

# The Kansas Judiciary

Kansas Judicial Center  
301 S.W. 10th Ave., Topeka 66612-1507  
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## Kansas Supreme Court

**Chief Justice:** Lawton R. Nuss

**Justices:** Carol A. Beier, Dan Biles, Lee A. Johnson,  
Marla J. Luckert, Eric S. Rosen, Caleb Stegall

The Kansas Supreme Court is the highest court in Kansas. It consists of seven justices, each of whom is selected by the governor from a list of three qualified individuals submitted by the Supreme Court Nominating Commission. After the first year in office, a justice is subject to a retention vote in the next general election. If a majority of electors votes to retain the justice, he or she remains in office for a term of six years. Justices are subject to a similar retention vote at the conclusion of each term. The justice who is senior in terms of continuous service is designated by the Kansas Constitution as the chief justice, unless he or she declines or resigns the position. The chief justice has general administrative supervision over the affairs of the court and of the unified judicial department of the state.

## Kansas Court of Appeals

**Chief Judge:** Karen Arnold-Burger

**Judges:** G. Gordon Atcheson, David E. Bruns,  
Michael B. Buser, Kathryn A. Gardner, Henry W. Green Jr.,  
Stephen D. Hill, Steve A. Leben, Patrick D. McAnany,  
Thomas E. Malone, G. Joseph Pierron Jr., Anthony J. Powell,  
Kim R. Schroeder, Melissa Taylor Standridge

The Kansas Court of Appeals consists of 14 judges. Candidates for appointment to the court of appeals apply to and are selected by the governor, subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the Senate. Judges serve four-year terms and are retained for successive four-year terms by public vote. One court of appeals judge is appointed chief judge. The Kansas Supreme Court designates a judge of the court of appeals to serve as chief judge.

Supreme Court justices and Court of Appeals judges ordinarily do not conduct trials. They decide an appealed case by reading the record of the trial and written briefs filed by the parties, and hearing oral arguments of lawyers. They research and review the law involved in the case and then write an opinion, which is usually published in bound volumes. The court announces its decisions by filing them with the Office of the Clerk of the Appellate Courts.

# Kansas District Courts

District courts are created by the Kansas Constitution. They are the trial courts of Kansas, with general original jurisdiction over all civil and criminal cases, including divorce and domestic relations, damage suits, probate and administration of estates, guardianships, conservatorships, care of the mentally ill, juvenile matters, and small claims. It is here that the criminal and civil jury trials are held. Kansas is divided into judicial districts, with a varying number of judges in each district. There is a district court in each county and an office of the clerk of the court where cases may be filed.

The state also is divided into six judicial departments, each of which includes several judicial districts. One justice of the Kansas Supreme Court serves as departmental justice over each department. The departmental justice may assign judges from one judicial district to another.

Judges of the district court must be lawyers. Some counties have district magistrate judges, who may or may not be lawyers, and whose jurisdiction is limited. By state law, there is at least one resident judge in each county.

Each judicial district has a chief judge, who has general control over the assignment of cases within the district and general supervisory authority over the clerical and administrative functions of the court. The Kansas Supreme Court designates the chief judge in each judicial district.

Appeals may be taken from the district courts to the Kansas Court of Appeals or in some cases to the Kansas Supreme Court.

## District Judges

\*Denotes Chief Judge

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Division)</i>	<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Division)</i>
1. Gunnar A. Sundby.....	Leavenworth (1)	Carl William Ossmann.....	Topeka (9)
Martin J. Asher.....	Atchison (2)	Mary E. Mattivi.....	Topeka (10)
Dan K. Wiley.....	Leavenworth (3)	Cheryl R. Kingfisher.....	Topeka (11)
*David J. King.....	Leavenworth (4)	Steven R. Ebberts.....	Topeka (12)
Michael D. Gibbens.....	Leavenworth (5)	David B. Debenham.....	Topeka (13)
Robert J. Bednar.....	Atchison (6)	Nancy E. Parrish.....	Topeka (14)
2. Norbert C. Marek Jr.....	Holton (1)	Mark S. Braun.....	Topeka (15)
*Gary L. Nafziger.....	Oskaloosa (2)	4. *Phillip M. Fromme.....	Burlington (1)
Jeffrey R. Elder.....	Westmoreland (3)	Douglas P. Witteman.....	Ottawa (2)
3. Rebecca W. Crotty.....	Topeka (1)	Eric W. Godderz.....	Garnett (3)
Richard D. Anderson.....	Topeka (2)	5. Jeffry J. Larson.....	Emporia (1)
Teresa L. Watson.....	Topeka (3)	W. Lee Fowler.....	Emporia (2)
Joseph D. Johnson.....	Topeka (4)	*Merlin G. Wheeler.....	Emporia (3)
*Evelyn Z. Wilson.....	Topeka (5)	6. *Amy Harth.....	Paola (1)
Larry D. Hendricks.....	Topeka (6)	Vacant.....	Mound City (2)
Franklin R. Theis.....	Topeka (7)	Mark A. Ward.....	Fort Scott (3)
Frank J. Yeoman Jr.....	Topeka (8)	Steve Montgomery.....	Paola (4)

