

2-6  
Prescribed by Secretary of State  
Sections 141.031, 141.0311, 141.039, 172.021, 172.022, 172.023, 172.024, Texas Election Code  
09/2023

**JUDICIAL CANDIDATE APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE GENERAL PRIMARY BALLOT**  
**JUDICIAL APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE** (Democratic or Republican) **PARTY GENERAL PRIMARY BALLOT**  
ALL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED UNLESS INDICATED AS OPTIONAL: Failure to provide required information may result in rejection of application.

To: State/County Chair  
 I request that my name be placed on the above-named official primary ballot as a candidate for nomination to the office indicated below.

**OFFICE SOUGHT** (Include any place number or other distinguishing number, if any.) **INDICATE TERM**  FULL  UNEXPIRED **INCUMBENT DECLARATION:** (Check this box if you are the incumbent.)  INCUMBENT  NON-INCUMBENT

**FULL NAME** (First, Middle, Last) **PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT\***

**PERMANENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS** (Do not include a P.O. Box or Rural Route. If you do not have a residence address, describe location of residence.) **PUBLIC MAILING ADDRESS (Optional)** (Address for which you receive campaign related correspondence, if available.) **STATE** **ZIP**

**CITY** **STATE** **ZIP** **CITY** **DATE OF BIRTH** **VOTER REGISTRATION VUID NUMBER:** (Optional)

**PUBLIC EMAIL ADDRESS (Optional)** (Address for which you receive campaign related emails, if available.) **OCCUPATION** (Do not leave blank)

**TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION (Optional)** (Optional) **Office:** **LENGTH OF CONTINUOUS RESIDENCE AS OF DATE THIS APPLICATION WAS SWORN** **IN TERRITORY/DISTRICT/PRECINCT FROM WHICH THE OFFICE SOUGHT IS ELECTED**

**FELONY CONVICTION STATUS (You must check one)** **Home:** **IN THE STATE OF TEXAS** **IN TERRITORY/DISTRICT/PRECINCT FROM WHICH THE OFFICE SOUGHT IS ELECTED**

I have not been finally convicted of a felony.  
 I have been finally convicted of a felony, but I have been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities of that felony conviction and I have provided proof of this fact with the submission of this application.  
 I have been finally convicted of a felony, but I have been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities of that felony conviction and I have provided proof of this fact with the submission of this application.

**Please provide State Bar of Texas Number and the bar number for any other state in which the candidate has been licensed to practice law. Indicate the state where licensed and that state's bar number. If there is not sufficient space below, please attach written documentation listing the required information. Please write the name of the state in the blank provided.**

State Bar of Texas Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bar Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of State: \_\_\_\_\_

**Disclosure of Public Sanction or Censure – State Commission on Judicial Conduct or Review Tribunal**  
 I have not been publicly sanctioned or censured, as those terms are defined by Section 33.001, Government Code, by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or by a review tribunal.  
 I have been publicly sanctioned or censured, as those terms are defined by Section 33.001, Government Code, by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or by a review tribunal.  
 I have been publicly sanctioned or censured by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or by a review tribunal, but the candidate has been issued a public sanction or censure. Please attach written documentation to this application describing the nature of the public sanction or censure.

**Disclosure of Public Disciplinary Sanction – State Bar of Texas or Entity in Another State Responsible for Attorney Discipline**  
 I have not had a public disciplinary sanction imposed on me by the State Bar of Texas or by an entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline in that state.  
 I have had a public disciplinary sanction imposed on me by the State Bar of Texas or by an entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline in that state.  
 I have had a public disciplinary sanction imposed on me by the State Bar of Texas or by an entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline in that state, but the candidate has been issued a public disciplinary sanction. Please attach written documentation to this application describing the nature of the public disciplinary sanction.

**Nature of Candidate's Legal Practice, Areas of Legal Specialization, and Professional Courtroom Experience**  
 If a public disciplinary sanction has been imposed on the candidate by the State Bar of Texas or by an entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline in that state, the candidate MUST disclose the nature of the public disciplinary sanction.  
 For the preceding five years, describe the nature of the candidate's legal practice including any areas of legal specialization. If none, the candidate must state that fact.

Please attach written documentation if there is not sufficient space on the lines above.  
 Application Continued on Next Page...

**FILED FILING FEE PAID BY:**  FILING FEE  Voter Registration Status Verified  
 Signature of Chair or Designee Receiving Filed Application  
 Signature of Chair or Designee Upon Determination of Application

# Reviewing Judicial Candidate Applications



# Topics Covered

- Resources
- Filing Deadlines
- Identifying the Correct Application
- Box-by-Box Review of a Judicial Application
- Judicial Petitions and Who Needs to File One



# Resources

- 2024 Candidate's Guide
  - Qualifications for Office
  - Filing in the Republican or Democratic 2024 primary
  - Filing in the Libertarian or Green Party 2024 Convention Process
  - Running as an independent candidate in 2024
  - Running as a write-in candidate in 2024
  - **NEW PAGE:** Running for a Judicial Office in 2024
  - Frequently Asked Questions on Candidacy and Party Affiliation



# Which Candidates Must Use the New Judicial Candidate Form?

- Chief justice or justice of the Supreme Court;
- Presiding judge or judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals;
- Chief justice or justice of a Court of Appeals;
- District judge, including criminal district judge;
  - Family district judge
- Judge of a statutory county court
  - County court-at-law judge, county criminal court judge, county probate court judge

[[HB 2384](#) added Sec. 141.0311]



