



OFFICE OF RESPONDENT
PARENTS' COUNSEL
Protecting the Fundamental Right to Parent

The Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel (ORPC) is seeking applicants for the ORPC governing Commission from the **2nd Congressional District and the 5th Congressional District**.

The application period will be open from August 29, 2019 until September 30, 2019.

ABOUT THE ORPC

The Office of Respondent Parents' Counsel (ORPC) is an independent agency within the State of Colorado Judicial Branch that is vested with the oversight and administration of legal representation for indigent parents in child welfare cases across Colorado.

It is the responsibility of the office to work cooperatively with local judicial districts and attorneys to form a partnership between those entities and persons, parents, and the state for the purpose of ensuring the provision of uniform, high-quality legal representation for parents involved in judicial dependency and neglect proceedings in Colorado and who lack the financial means to afford legal representation.

Respondent Parents' Counsel (RPC) play a critical role in achieving the best outcomes for children in child welfare cases by protecting the legal and due process rights of parents, presenting balanced information to courts, and promoting the preservation of family relationships. To learn more, visit

<https://www.coloradoorpc.org/>.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES

The ORPC governing Commission is comprised of nine members appointed by the Colorado Supreme Court. The membership of the Commission must, to the extent practicable, include persons from throughout the state, persons with disabilities, and take into consideration race, gender, and the ethnic diversity of the state. The Commission should be comprised of individuals with substantive child welfare expertise. The Commission has the following duties under section 13-92-103(3), C.R.S.:

- a) On or before January 1, 2016, and as necessary thereafter, to appoint, and discharge for cause, a person to serve as the director of the office;
- b) To fill any vacancy in the directorship; and
- c) To work cooperatively with the director to provide governance to the office, to provide fiscal oversight of the general operating budget of the office, to participate in funding decisions relating to the provision of respondent parent counsel, and to assist with the duties of the office concerning respondent parent counsel training, as needed.

The ORPC Commission meets quarterly with the option to appear in person or by phone. Commission members are invited and encouraged to attend in-person the quarterly meeting that takes place in the month of September at the annual ORPC fall conference. The September quarterly meeting is considered the annual commission retreat, where the election of the Chair and Vice Chair takes place. Commission members serve for terms of four years.



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HOW TO APPLY:

Submit a statement of interest and resume to ORPC Executive Director, Melissa Thompson at mthompson@coloradoorpc.org by COB on September 30, 2019. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Melissa Thompson.