

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Peter C. Burnett, Chair

The Virginia State Bar Judicial Nominations Committee consists of thirteen active lawyer members, one from each of the bar's ten disciplinary districts and three from the state at large, elected to staggered three-year terms by Council on recommendation of the nominating committee. Committee members are not eligible to serve a second consecutive three-year term. The chair is selected by the committee each year.

The following individuals served as members of the Judicial Nominations Committee:

- Peter C. Burnett (Leesburg)
- Alvin Powers Anderson (Williamsburg)
- Douglas K. Bergere (Woodbridge)
- John Blanton Farmer (Richmond)
- James Henry Ford (Martinsville)
- Sarah Elizabeth Collins Honenberger (Orange)
- Barry Kantor (Virginia Beach)
- Julia Claire Krebs-Markrich (Falls Church)
- William G. Murray (Arlington)
- Joseph R. Newell, III (Staunton)
- Nancy G. Parr (Suffolk)
- Robert Austin White (Tazewell)
- Carolyn Currie Eaglin (Alexandria)

During its 1998-1999 term, the Committee evaluated candidates to fill a vacancy on the Virginia Court of Appeals created by the retirement of Judge Nelson Overton of Hampton. Eight candidates were evaluated. The process requires the submission of a resume, completed legislative questionnaire, and a writing sample. After circulation of written materials to Committee members and an informal investigation by an assigned Committee member, a meeting is held at the Richmond VSB offices to which all candidates are invited for interviews. On January 18, 1999, Judge Robert P. Frank, Judge Lydia C. Taylor, Frank K. Friedman, Esq., Judge Richard C. Pattisal, J. Randolph Smith, Jr., Esq., Judge Eugene E. Lohman and Judge Charles E. Poston were interviewed. The resume and supporting information of Judge Roy E. Willett were reviewed, but he was not interviewed as he was unable to attend. At the conclusion of the interviews, the Committee recommended Judge Robert P. Frank, Frank K. Friedman, Esq., Judge Eugene E. Lohman, Judge Charles E. Poston and Judge Lydia C. Taylor (in alphabetical order) as the five best qualified candidates for the position. The VSB Executive Committee unanimously adopted our recommendation and thereafter provided it to Senator Gartlan and Delegate Almand. ❀