# Filing Deadlines – Primary Candidates

- Candidates seeking the nomination of the Republican or Democratic Party must file:
  1. Primary Party Judicial Candidate Application
  2. Filing fee or petition in lieu of a filing fee
    - Some judicial candidates must also file additional petitions
- The application, filing fee, and any accompanying petitions must be filed between **November 11, 2023 and 6:00 p.m. on December 11, 2023**
  - Must be filed with the state party chair (state and district offices) or the county party chair (county and precinct offices)



# Filing Deadlines – Convention Candidates

- Candidates seeking the nomination of a Convention Party must file:
  1. Convention Party Judicial Candidate Application
  2. Filing fee or petition in lieu of a filing fee
- The application, filing fee, and any accompanying petitions must be filed between **November 11, 2023 and 6:00 p.m. on December 11, 2023**
  - The application must be filed with the state party chair (state and district offices) or the county party chair (county and precinct offices)
  - The filing fee or petition in lieu of filing fee must be filed with the Secretary of State (state and district offices) or county judge (county and precinct offices)



# Filing Deadlines – Independent and Write-in Candidates

- Independent Candidates
  - Candidates must file a Declaration of Intent to Run as an Independent Candidate between **November 11, 2023 and 6:00 p.m. on December 11, 2023.**
  - After the primary (or primary runoff, if applicable), candidates must file an Independent Judicial Candidate Application and accompanying documents along with a supporting nominating petition by **5:00 p.m. on June 27, 2024.**
- Write-In Candidates
  - Candidate must file the Write-In Judicial Candidate Application along with a filing fee or a petition in lieu of a filing fee between **July 20, 2024 and 5:00 p.m. on August 19, 2024.**



# Method of Filing

- Applications can be delivered in person or by mail.
  - If by mail: Must look at time of receipt, **NOT** postmark.
    - Receipt = actual possession of filing authority or agent, or time deposited in the authority's mail box.
  - Application cannot be submitted in parts. All parts must be submitted at the same time.
    - If a candidate submits a filing fee along with an application, it **MAY NOT** be submitted via email or fax.
    - If a candidate submits a petition in lieu of a filing fee along with an application, those may be submitted together via email or fax.





# Candidate Applications

- Judicial Candidate Application for a Place on Primary Ballot (Form 2-6)
  - Petition in Lieu of a Filing Fee and/or Petition For Judicial Office For a Primary Election (Form 2-7)
  - Petition for a Statewide Judicial Office in a Primary Election (Form 2-8)
- Judicial Candidate Application for Nomination by Convention (Form 2-15)
- Application for a Place on General Election Ballot for Independent Judicial Candidate (Form 2-34)
- Declaration of Judicial Write-In Candidacy for General Election For State and County Officers (Form 2-24)
- Applications and more can be found at:  
<https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/forms/pol-sub/index.shtml>



# Using the Correct Application Forms

- Judicial candidates **MUST** submit a judicial candidate application.
  - Submitting the wrong application is grounds for rejecting an application.
- Forms can be accessed on the following pages:
  - Forms Manual
  - 2024 Candidate's Guide
- If you are having trouble accessing the new forms, clear your cache on your web browser.
- How to determine if it's the correct form...



2-6 Prescribed by Secretary of State Sections 141.031, 141.0311, 141.039, 172.021, 172.022, 172.023, 172.024, Texas Election Code 09/2023

For the preceding five years

## JUDICIAL CANDIDATE APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE GENERAL PRIMARY BALLOT

ALL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED UNLESS INDICATED AS OPTIONAL! Failure to provide required information may result in rejection of application.

### JUDICIAL APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE PARTY GENERAL PRIMARY BALLOT

To: State/County Chair  
I request that my name be placed on the above-named official primary ballot for nomination to the office indicated below.

OFFICE SOUGHT (Include any place number or other distinguishing number, if any.)

FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last)

PERMANENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Do not include a P.O. Box or Rural Route. If you do not have a residence address, describe location of residence.)

CITY STATE ZIP CITY

PUBLIC MAILING ADDRESS (Optional) (Address for which you receive campaign related correspondence, if available.)

CITY STATE ZIP

PUBLIC EMAIL ADDRESS (Optional) (Address for which you receive campaign related emails, if available.)

OCCUPATION (Do not leave blank)

DATE OF BIRTH / /

VOTER REGISTRATION VOID NUMBER (Optional)

TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION (Optional)

Home: Office: Cell:

FELONY CONVICTION STATUS (You MUST check one)

I have not been finally convicted of a felony.  
 I have been finally convicted of a felony, but I have been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities of that felony conviction and have provided proof of this fact with the submission of this application.

Please provide State Bar of Texas Number and the State Bar number for any other state in which the candidate has been licensed to practice law. Indicate the state where licensed and that state's bar number. If there is not sufficient space below, please attach written documentation listing the required information. Please write the name of the state in the blank provided.

Name of State: \_\_\_\_\_ Bar Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of State: \_\_\_\_\_ Bar Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Disclosure of Public Sanction or Censure - State Commission on Judicial Conduct or Review Tribunal**

I have not been publicly sanctioned or censured, as those terms are defined by Section 33.001, Government Code, by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or by a review tribunal.  
 I have been publicly sanctioned or censured, as those terms are defined by Section 33.001, Government Code, by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or by a review tribunal. If the candidate has been issued a public sanction or censure by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or by a review tribunal, candidate MUST disclose the nature of the public sanction or censure. Please attach written documentation to this application describing the nature of the public sanction or censure.

