



United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

Southern District of California

Bankruptcy Judgeship Opportunity

The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit invites applications from highly qualified candidates for a Bankruptcy Judgeship for the Southern District of California beginning March 16, 2026. This position is available immediately; however, the selection process may take up to 18 months to complete. The official duty station for this position is San Diego, California.

The term of office is 14 years with a possible renewal appointment subject to reappointment procedures. The current salary is \$229,908 per annum. Relocation expenses are not reimbursable.

The Court of Appeals uses an open and competitive selection process. All applications are screened by a Merit Screening Committee, which selects a limited number of applicants for interview and reference checks. From the initial group of interviewees, selected applicants will be referred for further interviews by a joint Judicial Council and Court of Appeals committee, which then submits a recommendation of nomination to the Court of Appeals. The selected nominee will be required to satisfy FBI and IRS background investigations prior to appointment, as well as comply with the financial disclosure requirements pursuant to the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, Pub. L. No. 95-521, 92 Stat. 1824 (1978) (codified as amended at 5 U.S.C. app. § 101-111).

Basic qualifications for consideration include: (1) admission to practice before the highest court of at least one state, the District of Columbia, or one of the United States territories; (2) membership in good standing in every bar in which membership is held; and (3) at least five years of legal practice experience (certain other legal experience may be substituted). Applicants are considered without regard to race, sex, gender (including pregnancy, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, and parenthood), color, creed, national origin, citizenship, ancestry, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, or past, current, or prospective service in the uniformed forces, in addition to any other status or characteristic protected under applicable federal law.

The Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Judge Application Instructions and Application Form are available on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals website at www.ca9.uscourts.gov. A copy may also be obtained by emailing personnel@ce9.uscourts.gov. Applicants are advised to allow sufficient time to complete and submit the application. Once completed and signed, the original application and supporting materials must be sent in hard copy to the Office of the Circuit Executive, 95 7th Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Additionally, an electronic copy of the completed and signed application and supporting materials must be emailed to personnel@ce9.uscourts.gov. **Applicants must submit their own applications in the format required by the Bankruptcy Judge Application Instructions.**

Letters of reference are optional. To be considered, a maximum of three letters may be submitted with the original and electronic application and supporting materials.

**Deadline for receipt of all application materials, including hard copy via mail delivery and electronic copy via email:
5:00 p.m. (Pacific) on Thursday, June 18, 2026.**

The United States Courts is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to equity and inclusion in its hiring practices.