

Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules and
Executive Appointments

DATE: September 10, 2024

BY: Leslie Porter, Legislative Analyst

RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



LPRO
LEGISLATIVE POLICY
AND RESEARCH OFFICE

COMMISSION ON JUDICIAL FITNESS AND DISABILITY

The Governor has appointed the following individual to the Commission on Judicial Fitness and Disability subject to Senate confirmation.¹

New Appointee

Cashnita Spencer of Gresham

Term

December 19, 2024 – December 18, 2028

Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 1.410 \(2023\)](#)

Statement of Economic Interest²

Required.

Composition³

The commission consists of:

- three judges appointed by the Supreme Court (ALBRECHT, CAMPBELL, POWERS);
- three attorneys appointed by the Board of Governors of the Oregon State Bar (KEBLER, PARKER, WALLACE); and
- three persons appointed by the Governor who are not otherwise qualified (KEBEDE-BARHANA, LEOF, **SPENCER**).

Members serve four-year terms. The commission selects one of its members as chair and another as vice-chair. A majority of the commission constitutes a quorum. A majority of the members must concur on recommendations to the Supreme Court related to removing a judge.⁴

¹ [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 \(2023\)](#) and [171.565 \(2023\)](#)

² [ORS 244.050 \(2023\)](#).

³ [ORS 1.410 \(2023\)](#); [ORS 182.100 \(2023\)](#) for affirmative action policy; [ORS 236.115 \(2023\)](#) for diversity criteria.

⁴ [ORS 1.480 \(2023\)](#).

Duties⁵

The commission reviews complaints about Oregon state judges and justices of the peace, investigates alleged conduct violations, and investigates complaints referred by the Chief Justice.⁶

The commission must:

- receive and investigate complaints concerning judicial conduct and make recommendations to the Supreme Court for censure, suspension, or removal from office; and
- receive and investigate complaints from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court concerning a disability that significantly interferes with the capacity of a judge to perform judicial duties.

The commission may:

- appoint subordinates and employees;
- request the assistance of and compensate physicians, expert witnesses, and special counsel;
- take and preserve testimony and administer oaths to witnesses;
- upon completion of a judicial conduct investigation, hold a hearing, allow the judge to execute a consent to censure, suspension, or removal, or refer the complaint to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court for appropriate proceedings;
- upon completion of a judicial disability investigation, hold a hearing, direct a subject judge to submit to physical examination or mental evaluation, enter into a disposition of the matter with a subject judge, or recommend to the Supreme Court that the judge be suspended; and
- apply to a circuit court to compel a person to appear, produce evidence, or answer any question pertinent to the subject under inquiry.

⁵ [ORS 1.415 to 1.475 \(2023\)](#).

⁶ Oregon Judicial Department, *Commission on Judicial Fitness and Disability*, <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/programs/cjfd/Pages/default.aspx> (last visited September 4, 2024).



Judicial Fitness and Disability, Commission on

Agency: **None**

Authorization: **ORS 1.410 & .480**

Min Members: **9** Max Members: **9**

Term Length: **4** Term Limit: **None**

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

Policy Area: **Legal**

Board Admin: **Rachel Mortimer**

Address:

PO Box 90398

Portland, OR 97290

503-626-6776

judicial.fitness@oregon.gov

Current Appointments

Kebede-Berhanu, Kevin

Term(s): **7/1/2023 - 6/30/2027**

Public Member

Position Number: **1**

Ms Goodfriend, Karyn L

Term(s): **12/19/2020 - 12/18/2024**

Public Member

9/23/2019 - 12/18/2020

Position Number: **2**

Spencer, Cashnita

Term(s): **12/19/2024 - 12/18/2028**

Public Member

Position Number: **2**

Leof, Anton

Term(s): **9/23/2023 - 9/22/2027**

Public Member

Position Number: **3**

Mr Wallace, Jeffrey

Term(s): **1/29/2020 - 1/28/2024**

OR State Bar

1/29/2016 - 1/28/2020

Position Number: **4**

Kebler, Melanie

Term(s): **2/18/2019 - 2/17/2023**

OR State Bar

Position Number: **5**

Ms Parker, Judith A

Term(s): **7/24/2019 - 7/25/2023**

OR State Bar

7/24/2015 - 7/23/2019

Position Number: **6**

Judge Powers, Steven "Steven" R

Term(s): **2/11/2022 - 2/11/2026**

Judge Appointed by Supreme Court

2/11/2018 - 2/10/2022

Position Number: **7**

Judge Albrecht, Cheryl

Term(s):

2/1/2021 - 2/1/2025

Judge Appointed by Supreme Court

Position Number: **8**

Judge Campbell, Monte S

Term(s):

3/1/2021 - 3/1/2025

Judge Appointed by Oregon Supreme Court

3/1/2017 - 3/1/2021Position Number: **9**

Vacant Positions