**Disclosure of Public Disciplinary Sanction - State Bar of Texas or Entity in Another State Responsible for Attorney Discipline**

I have not had a public disciplinary sanction imposed on me by the State Bar of Texas or by an entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline in that state.  
 I have had a public disciplinary sanction imposed on me by the State Bar of Texas or by an entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline in that state. If a public disciplinary sanction has been imposed on the candidate by the State Bar of Texas or by an entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline in that state, the candidate MUST disclose the nature of the public disciplinary sanction. Please attach written documentation to this application describing the nature of the public disciplinary sanction.

**Nature of Candidate's Legal Practice, Areas of Legal Specialization, and Professional Courtroom Experience**

For the preceding five years, describe the nature of the candidate's legal practice including any areas of legal specialization. If none, the candidate must state that fact.

Please attach written documentation if there is not sufficient space on the lines above.

Application Continued on Next Page...

- Things to Look for:
  - 9/2023 Revision Date
  - Bar Number Boxes
  - TWO pages!
- Other Changes
  - Disclosure of Public Sanction or Censure
  - Disclosure of Public Disciplinary Sanction
  - Nature of Candidate's Legal Practice



# Review of Application

- **Form, Content and Procedure**
  - Was the candidate application submitted timely?
  - Was it filled out properly?
- **Eligibility**
  - On the face of the application, does the candidate meet the eligibility requirements associated with that office?



# Review of Candidate Application

- **Form, Content, and Procedure**

- Review must be completed no later than 5th day after application is received (unless there is a petition).
- Accepting application does not preclude a later determination that there is a deficiency in the application.
- If rejecting, must do so **immediately** and deliver to candidate a **written notice of rejection**.
- Cannot challenge after the 50th day before election day
  - January 16, 2024 – Primary Election
  - September 16, 2024 – General Election (Independents and write-in candidates only)



# Review of Candidate Petition (if Applicable)

- **Review of Petition (141.032, TEC)**
  - Petition is part of application and review should be completed as soon as practicable.
  - Deficiency in petition cannot be cured with information provided in application.
  - **Unless the petition is challenged, the authority is only required to review the petition for facial compliance with the applicable requirements as to form, content, and procedure.**



# Candidate Eligibility

\*The new judicial application requirements do NOT apply to a candidate for County Judge

Public Office Sought	U.S. Citizen	Texas Resident	District Resident	Registered to Vote in Area of Office Sought	Minimum Age	Practicing Lawyer or Judge
Chief Justice & Justice, Supreme Court	Yes	12 mo. <sup>c</sup>	-	Yes <sup>c</sup>	35 <sup>b</sup>	10 yrs. <sup>b,i,j</sup>
Presiding Judge and Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals	Yes	12 mo. <sup>c</sup>	-	Yes <sup>c</sup>	35 <sup>b</sup>	10 yrs. <sup>b,i,j</sup>
Chief Justice and Justice, Court of Appeals	Yes	12 mo. <sup>c</sup>	6 mo. <sup>c</sup>	Yes <sup>c</sup>	35 <sup>b</sup>	10 yrs. <sup>b,i,j</sup>
District Judge	Yes	2 yrs. <sup>b</sup>	2 yrs. <sup>b</sup>	Yes <sup>c</sup>	25 <sup>b</sup>	8 yrs. <sup>b&amp;j</sup>
Criminal District Judge	Yes	2 yrs. <sup>b</sup>	2 yrs. <sup>b</sup>	Yes <sup>c</sup>	25 <sup>b</sup>	8 yrs. <sup>b&amp;j</sup>
Family District Judge	Yes	2 yrs. <sup>b</sup>	2 yrs. <sup>b</sup>	Yes <sup>c</sup>	25 <sup>b</sup>	8 yrs. <sup>b&amp;j</sup>
County Judge	Yes	12 mo. <sup>c</sup>	6 mo. <sup>c</sup>	Yes <sup>c</sup>	18 <sup>h</sup>	Not req'd
Judge, County Court-at-Law <sup>e</sup>	Yes	2 yrs. <sup>e</sup>	6 mo. <sup>c, e</sup>	Yes <sup>c</sup>	25 <sup>e</sup>	4 yrs. <sup>e</sup>
Judge, County Criminal Court <sup>e</sup>	Yes	2 yrs. <sup>e</sup>	6 mo. <sup>c, e</sup>	Yes <sup>c</sup>	25 <sup>e</sup>	4 yrs. <sup>e</sup>
Judge, County Probate Court <sup>e</sup>	Yes	2 yrs. <sup>e</sup>	6 mo. <sup>c, e</sup>	Yes <sup>c</sup>	25 <sup>e</sup>	4 yrs. <sup>e</sup>

