



Office of
The Governor

No. 32 FY 20/21
DATE February 24, 2021

**AN ORDER UPDATING THE GOVERNOR'S
JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, *Me. Const. Art V, Pt. 1, §8* grants to the Governor the power to nominate and, subject to confirmation, appoint certain judicial officers; and

WHEREAS, this responsibility requires a thorough evaluation of the qualifications and background of each potential candidate; and

WHEREAS, select members of the Maine Bar have advised prior Governors in judicial appointments and reappointments because of the members' experience and expertise that aids in recommending qualified nominees; and

WHEREAS, the Governor may benefit from views on judicial selections from members of the public who are not members of the Maine Bar;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, pursuant to *Me. Const. Art V, Pt 1, §1 and §12*, do hereby Order as follows:

I. ESTABLISHMENT

The Governor's Judicial Nominations Advisory Committee (Committee) is hereby established. The Committee shall investigate, evaluate and provide advice to the Governor on potential candidates for judicial appointments and reappointments. The final decision in each case shall rest solely with the Governor.

II. MEMBERSHIP

The Committee shall consist of persons appointed by the Governor to serve at her pleasure. The Chair of the Committee shall be appointed by the Governor. Members of the Committee must be a citizen of the State of Maine who:

- A. Maintains a license in good standing to practice law in the State of Maine, has participated substantially in, acquired superior knowledge of, and demonstrated significant interest in the administration of our judicial system; or
- B. Is a member of the public who has acquired superior knowledge of and demonstrated significant interest in the administration of our judicial system.

III. PROCEEDINGS AND RECORDS

The process used by the Committee shall be determined in conjunction with, and at the direction of, the Governor. The Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair. Pursuant to *1 M.R.S. §402(2)(F), (3)(C-1), (3)(J)* and *§403(6)*, and consistent with any other pertinent provision of Maine law, the Committee's records and proceedings are exempt from public disclosure; provided that, to the extent that the Committee provides documents to the Joint Standing Committee on the Judiciary, those documents shall be treated as records of the Committee for purposes of determining public disclosure.

IV. COMPENSATION

Members of the Committee shall serve without compensation. Reimbursement of all necessary expenditures incurred by members while in the performance of their duties on the Committee that are allowed by state law shall be administered by the Office of the Governor.

V. OTHER

This Order supersedes *Executive Orders 9 FY 94/95, 12 FY 02/03, 3 FY 14-15, 39 FY 04/05, 20 FY 06/07, and 7 FY 19/20*; provided that the confidentiality of proceedings and records conferred by those Orders shall remain in effect.

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Order is February 24, 2021.



Janet T. Mills, Governor