
JUDICIAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Contact: Supreme Court Clerk's Office, Statehouse, Des Moines 50819; 515/281-5911.

BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS

The Board of Law Examiners is under the jurisdiction of the Iowa Supreme Court. Current board members are:

THOMAS M. WALTER, chair, Ottumwa; term expires 1996
 WILLIAM D. KURTH, Carroll; term expires 1997
 ELLIOTT R. MCDONALD, JR., Davenport; term expires 1996
 PATRICIA A. SHOFF, Vice Chair, Des Moines; term expires 1995
 JILL THOMPSON HANSEN, Des Moines; term expires 1997

Lay Members

KATHLEEN KREGEL, Ft. Dodge; term expires 1995
 DORIS WEILER, Remsen; term expires 1996

BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF COURT SHORTHAND REPORTERS

MARY ANN BROWN, chair, Burlington; term expires 1997
 THOMAS T. KIERSKI, secretary, Ft. Dodge; term expires 1996
 DIANNE SCHUETTS, Sioux City; term expires 1995
 SHIRLEY HATCHER, Council Bluffs; term expires 1996
 MERVIN E. VAUGHN, Des Moines; term expires 1997

The Board of Examiners for Court Shorthand Reporters was authorized by the 38th General Assembly and its rules were amended by the 65th General Assembly. The examiners are appointed by the governor with the approval of two-thirds of the members of the Senate. Under law, three of the members must be certified shorthand reporters and two members represent the general public. A certified member shall be actively engaged in the practice of certified shorthand reporting and shall have been so engaged for five years preceding the appointment, the last two of which shall have been in Iowa. The board conducts examinations of those seeking to become certified shorthand reporters.

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Under a 1972 amendment to the Iowa Constitution and the provisions of Chapter 605 of the Code, there is a Commission on Judicial Qualifications which receives and investigates complaints about the qualifications of Supreme Court justices, Court of Appeals judges, district court judges, and district associate judges. The commission can apply to the Supreme Court to retire, discipline, or remove a judge.

The commission has seven members. Four are appointed by the governor and are subject to Senate confirmation; three, including a district court judge, are appointed by the chief justice.

JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE APPOINTING COMMISSIONS

Each county in the state has such a commission. Its duty is to appoint the number of judicial magistrates allotted to the county by the state court administrator. Each commission is composed of a district court judge designated by the chief judge of the judicial district, two attorneys elected by the bar of the county, and three members appointed by the board of supervisors of the county.