\*

# Administrative Declaration of Ineligibility

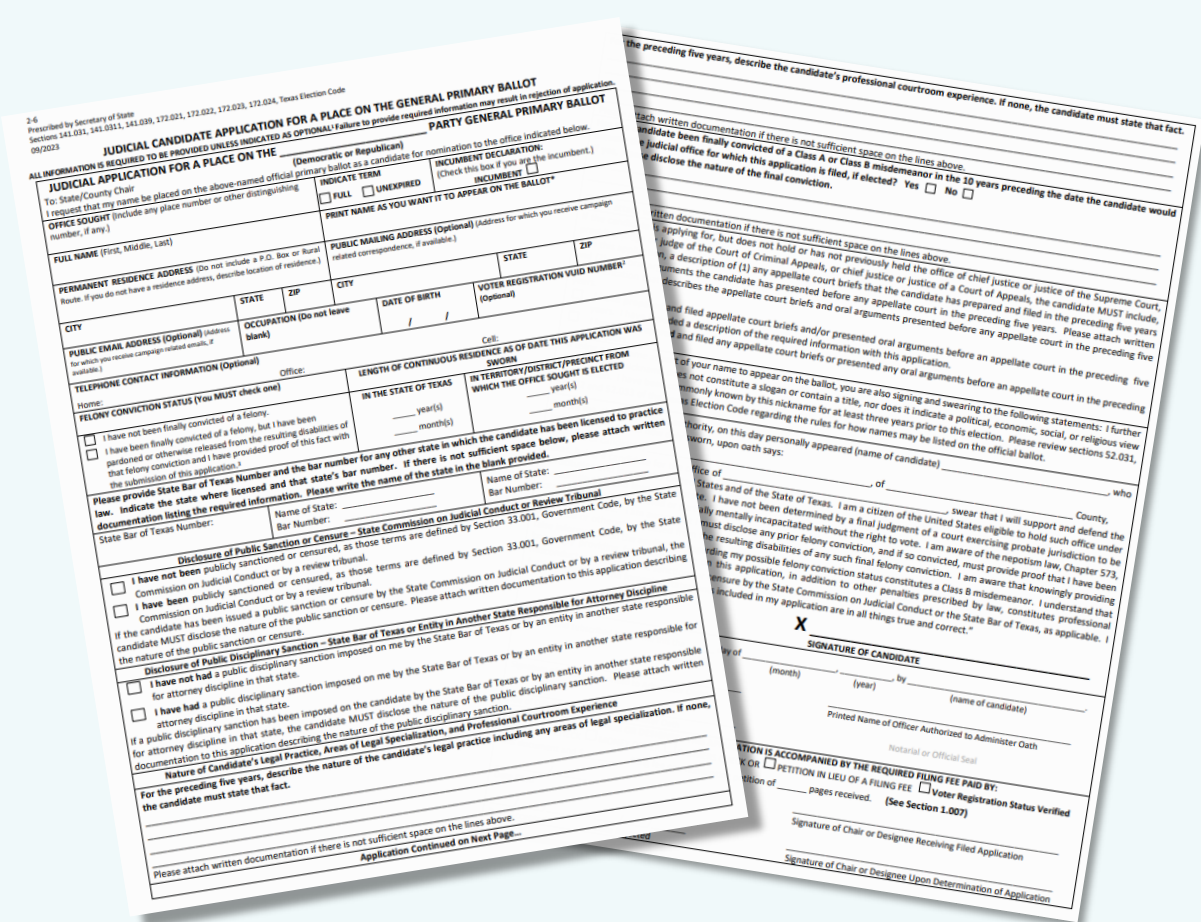
- **Eligibility**

- MAY administratively declare candidate ineligible if:
  - Information on candidate application indicates ineligible for office, OR
  - Conclusive public record shows ineligible.

**NOTE:** There is NO public record that conclusively establishes residency.







# JUDICIAL CANDIDATE APPLICATION



2-6  
 Prescribed by Secretary of State  
 Sections 141.031, 141.0311, 141.039, 172.021, 172.022, 172.023, 172.024, Texas Election Code  
 09/2023

**JUDICIAL CANDIDATE APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE GENERAL PRIMARY BALLOT**

**ALL INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED UNLESS INDICATED AS OPTIONAL<sup>1</sup> Failure to provide required information may result in rejection of application.**

<b>JUDICIAL APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE _____ <b>Box 1</b> _____ PARTY GENERAL PRIMARY BALLOT</b>		
To: State/County Chair _____ (Democratic or Republican)		
I request that my name be placed on the above-named official primary ballot as a candidate for nomination to the office indicated below.		
<b>OFFICE SOUGHT</b> (Include any place number or other distinguishing number, if any.) <b>Box 2</b>	<b>INDICATE TERM</b> <b>Box 3</b> <input type="checkbox"/> FULL <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPIRED	<b>INCUMBENT DECLARATION:</b> (Check this box if you are the incumbent) INCUMBENT <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Box 4</b>

**Box 1:** If left blank, not necessarily fatal.

**Box 2:** If left blank, not necessarily fatal (look at the oath).

- Should include distinguishing number, if applicable. Does not have to be stylized any certain way as long as you can determine which office the candidate is applying for.

**Box 3:** Must be completed if there is another office that has the same title but does not have place numbers. If it is blank, but you understand which office the application is for, you can accept.

**Box 4:** If left blank, not necessarily fatal. Needed for TEAM entry.



<p>FULL NAME (First, Middle, Last) <b>Box 5</b></p>	<p>PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT* <b>Box 6</b></p>
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- **Box 5: Full Name**
  - Legal name, but does not have to exactly match legal documents (including State Bar of Texas law license)
    - EX: John Michael Smith, John M. Smith, John Smith
- **Box 6: Name as you want it to appear on ballot**
  - Nickname rules apply.
  - Candidate may use any surname acquired by law or marriage.
  - Titles are prohibited, but not grounds for rejection.



