effective in that the Commission continues to seek all kinds of lawyers to fill judicial vacancies. In an effort to encourage lawyers in small and large firms to apply for judgeships, the Commission has reached out to some of the more diverse and talented legal communities, and is seeking ways in which the Bars, the Washington Lawyer publication, and other publications to help the Commission reach out to these legal communities.
 2. As a result of this initiative, the Commission has begun to experience a higher number of applications from diverse legal communities applying for vacancies.



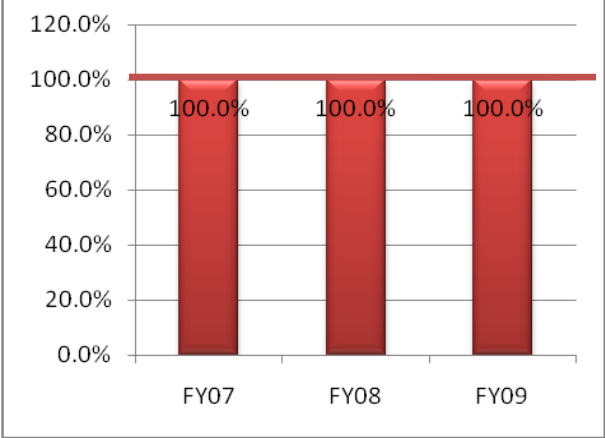
Key Performance Indicators – Highlights

From Objective 1: % of candidate panels for judicial vacancies presented within 60 days



FULLY ACHIEVED

From Objective 1: % of required background investigations conducted and completed on judicial vacancy applicants



FULLY ACHIEVED

More About These Indicators:

How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- The agency's creation of a website ensured that complete, accurate, current and timely information was available to the public, including information about judicial vacancies and the application.
- The agency's initiation of an electronic component of the application process made the application process easier for applicants and more manageable for the JNC.

What external factors influenced this indicator?

- Because of the large number of judges retiring in FY09, the electronic application and the website were critical to the JNC's being able to (a) efficiently and effectively advertise judicial vacancies, process applications, conduct required investigations and screen, select and recommend to the President of the United States candidates to fill the vacancies and (b) redesignate the Chief Judge of the D.C. Court of Appeals.

How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- The agency's initiation of an electronic component of the application process made it possible for required background investigations to be conducted and completed relatively quickly and in a more efficient manner.

What external factors influenced this indicator?



- Because of the large number of judges retiring in FY09, the electronic application and the website were critical to the JNC's being able to (a) efficiently and effectively advertise judicial vacancies, process applications, conduct required investigations and screen, select and recommend to the President of the United States candidates to fill the vacancies and (b) redesignate the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.



Key Performance Indicators – Details

Performance Assessment Key:

 Fully achieved  Partially achieved  Not achieved  Data not reported

| | Measure Name | FY2008 YE Actual | FY2009 YE Target | FY2009 YE Actual | FY2009 YE Rating | Budget Program |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|  | 1.1 % of candidate panels for judicial vacancies presented within 60 days | 100 | 100 | 100% | 100% | JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION |
|  | 1.2 % of required background investigations conducted and completed on judicial vacancy applicants | 100 | 100 | 100% | 100% | JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION |