

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & CIVIL JURISPRUDENCE

HB 2384



MEGAN LAVOIE, ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

APPLICATION FOR JUDICIAL OFFICE

EC Sec. 141.0311 added additional requirements to be placed on a judicial candidate's application to be placed on a ballot.

Trial Court & Appellate Requirements:

- State bar number(s)
- Disclosure of sanction(s) or censure by State Commission on Judicial Conduct or a review tribunal
- Disciplinary sanction(s) imposed by state bar
- Disciplinary sanction(s) imposed by entity in another state responsible for attorney discipline
- Statement describing the nature of legal practice and specialization for past 5 years
- Professional courtroom experience for past 5 years
- Disclosure of conviction(s) of class A or B misdemeanors for past 10 years

Appellate Requirements:

- Appellate court brief(s) filed for past 5 years
- Oral argument(s) presented before appellate court for past 5 years



PERFORMANCE MEASURES

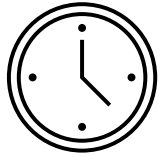
GC Sec. 72.083 requires the OCA to annually report performance measures for each district, statutory county, statutory probate, and county court.

Clerks are required to submit the following performance measures for each court:

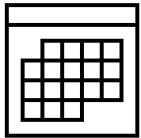
- Clearance rate;
- Average time a case is before the court from filing to disposition; and
- Age of the court's active pending caseload



PERFORMANCE MEASURES REPORTING TO OCA

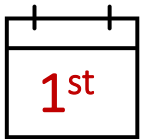


Frequency: Annual



Timeframe: 1st Report: March 2024 – August 2024

Subsequent Reports: September – August (Fiscal Year)



Due Date: November 1st



EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE STANDARDS

GC Sec. 72.024 instructed the Director (of OCA) shall develop standards for identifying courts that need additional assistance to promote the efficient administration of justice.

Initially, the standard is a 90% clearance rate.

GC Sec. 74.046(b) allows a Presiding Judge to appoint a judicial mentor or arrange for additional administrative personnel to be assigned to a court identified by OCA as needing additional assistance under GC Sec. 72.024



SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION IN JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

GC Sec. 82.101 directed the Supreme Court to adopt rules establishing a specialty certification for attorneys in the practice of judicial administration. It further directed the TX Board of Legal Specialization to make recommendations for obtaining the certification.

Recommendations:

- Advanced Training
- OCA Court Performance Standards
- Essays
- Mentoring
- Criminal Dockets & Jail Management
- Feedback & Peer Review
- Feedback from self-represented court users
- Education & CLE
- Timeliness
- Judicial Conduct
- Public Trust & Confidence, Access & Fairness, Transparency