<b>PERMANENT RESIDENCE ADDRESS</b> (Do not include a P.O. Box or Rural Route. If you do not have a residence address, describe location of residence.)			<b>PUBLIC MAILING ADDRESS (Optional)</b> (Address for which you receive campaign related correspondence, if available.)		
<b>Box 7</b>			<b>Box 8</b>		
CITY	STATE	ZIP	CITY	STATE	ZIP

- **Box 7: Permanent Residence Address**

- MUST be completed by all candidates
- Even candidates subject to confidentiality (judges and peace officers) must complete this box.
  - Certain candidates can request confidentiality
    - Candidates entitled to confidentiality under Gov’t Code 552.1175 must *separately* request confidentiality from the filing authority for information on a candidate application

- **Box 8: Public Mailing Address, if Available.**



# Eligibility

- **Residency**

- Is the candidate a resident of the territory they would be elected from? (If applicable)
- Is the address on their application located within the territory?
- Have they resided in the territory the proper amount of time? (If there is a durational residence requirement)

**NOTE:** Eligibility verification by the filing authority does NOT include whether the candidates actually live at the address provided. This is left up to the courts.

**NOTE:** Texas law does not allow a filing authority to make a conclusive determination about the location of a person's residence. Only a court of law may make such a determination.



<b>PUBLIC EMAIL ADDRESS (Optional)</b> (Address for which you receive campaign related emails, if available.) <b>Box 9</b>	<b>OCCUPATION (Do not leave blank)</b> <b>Box 10</b>	<b>DATE OF BIRTH</b> <b>Box 11</b>	<b>VOTER REGISTRATION VUID NUMBER<sup>2</sup> (Optional)</b> <b>Box 12</b>
<b>TELEPHONE CONTACT INFORMATION (Optional)</b> Home: <b>Box 13</b> Office:                      Cell:			

- **Box 9: Public Email Address, if available**
  - This is what they should use to receive campaign email. Public address does NOT mean the candidate’s county or government email address as a public official.
- **Box 10: Occupation**
  - Required per Section 141.031, Texas Election Code. However, please review [In re Anthony](#), 642 S.W.3d 588 (Tex. 2022).
- **Box 11: Date of Birth**
  - Used to validate that the candidate meets minimum age requirements.
- **Box 12: VR Number (VUID)**
  - Not required, but very helpful as it can help you to validate their VR status, if applicable.
  - Also puts the candidate on notice that they need to think about their current VR status.
- **Box 13: Contact information**
  - Optional, but helpful to you if you need to contact a candidate.



# Eligibility

- Voter Registration
  - Is the candidate a registered voter of the territory from which they are seeking office? Is the candidate’s registration effective?
    - by the date of the filing deadline (for place on the ballot) OR
    - election day (for write-in)
  - A candidate’s registration must be **EFFECTIVE**. It is not enough to have submitted a registration application.
- Status as Registered Voter
  - As Candidate (141.001(6), TEC)
  - As Officeholder (601.009, Government Code)
    - “A person may not qualify for a public elective office unless the person is a registered voter.”
  - Inconsistency in the Law



<b>FELONY CONVICTION STATUS (You MUST check one)</b>		<b>Box 14</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have not been finally convicted of a felony.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have been finally convicted of a felony, but I have been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities of that felony conviction and I have provided proof of this fact with the submission of this application. <sup>3</sup>	

- **Box 14: Felony Conviction Status**

- Must be completed!
- If they mark the second box, the candidate must provide documentation to provide proof that they have been pardoned or released from the resulting disabilities.
- See back of form for list of acceptable documents. Call SOS with questions!





# Eligibility

- **Felony Conviction**

- Does the candidate have a final felony conviction? If so, have they been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities? (NOTE: Not all offices prohibit felony convictions.)
- OAG Opinion – [KP-0251](#) – Felony Convictions and Candidacy



LENGTH OF CONTINUOUS RESIDENCE AS OF DATE THIS APPLICATION WAS SWORN	
<b>IN THE STATE OF TEXAS</b>  _____ year(s) _____ month(s)	<b>IN TERRITORY/DISTRICT/PRECINCT FROM WHICH THE OFFICE SOUGHT IS ELECTED</b>  <b>Box 15</b> _____ year(s) _____ month(s)

- Box 15: Length of Continuous Residence**
  - Must be completed.
  - Must indicate how long they have lived in the territory for which they are seeking office.
  - Check Qualifications for Public Office chart if you have questions on requirements.



# Eligibility

- **Length of Continuous Residence**

- Has the candidate been a resident of the territory elected from for the required period of time?
  - **Primary Candidate:** the date of the regular filing deadline for a candidate's application for a place on the primary ballot (December 11, 2023)
  - **Party Nominating by Convention:** the date the nomination is made
  - **Independent:** the date of the regular filing deadline for a candidate's application for a place on the ballot (June 27, 2024)
  - **Write-in:** the date of the election at which the candidate's name is written in (November 5, 2024)

[Sec. 141.001(a)(5)]



<p>Please provide State Bar of Texas Number and the bar number for any other state in which the candidate has been licensed to practice law. Indicate the state where licensed and that state's bar number. If there is not sufficient space below, please attach written documentation listing the required information. Please write the name of the state in the blank provided.</p>		
State Bar of Texas Number: <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold;">Box 16</p>	Name of State: _____ Bar Number: _____	Name of State: _____ Bar Number: _____

- **Box 16: Bar Number**
  - MUST be completed by all judicial candidates
  - Must list the candidate's State Bar of Texas number and the bar number for any other state in which the candidate has been licensed to practice law
    - Even if the candidate is "inactive" in the other state, they must provide the bar number
    - The filing authority *may* verify a candidate's Texas licensure using the State Bar's [Find a Lawyer](#)
      - Information on the State Bar's website is NOT a conclusive public record. The filing authority must contact the State Bar for that type of documentation.
  - If the candidate is licensed in several states, they can attach written documentation with the complete list of states and their bar numbers.



