

# **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, four of whom are appointed by the Governor, three by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the remaining four by the Legislature. Commission members serve without pay and meet periodically to consider complaints, hear testimony and determine the disposition of cases. The Commission is projected to have a staff of **49** in fiscal year 2010-11. Its main office is in New York City, with branches in Albany and Rochester. The recommended 2010-11 Executive Budget of more than **\$5.5 million General Fund** is an increase of **\$206,000**, reflecting the cost of continuing current programs.

## **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 2009-10	Appropriations Recommended 2010-11	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2010-11
State Operations	5,268,000	5,474,000	206,000	0
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	5,268,000	5,474,000	206,000	0

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

### Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2009-10 Estimated FTEs 03/31/10	2010-11 Estimated FTEs 03/31/11	FTE Change
Judicial Conduct			
General Fund	49	49	0
Total	49	49	0

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

Fund Type	Available 2009-10	Recommended 2010-11	Change
General Fund	5,268,000	5,474,000	206,000
Total	5,268,000	5,474,000	206,000

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

Program	Available 2009-10	Recommended 2010-11	Change
Judicial Conduct			
General Fund	5,200,000	5,406,000	206,000
Judicial Nomination, Commission on			
General Fund	30,000	30,000	0
Judicial Screening Committees			
General Fund	38,000	38,000	0
Total	5,268,000	5,474,000	206,000

## STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2010-11 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Judicial Conduct	4,093,000	206,000	4,093,000	206,000
Judicial Screening Committees	13,000	0	13,000	0
Total	4,106,000	206,000	4,106,000	206,000

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STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED  
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
2010-11 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	1,313,000	0	55,000	0
Judicial Nomination, Commission on	30,000	0	0	0
Judicial Screening Committees	25,000	0	0	0
Total	1,368,000	0	55,000	0

<b>Program</b>	<b>Travel</b>		<b>Contractual Services</b>	
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>
Judicial Conduct	103,000	0	1,058,000	0
Judicial Nomination, Commission on	30,000	0	0	0
Judicial Screening Committees	10,000	0	15,000	0
Total	143,000	0	1,073,000	0

<b>Program</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Change</b>
Judicial Conduct	97,000	0
Judicial Nomination, Commission on	0	0
Judicial Screening Committees	0	0
Total	97,000	0