

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COMMISSION  
ON JUDICIAL DISABILITIES AND TENURE**

515 FIFTH STREET, N.W., BUILDING A, ROOM 246  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001  
(202) 727-1363

August 29, 2018

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

**Re: Evaluation of the Honorable Craig S. Iscoe**

Dear Mr. President:

The fifteen-year term of the Honorable Craig S. Iscoe, an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, expires on October 29, 2018. He is seeking reappointment to another term.

Pursuant to Section 433(c) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, 87 Stat. 744, as amended by the District of Columbia Judicial Efficiency and Improvement Act of 1986, P.L. 99-573, 100 Stat. 3228, the District of Columbia Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure (“the Commission”) hereby submits this evaluation of Judge Iscoe’s performance during his present term of office and his fitness for reappointment. Section 433(c) provides:

Not less than six months prior to the expiration of the judge’s term of office, any judge of the District of Columbia courts may file with the Tenure Commission a declaration of candidacy for reappointment. If a declaration is not so filed by any judge, a vacancy shall result from the expiration of the term of office and shall be filled by appointment as provided in subsections (a) and (b) of this section. If a declaration is so filed, the Tenure Commission shall, not less than sixty days prior to the expiration of the declaring candidate’s term of office, prepare and submit to the President a written evaluation of the declaring candidate’s performance during the present term of office and the candidate’s fitness for reappointment to another term. If the Tenure

Commission determines the declaring candidate to be well qualified for reappointment to another term, then the term of such declaring candidate shall be automatically extended for another full term, subject to mandatory retirement, suspension, or removal. If the Tenure Commission determines the declaring candidate to be qualified for reappointment to another term, then the President may nominate such candidate, in which case the President shall submit to the Senate for advice and consent the renomination of the declaring candidate as judge. If the President determines not to so nominate such declaring candidate, the President shall nominate another candidate for such position only in accordance with the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this section. If the Tenure Commission determines the declaring candidate to be unqualified for reappointment to another term, then the President shall not submit to the Senate for advice and consent the renomination of the declaring candidate as judge and such judge shall not be eligible for reappointment or appointment as a judge of a District of Columbia court.

The Commission reserves the term “well qualified” for those judges whose work product, legal scholarship, dedication, efficiency, and demeanor are exceptional on the bench, and the candidate’s performance consistently reflects credit on the judicial system. The Commission will determine a judge is “qualified” if he or she satisfactorily performs his or her assigned duties or whose strong positive attributes are materially offset, but not overborne, by negative traits. A finding of “unqualified” means the Commission has found the judge to be unfit for judicial service.

Judge Craig S. Iscoe filed his timely declaration of candidacy for reappointment with the Commission on January 31, 2018. In evaluating Judge Iscoe’s qualifications for reappointment, the Commission carefully reviewed the detailed written statement Judge Iscoe submitted describing his services on the Court. This statement set forth the significant aspects of his judicial, professional and community activities during the past 15 years. The Commission also reviewed a selection of judicial opinions that Judge Iscoe

has authored. On July 11, 2018, Judge Iscoe met with the Commission to discuss his record and his reasons for seeking reappointment, as well as information the Commission had received from Court personnel and members of the D.C. Bar familiar with his work during the course of its evaluation.

In addition, the Commission reviewed a detailed, confidential statement from Judge Iscoe's physician attesting to his excellent health and the absence of any medical reason why he cannot continue to perform his judicial duties. The Commission reviewed Judge Iscoe's time reports and annual financial statements, which are required to be filed by every judge. The Commission also reviewed its complaint file concerning the Judge, which disclosed nothing that would adversely affect his appointment.

Finally, the Commission met with Chief Judge Robert E. Morin, on June 27, 2018, and discussed Judge Iscoe's qualifications for reappointment and his contributions to the Court.

Appointed to the Superior Court of the District of Columbia on October 30, 2003, Judge Iscoe currently serves in the Criminal Division on the Felony 1 Calendar. Previously he served in the Family Court on the Domestic Relations I and II Calendars, in the Civil Division on the Civil II Calendar, and in the Criminal Division on the Felony II Calendar. He was also the Presiding Judge of the East of the River Community Court and he spent a year in the Domestic Violence Unit on both Criminal and Civil Calendars. During his tenure, Judge Iscoe has presided over many trials and issued many orders which demonstrate legally sound reasoning for his conclusions and decisions.

Judge Iscoe has served on a host of Court Committees, perhaps most notably eleven years on the Committee on Selection and Tenure of Magistrate Judges which makes recommendations to the Chief Judge on whom s/he should select to serve as a Magistrate Judge. In addition, the Committee reviews the Magistrate Judges at the midpoint of their tenure and recommends whether a Magistrate Judge should be reappointed. It also investigates complaints that are raised regarding Magistrate Judges.


Judge Iscoe served on the Judicial Education & Training Committee for eight years and was Chair of that Committee for four years. Judge Iscoe also served for ten years on the Criminal Rules Advisory Committee and has recently rejoined that Committee.


Judge Iscoe's contributions to the administration of justice have not been limited to his service on the Court. Judge Iscoe teaches at several area law schools, participates in several legal societies aimed at improving the administration of justice, and participates in mock trial competitions. In addition, Judge Iscoe has been a Scout troop leader for many years.

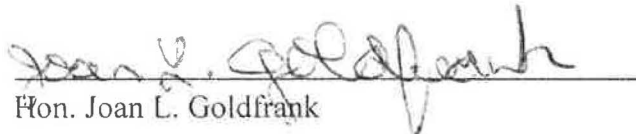
For the foregoing reasons, the Commission finds that Judge Iscoe's judicial service, and the manner in which he has performed his duties on behalf of the citizens of the District of Columbia, merits that he is "well qualified" for reappointment as an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. His term shall be automatically extended for a full term of fifteen years from October 30, 2018.

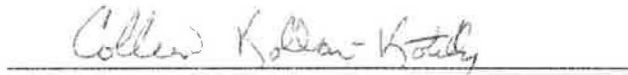
Respectfully submitted,


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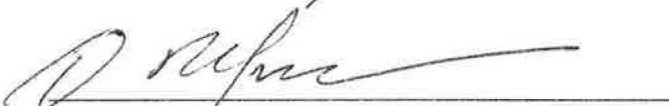
  
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