**Disclosure of Public Sanction or Censure – State Commission on Judicial Conduct or Review Tribunal**

- I have not been** publicly sanctioned or censured, as those terms are defined by Section 33.001, Government Code, by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or by a review tribunal. **Box 17**
- I have been** publicly sanctioned or censured, as those terms are defined by Section 33.001, Government Code, by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or by a review tribunal.

If the candidate has been issued a public sanction or censure by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or by a review tribunal, the candidate **MUST** disclose the nature of the public sanction or censure. Please attach written documentation to this application describing the nature of the public sanction or censure.

- **Box 17: Disclosure of Public Sanction or Censure**
  - MUST be completed by all judicial candidates!
    - Failure to mark a box would result in an application being rejected for Form, Content, and Procedure.
  - If the candidate marks the second box, the candidate must disclose the nature of the public sanction or censure.
    - Having a public sanction or censure does NOT disqualify a candidate. However, the candidate must disclose the sanction or censure.



**Disclosure of Public Disciplinary Sanction – State Bar of Texas or Entity in Another State Responsible for Attorney Discipline**

- I have not had** a public disciplinary sanction imposed on me by the State Bar of Texas or by an entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline in that state.
- I have had** a public disciplinary sanction imposed on me by the State Bar of Texas or by an entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline in that state.

**Box 18**

If a public disciplinary sanction has been imposed on the candidate by the State Bar of Texas or by an entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline in that state, the candidate **MUST** disclose the nature of the public disciplinary sanction. Please attach written documentation to this application describing the nature of the public disciplinary sanction.

- **Box 18: Disclosure of Public Disciplinary Sanction**
  - MUST be completed by all judicial candidates!
    - Failure to mark a box would result in an application being rejected for Form, Content, and Procedure.
  - If the candidate marks the second box, the candidate must disclose the nature of the public disciplinary sanction.
    - Having a public disciplinary sanction does NOT disqualify a candidate. However, the candidate must disclose the sanction.



<p><b>Nature of Candidate’s Legal Practice, Areas of Legal Specialization, and Professional Courtroom Experience</b></p> <p><b>For the preceding five years, describe the nature of the candidate’s legal practice including any areas of legal specialization. If none, the candidate must state that fact.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Box 19</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <p>Please attach written documentation if there is not sufficient space on the lines above.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Application Continued on Next Page...</p>
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- **Box 19: Candidate’s Legal Practice, Areas of Legal Specialization, and Professional Courtroom Experience**
  - MUST be completed by all judicial candidates!
    - A candidate can put “N/A” or “none” but cannot leave this section blank.
    - Failure to write anything in Box 19 would result in an application being rejected for Form, Content, and Procedure.
    - If the candidate needs more room, they can attach additional documentation.
  - The filing authority does NOT need to verify the candidate’s legal practice or areas of specialization.
    - Failure to list all types of legal practice or all areas of specialization is NOT grounds for rejecting the application.



For the preceding five years, describe the candidate's professional courtroom experience. If none, the candidate must state that fact.

**Box 20**

Please attach written documentation if there is not sufficient space on the lines above.

- **Box 20: Candidate's Legal Practice, Areas of Legal Specialization, and Professional Courtroom Experience**
  - MUST be completed by all judicial candidates!
    - A candidate can put "N/A" or "none" but cannot leave this section blank.
    - Failure to write anything in Box 20 would result in an application being rejected for Form, Content, and Procedure.
    - If the candidate needs more room, they can attach additional documentation.
  - The filing authority does NOT need to verify the candidate's courtroom experience.
    - Failure to list all courtroom experience is NOT grounds for rejecting the application.





Has the candidate been finally convicted of a Class A or Class B misdemeanor in the 10 years preceding the date the candidate would assume the judicial office for which this application is filed, if elected? Yes  No

If yes, please disclose the nature of the final conviction.

**Box 21**

Please attach written documentation if there is not sufficient space on the lines above.

- **Box 21: Class A or Class B Misdemeanor Conviction Status**
  - MUST be completed by all judicial candidates!
    - Failure to mark a box would result in an application being rejected for Form, Content, and Procedure.
  - If the candidate marks the “Yes” box, the candidate must disclose the nature of the final conviction.
    - Having a Class A or Class B misdemeanor conviction does NOT disqualify a candidate. However, the candidate must disclose the conviction.
    - If a candidate fails to disclose a Class A or Class B misdemeanor conviction, it is not grounds for declaring them ineligible but it can be reported to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or the State Bar of Texas.



If the candidate is applying for, but does not hold or has not previously held the office of chief justice or justice of the Supreme Court, presiding judge or judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals, or chief justice or justice of a Court of Appeals, the candidate **MUST** include, with this application, a description of (1) any appellate court briefs that the candidate has prepared and filed in the preceding five years and (2) any oral arguments the candidate has presented before any appellate court in the preceding five years. Please attach written documentation that describes the appellate court briefs and oral arguments presented before any appellate court in the preceding five years. **Box 22**

- I have prepared** and filed appellate court briefs and/or presented oral arguments before an appellate court in the preceding five years. I have included a description of the required information with this application.
- I have not prepared** and filed any appellate court briefs or presented any oral arguments before an appellate court in the preceding five years.

