**Family Law Section**

**Colorado Bar Association**

 **Judicial Endorsement Procedure**

The principal goal of the Family Law Section Judicial Endorsement Committee is to endorse candidates for judgeships and to promote the selection of qualified judges to Colorado’s courts who have demonstrated a commitment to the Family Law Section’s mission. The Judicial Endorsement Committee considers candidates for Colorado District Court, Colorado Court of Appeals and Colorado Supreme Court vacancies for endorsement to the Governor.

The Family Law Section of the Colorado Bar Association is comprised of members of the Association with a commitment to improve the family law system in Colorado. The purposes of the Section include promoting the welfare of Colorado children and families; aiding practitioners in the development of skills and resources for the practice of family law; furthering the field of family law through appropriate legislation, rules and education; fostering a mutually cooperative relationship with courts handling family law matters; and coordinating work with those interested in improvement of the family law system.

There shall be two Co-Chairs of the Committee appointed annually by the Chair of the Family Law Section. The contact information of the Co-Chairs of the Judicial Endorsement Committee shall be posted on the Family Law Section page of the Colorado Bar Association website. The Co-Chairs shall select the members of the Judicial Endorsement Committee.

In order to seek an endorsement from the Family Law Section, the judicial candidate must be a member of the Colorado Bar Association. We request that nominees submit a request for each position, even if they have submitted materials previously. Please note that a request for endorsement does not require the Family Law Section to make any endorsement. Similarly, more than one judicial candidate may be endorsed for appointment to the same position, regardless of having sought an endorsement. The Committee also has the discretion to request additional information from the candidate as necessary. All materials must be submitted within seventy-two hours of the short list being publicly announced. Requests submitted after the deadline will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, at the Committee’s discretion. To request the Family Law Section endorsement, please comply with the following Judicial Endorsement Committee procedures:

Provide the following information to the Family Law Section Endorsement Committee:

1. The title of the position sought;
2. The statutory requirements of the position and/or the vacancy announcement reflecting the requirements of the position;
3. The date by which the endorsement must be received in order to be considered;
4. The name, title, and address of the person to whom the endorsement letter should be sent;
5. A copy of your official application and any other materials relevant to your qualifications;
6. Statement confirming that you are a member in good-standing of the Colorado Bar Association;
7. Statement disclosing whether:
	1. You are, or have been a member of the Family Law Section, and if so the dates of your membership;
	2. You are or have been a member of the Executive Council of the Family Law Section (statewide or local), and/or served as an officer, and if so, the dates you served in those roles.
8. A brief statement explaining how your endorsement would be consistent with the Family Law Section’s mission statement, including your involvement with the Family Law Section.
9. A description of all training you have completed in the last five years related to the Family Law Section’s mission, including but not limited to the following:
	1. The effects of divorce and remarriage on children, adults, and families;
	2. The effects of domestic violence and child abuse on children, adults, and families, including the connection between domestic violence and trauma on children and intimate partner violence;
	3. Child Development, including cognitive, personality, emotional and psychological development;
	4. Child and Adult Psychotherapy;
	5. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion;
	6. Implicit bias; and
	7. Complex financial matters related to dissolution of marriage or other matters, including but not limited to business valuations, self-employment income, executive compensation and tax consequences related to income and the division of property.
10. A brief statement of how you are committed to the Colorado Bar Associations’ Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) policy, or how your appointment would further the CBA’s dedication to promoting attorneys of all backgrounds, identities, and circumstances.
11. The names and contact information for at least two references who can attest to your commitment to the mission statement of the Family Law Section.
12. Each candidate may be asked to attend an interview with the Family Law Section Endorsement Committee. A candidate may also request an interview with the Endorsement Committee, and such requests will be granted at the Committee’s discretion.
13. The Judicial Endorsement Committee shall assess the following qualifications in determining whether the endorsement of a candidate will further the goals of the Family Law Section, and whether the appointment of the candidate is best for the judiciary as a whole:
14. Experience;
15. Legal ability;
16. Administrative or management efficiency;
17. Reputation for fairness and integrity;
18. Dedication to goals consistent with the mission statement of the Family Law Section;
19. Qualifications that are consistent with furthering the mission statement of the Family Law Section;
20. Training relevant to the mission statement of the Family Law Section;
21. Treatment of people of color and other minority groups;
22. Whether the endorsement of this candidate furthers the Colorado Bar Association’s Equity Diversity and Inclusion policies;
23. The Family Law Section shall send an e-mail polling the membership for feedback on the candidate’s forgoing qualifications.
24. Upon determination by the Judicial Endorsement Committee as to whether or not to endorse a candidate that has requested as endorsement, the committee will notify the candidate of the Committee’s decision.