NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

March 16, 2022

Chief Justice Kate M. Fox 307-777-7573

JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION ANNOUNCES VACANCY IN DISTRICT COURT, SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT (NATRONA COUNTY)

Wyoming Supreme Court Chief Justice Kate M. Fox, who acts as Chairman of the Judicial Nominating Commission, announced today a vacancy for a District Court Judge in the Seventh Judicial District (Natrona County). The fourth District Court Judge was authorized and funded by the 2022 legislature and signed into law by Governor Mark Gordon March 15, 2022. The position will be filled **July 18, 2022**.

The Judicial Nominating Commission will accept expressions of interest from qualified persons to fill the vacancy through Wednesday, April 13, 2022. The expression of interest form can be obtained from the Supreme Court's website, <u>http://www.courts.state.wy.us/Administration/Careers</u>. The completed form *must be received* in the office of Chief Justice Fox no later than **5:00 p.m., on Wednesday, April 13, 2022**. Please do not submit letters of recommendation, as the Commission will not consider them, but will instead only review documents specifically required by the expression of interest.

Governor Gordon will appoint the Seventh Judicial District Court Judge (Natrona County) from a list of three names submitted to him by the Judicial Nominating Commission. Serving on the Judicial Nominating Commission are Chief Justice Fox, three lawyers elected by the Wyoming State Bar: Anna Reeves Olson of Casper, Katherine Strike of Lander, and Devon O'Connell of Laramie; and three non-lawyers appointed by the Governor: Gudrid Espenscheid of Big Piney, Paul Scherbel of Afton, and Dan Kirkbride of Chugwater.

The salary for the District Court judge position is \$160,000.00 per year, with State insurance benefits, Wyoming Retirement 457 plan <u>https://retirement.wyo.gov/en/DC</u>, and a generous judicial pension. Wyo. Stat. § 5-1-106.

TO SERVE AS A DISTRICT COURT JUDGE, ONE MUST BE A QUALIFIED ELECTOR OF THE STATE, AND AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE LAW IN WYOMING.