- **Box 22: Appellate Briefs and Oral Arguments**

- Only needs to be completed by candidates who do not hold or previously held office in the **Supreme Court of Texas, the Court of Criminal Appeals, or a Court of Appeals**.
  - If a candidate does NOT hold or has NOT held one of the above offices, the candidate **MUST** check a box.
    - Failure to mark a box would result in an application being rejected for Form, Content, and Procedure.
    - Checking the second box does NOT make the candidate ineligible and is NOT grounds for rejecting an application.
- Candidates running for **District Judge or Statutory County Court**: Not required to complete this section. Failure to check a box is NOT grounds for rejection.



Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared (name of candidate) _____, who being by me here and now duly sworn, upon oath says: "I, (name of candidate) _____, of _____ County, Texas, being a candidate for the office of _____, swear that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of the State of Texas. I am a citizen of the United States eligible to hold such office under the constitution and laws of this state. I have not been determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be totally mentally incapacitated or partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote. I am aware of the nepotism law, Chapter 573, Government Code. I am aware that I must disclose any prior felony conviction, and if so convicted, must provide proof that I have been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disabilities of any such final felony conviction. I am aware that knowingly providing false information on the application regarding my possible felony conviction status constitutes a Class B misdemeanor. I understand that knowingly providing false information on this application, in addition to other penalties prescribed by law, constitutes professional misconduct subject to public sanctions or censure by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or the State Bar of Texas, as applicable. I further swear that the foregoing statements included in my application are in all things true and correct."	
<b>Box 23</b>	
X _____ SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE	
Sworn to and subscribed before me this the _____ day of _____, _____, by _____. (day) (month) (year) (name of candidate)	
_____ Signature of Officer Authorized to Administer Oath <sup>4</sup>	_____ Printed Name of Officer Authorized to Administer Oath
_____ Title of Officer Authorized to Administer Oath	Notarial or Official Seal

• **Box 23: Oath and Notary**

- Must be completed and signed and sworn to by candidate.
  - **NEW LAW for Judicial Candidates:** Knowingly providing false information on the application constitutes professional misconduct subject to public sanctions or censure by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct or the State Bar of Texas.
- If the candidate leaves blanks in statement of oath, it is not fatal if the application (Not Petition) contains the applicable information.
- Mistakes by the notary are not always fatal. Please call SOS for additional guidance if that happens.



# Eligibility

- **Oath and Notary**
  - **Was the oath properly administered and notarized?**
    - The oath must be administered by a notary public or any other person authorized to administer an oath under Chapter 602 of the Texas Government Code.
    - Party chairs cannot administer an oath unless they are a notary or otherwise authorized under Chapter 602 of the Texas Government Code.



**TO BE COMPLETED BY CHAIR OR DESIGNEE: THIS APPLICATION IS ACCOMPANIED BY THE REQUIRED FILING FEE PAID BY:**  
 CASH  CHECK  MONEY ORDER  CASHIERS CHECK OR  PETITION IN LIEU OF A FILING FEE  Voter Registration Status Verified

This document and \$\_\_\_\_\_ filing fee or a nominating petition of \_\_\_\_\_ pages received. (See Section 1.007)

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Date Filed

\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
 Date Accepted Date Rejected

**Box 24**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Chair or Designee Receiving Filed Application

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Chair or Designee Upon Determination of Application

• **Box 24: Completed by Filing Authority or Designee Who Received Application**

- Failure to complete this box is not fatal to an application!
- Part of this box should be completed at the time the application has been received by the person who takes the application.
- The remainder should be filled in after it has been reviewed and a disposition has been made on the application.
- This contains information to help you know what actions have been taken and when on an application.
- Section 1.007 provides that any employee at the usual place of business can receive the filing.



2-7  
 Prescribed by Secretary of State  
 Sections 141.061, 141.062, 141.063,  
 141.064, 141.065, 141.066,  
 172.021, 172.022, 172.023,  
 172.023, 172.025, 172.027  
 Texas Election Code  
 09/2023

**PETITION IN LIEU OF A FILING FEE and/or PETITION FOR JUDICIAL OFFICE FOR A PRIMARY ELECTION**  
 (PETICIÓN PRESENTADA EN SUSTITUCIÓN DEL PAGO DE INSCRIPCIÓN y/o  
 PETICIÓN PARA UN CARGO OFICIAL JUDICIAL PARA UNA ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA)

Name of Circulator \_\_\_\_\_  
 Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Signing the petition of more than one candidate for the same office in the same election is prohibited. (Se prohíbe firmar la petición de más de un candidato para el mismo cargo oficial en la misma elección.)  
**COMPLETE ALL BLANKS (LLENEN TODOS LOS ESPACIOS EN BLANCO)** Instructions and Footnotes on Back (Al Dorsal: Instrucciones y Anotaciones)  
 I understand that by signing this petition I become ineligible to vote in a primary election or participate in a convention of another party, including a party not holding a primary election, during this voting year in which this primary election is held. (Entiendo que al firmar esta petición, dejo de tener derecho a votar en una elección primaria o participar en la convención de otro partido, incluyendo un partido que no celebra una elección primaria, durante el año electoral en el cual esta elección primaria es celebrada.)  
 I have his or her name placed on the ballot for the office of \_\_\_\_\_ para que su nombre aparezca en la boleta electoral para el cargo de \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed (Fecha de Firma)	Signature (Firma)	Printed Name (Nombre en letra de molde)	Residence Address (Including City, Texas, Zip) (Dirección de Residencia (Incluya Ciudad, Estado, Código Postal))

