

# **JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS**

## **MISSION**

New York State's three Judicial Commissions play important roles in maintaining the integrity of the court system. The Commission on Judicial Nomination and the Judicial Screening Committees screen potential nominees for high-level judicial appointments by the Governor. The Commission on Judicial Conduct investigates and acts upon allegations of judicial misconduct.

## **COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL CONDUCT**

The State Constitution established the Commission on Judicial Conduct, which is responsible for investigating complaints of misconduct against State judges and local justices. The Commission has disciplinary powers, which include the authority to remove judges and justices from office for serious misconduct, subject to review by the Court of Appeals.

The Commission on Judicial Conduct has 11 members, 4 of whom are appointed by the Governor, 3 by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the remaining 4 by the Legislature. Commission members serve without pay and meet periodically to consider complaints, hear testimony and determine the disposition of cases. The Commission will have a staff of **55 FTES** in fiscal year 2008-09, which is unchanged from 2007-08. Its main office is in New York City, with branches in Albany and Rochester. The recommended 2008-09 budget of approximately **\$5.2 million General Fund** grows **\$0.4 million**, reflecting inflationary increases. .

## **COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL NOMINATION**

The State Constitution established the Commission on Judicial Nomination to evaluate candidates and make recommendations to the Governor for appointment to the Court of Appeals, the State's highest court.

The Commission on Judicial Nomination has 12 members appointed by the Governor, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the Legislature. These members serve without pay and conduct the search for qualified candidates upon formal notification of a vacancy on the Court of Appeals.

## **GOVERNOR'S JUDICIAL SCREENING COMMITTEES**

The Governor's Judicial Screening Committees are established by Executive Order to evaluate the qualifications of candidates and make recommendations to the Governor for appointment to judgeships other than those on the Court of Appeals. The Committees are located throughout the State.

# JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS

## ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2007-08	Appropriations Recommended 2008-09	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2008-09
State Operations	4,843,000	5,241,000	398,000	0
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	4,843,000	5,241,000	398,000	0

## ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

### Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2007-08 Estimated FTEs 03/31/08	2008-09 Estimated FTEs 03/31/09	FTE Change
Judicial Conduct General Fund	55	55	0
Total	55	55	0

## STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Fund Type	Available 2007-08	Recommended 2008-09	Change
General Fund	4,843,000	5,241,000	398,000
Total	4,843,000	5,241,000	398,000

## STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Program	Available 2007-08	Recommended 2008-09	Change
Judicial Conduct General Fund	4,795,000	5,173,000	378,000
Judicial Nomination, Commission on General Fund	10,000	30,000	20,000
Judicial Screening Committees General Fund	38,000	38,000	0
Total	4,843,000	5,241,000	398,000

## STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2008-09 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	3,847,000	(92,000)	3,847,000	(92,000)
Judicial Screening Committees	13,000	0	13,000	0
Total	3,860,000	(92,000)	3,860,000	(92,000)

# JUDICIAL COMMISSIONS

**STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED  
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2008-09 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>Supplies and Materials</b>	
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>
Judicial Conduct	1,326,000	470,000	54,000	(4,000)
Judicial Nomination, Commission on	30,000	20,000	0	0
Judicial Screening Committees	25,000	0	0	0
Total	<u>1,381,000</u>	<u>490,000</u>	<u>54,000</u>	<u>(4,000)</u>

<b>Program</b>	<b>Travel</b>		<b>Contractual Services</b>	
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>
Judicial Conduct	100,000	46,000	1,077,000	402,000
Judicial Nomination, Commission on	30,000	20,000	0	0
Judicial Screening Committees	10,000	0	15,000	0
Total	<u>140,000</u>	<u>66,000</u>	<u>1,092,000</u>	<u>402,000</u>

<b>Program</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>
Judicial Conduct	95,000	26,000
Judicial Nomination, Commission on	0	0
Judicial Screening Committees	0	0
Total	<u>95,000</u>	<u>26,000</u>