

46.16 Terms of judges.

1. Subject to sections 602.1610 and 602.1612 and to removal for cause:

a. The initial term of office of judges of the supreme court, court of appeals and district court shall be for one year after appointment and until January 1 following the next judicial election after expiration of such year; and

b. The regular term of office of judges of the supreme court retained at a judicial election shall be eight years, and of judges of the court of appeals and district court so retained shall be six years, from the expiration of their initial or previous regular term as the case may be.

For the purpose of initial appointments to the court of appeals, two of the judges appointed shall serve an irregular term ending December 31 of the fourth year after expiration of the initial term prescribed in subsection 1 and two of the judges appointed shall serve an irregular term ending December 31 of the fifth year after expiration of the initial term prescribed in subsection 1. Expiration of irregular terms shall be deemed expiration of regular terms for all purposes.

2. Subject to removal for cause, the initial term of office of a district associate judge shall be for one year after appointment and until January 1 following the next judicial election after expiration of such year, and the regular term of office of a district associate judge retained at a judicial election shall be six years from the expiration of the initial or previous regular term, as the case may be.

3. Subject to removal for cause, the initial term of office of a full-time associate juvenile judge or a full-time associate probate judge shall be for one year after appointment and until January 1 following the next judicial election after expiration of such year, and the regular term of office of a full-time associate juvenile judge or a full-time associate probate judge retained at a judicial election shall be six years from the expiration of the initial or previous regular term, as the case may be.

[C66, 71, § 46.16; C73, 75, 77, 79, § 46.16, 602.29; C81, § 46.16]

83 Acts, ch 186, § 10022, 10201; 99 Acts, ch 93, §1, 15; 2003 Acts, ch 151, §3, 65

2003 amendments to subsections 2 and 3 apply to elections for retaining a judge occurring after May 23, 2003; 2003 Acts, ch 151, §65