**AFFIDAVIT OF CIRCULATOR (DECLARACIÓN JURADA DEL CIRCULADOR)** (Sec. 141.065 Texas Election Code) (nombre de la persona que hizo circular la petición) BEFORE ME, the undersigned, on this \_\_\_\_\_ (date personally appeared ANTE MÍ, el/la suscriptor/a, en este (fecha) compareció a mí, el/la notario/a) I witnessed the affixing of each signature. The correct date of signing is shown on the petition. I verified each signer's registration status and believe that each signature is the genuine signature of the person whose name is signed and that the corresponding information for each signer is correct. (Yo presencié que cada firma, y la fecha correcta de la firma consta en la petición. Verifiqué el estado de inscripción y creo que cada firma es la auténtica de la persona cuyo nombre aparece firmado y que son exactos los datos correspondientes a cada firmante.) SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS DATE (JURADO Y SUSCRITO ANTE MÍ, CON ESTA FECHA)

Signature of Circulator (Firma de la persona que hizo circular la petición) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Officer Administering Oath (Firma del oficial designado la función/notario) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title of officer administering oath (título oficial designado la función/notario) \_\_\_\_\_

**PETITION FOR A STATEWIDE JUDICIAL OFFICE IN A PRIMARY ELECTION**  
 (PETICIÓN PARA UN CARGO JUDICIAL ESTATAL PARA UNA ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA)

Name of Circulator \_\_\_\_\_  
 Page \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Signing the petition of more than one candidate for the same office in the same election is prohibited. (Se prohíbe firmar la petición de más de un candidato para el mismo cargo oficial en la misma elección.)  
**COMPLETE ALL BLANKS (LLENEN TODOS LOS ESPACIOS EN BLANCO)** Instructions and Footnotes on Back (Al Dorsal: Instrucciones y Anotaciones)  
 I understand that by signing this petition I become ineligible to vote in a primary election or participate in a convention of another party, including a party not holding a primary election, during this voting year in which this primary election is held. (Entiendo que al firmar esta petición, dejo de tener derecho a votar en una elección primaria o participar en la convención de otro partido, incluyendo un partido que no celebra una elección primaria, durante el año electoral en el cual esta elección primaria es celebrada.)  
 I have his or her name placed on the ballot for the office of \_\_\_\_\_ para que su nombre aparezca en la boleta electoral para el cargo de \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed (Fecha de Firma)	Signature (Firma)	Printed Name (Nombre en letra de molde)	Residence Address (Including City, Texas, Zip) (Dirección de Residencia (Incluya Ciudad, Estado, Código Postal))	County (Condado)	Court of Appeals District (Dist. Corte de Apelaciones)	Voter VUID Number* (Núm. de VUID de Votante)	Date of Birth* (Fecha de Nacimiento)

**AFFIDAVIT OF CIRCULATOR (DECLARACIÓN JURADA DEL CIRCULADOR)** (Sec. 141.065 Texas Election Code) (nombre de la persona que hizo circular la petición) BEFORE ME, the undersigned, on this \_\_\_\_\_ (date personally appeared ANTE MÍ, el/la suscriptor/a, en este (fecha) compareció a mí, el/la notario/a) I witnessed the affixing of each signature. The correct date of signing is shown on the petition. I verified each signer's registration status and believe that each signature is the genuine signature of the person whose name is signed and that the corresponding information for each signer is correct. (Yo presencié que cada firma, y la fecha correcta de la firma consta en la petición. Verifiqué el estado de inscripción y creo que cada firma es la auténtica de la persona cuyo nombre aparece firmado y que son exactos los datos correspondientes a cada firmante.) SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS DATE (JURADO Y SUSCRITO ANTE MÍ, CON ESTA FECHA)

Signature of Circulator (Firma de la persona que hizo circular la petición) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Officer Administering Oath (Firma del oficial designado la función/notario) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title of officer administering oath (título oficial designado la función/notario) \_\_\_\_\_

# CANDIDATE PETITIONS



# Which Candidates are Required to Submit a Petition?

- All candidates that require a filing fee can submit a Petition in Lieu of a Filing Fee.
- Independent Candidates
  - There is no filing fee option for independent candidates. All independent candidates must submit a supporting nominating petition.
    - Signatures must be from registered voters of the territory who did not participate in the primary election or the runoff primary election of a party that has nominated a candidate for the office sought.



# Which Candidates are Required to Submit a Petition?

- Primary Judicial Candidates
  - Judicial Petition: 250-signature judicial petition is required in addition to the filing fee, or 750 signatures must be collected on the petition in lieu of filing fee, for the following offices:
    - Candidates running for a Court of Appeals district in which a county with a population of more than 1.2 million is wholly or partially located.
      - **Court of Appeals in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 14th Districts**
    - District or criminal district judge of a court in a district wholly contained in a county with a population of more than 1.5 million.
      - **Harris, Dallas, Tarrant, and Bexar**
    - Judge of a statutory county court in a county with a population of more than 1.5 million.
      - **Harris, Dallas, Tarrant, and Bexar**
  - Statewide Judicial Candidates: Along with filing fee, 50 signatures from each of the fourteen court of appeals districts, for a total requirement of 700 signatures.
    - 5,000 signatures for a petition in lieu of a filing fee.





# Public Information

- An application for a place on the ballot, including an accompanying petition, is public information immediately on its filing.
  - Any written documentation attached to a judicial candidate's application would also be public information upon filing as it is considered part of the application.

[Sec. 141.035]



# Questions?

[elections@sos.texas.gov](mailto:elections@sos.texas.gov)