**2017 Kansas Directory**

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Division)</i>
7. Amy J. Hanley .....	Lawrence (1)
Sally Pokorny .....	Lawrence (2)
Kay Huff .....	Lawrence (3)
James R. McCabria .....	Lawrence (4)
Paula B. Martin .....	Lawrence (5)
Peggy Carr Kittel.....	Lawrence (6)
8. Benjamin J. Sexton .....	Abilene (1)
Maritza Segarra .....	Junction City (2)
*Michael F. Powers .....	Marion (3)
Steven L. Hornbaker .....	Junction City (4)
Ryan W. Rosauer.....	Junction City (5)
9. Joe Dickinson.....	Newton (1)
Marilyn Wilder .....	Newton (2)
John B. Klenda.....	McPherson (3)
10. Keven M.P. O'Grady.....	Olathe (1)
James F. Vano.....	Olathe (2)
Thomas M. Sutherland.....	Olathe (3)
Rhonda K. Mason .....	Olathe (4)
Erica K. Schoenig .....	Olathe (5)
Robert J. Wonnell.....	Olathe (6)
David W. Hauber.....	Olathe (7)
James Charles Droege .....	Olathe (8)
Christina Dunn Gyllenborg.....	Olathe (9)
Kathleen Sloan.....	Olathe (10)
Paul C. Gurney .....	Olathe (11)
Thomas E. Foster .....	Olathe (12)
Brenda Cameron.....	Olathe (13)
*Kevin P. Moriarty.....	Olathe (14)
Michael P. Joyce .....	Olathe (15)
Neil B. Foth .....	Olathe (16)
Thomas Kelly Ryan.....	Olathe (17)
Timothy P. McCarthy .....	Olathe (18)
Sara Welch.....	Olathe (19)
11. *A.J. Wachter .....	Pittsburg (1)
Oliver Kent Lynch.....	Columbus (2)
Robert J. Fleming.....	Parsons (3)
Lori A. Bolton Fleming.....	Girard (4)
Kurtis I. Loy .....	Pittsburg (5)
Jeff Jack.....	Parsons (6)
12. *Kim Cudney .....	Washington (1)
13. Jan Satterfield .....	El Dorado (1)
Charles M. Hart.....	El Dorado (2)
*David A. Ricke .....	El Dorado (3)
Mike Ward.....	El Dorado (4)

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Division)</i>
14. *F. William Cullins .....	Coffeyville (1)
Jeffrey D. Gossard .....	Coffeyville (2)
Gary House.....	Independence (3)
15. *Kevin Berens .....	Colby (1)
Scott Showalter .....	Goodland (2)
16. Sidney R. Thomas.....	Dodge City (1)
E. Leigh Hood .....	Dodge City (2)
*Van Hampton .....	Dodge City (3)
17. *Preston A. Pratt .....	Norton (1)
18. Phillip Journey.....	Wichita (1)
Dave Dahl .....	Wichita (2)
Daniel T. Brooks .....	Wichita (3)
Robb Rumsey .....	Wichita (4)
Seth L. Rundle .....	Wichita (5)
Harold E. Flaigle .....	Wichita (6)
Ben Burgess .....	Wichita (7)
Timothy G. Lahey.....	Wichita (8)
Christopher Magana .....	Wichita (9)
Bruce Brown .....	Wichita (10)
*James Fleetwood .....	Wichita (11)
Kevin M. Smith.....	Wichita (12)
Kevin J. O'Connor.....	Wichita (13)
J. Patrick Walters .....	Wichita (14)
David Kaufman .....	Wichita (15)
Terry L. Pullman .....	Wichita (16)
John Kisner Jr. ....	Wichita (17)
Faith Maughan .....	Wichita (18)
Michael Hoelscher .....	Wichita (19)
Stephen Ternes.....	Wichita (20)
Jeff Dewey .....	Wichita (21)
Deborah Hernandez Mitchell .....	Wichita (22)
William Sioux Woolley.....	Wichita (23)
Tyler Roush.....	Wichita (24)
Warren Wilbert .....	Wichita (25)
Jeff Goering.....	Wichita (26)
Jeff Syrios .....	Wichita (27)
Eric Commer .....	Wichita (28)
19. *Nicholas St. Peter.....	Winfield (1)
James T. Pringle Jr.....	Arkansas City (2)
LaDonna L. Lanning.....	Winfield (3)
20. Ron Svaty .....	Ellsworth (1)
Steve Johnson .....	Great Bend (2)
*Mike Keeley .....	Great Bend (3)

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Division)</i>	<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Division)</i>
21. John F. Bosch .....	Manhattan (1)	29. Robert P. Burns .....	Kansas City (1)
*Meryl D. Wilson .....	Manhattan (2)	Michael A. Russell.....	Kansas City (2)
Grant D. Bannister .....	Manhattan (3)	Delia M. York.....	Kansas City (3)
22. *James A. Patton .....	Hiawatha (1)	William Mahoney.....	Kansas City (4)
John L. Weingart.....	Hiawatha (2)	J. Dexter Burdette .....	Kansas City (5)
23. Blake A. Bittel.....	Hays (1)	Kathleen M. Lynch. ....	Kansas City (6)
*Glenn R. Braun.....	Hays (2)	Robert L. Serra .....	Kansas City (7)
24. *Bruce Gatterman .....	Larned (1)	*R. Wayne Lampson .....	Kansas City (8)
25. Robert J. Frederick .....	Garden City (1)	Daniel Cahill.....	Kansas City (9)
Michael L. Quint .....	Garden City (2)	Bill L. Klapper.....	Kansas City (10)
Ricklin R. Pierce.....	Garden City (3)	Timothy L. Dupree.....	Kansas City (11)
*Wendel W. Wurst.....	Garden City (4)	Wesley K. Griffin .....	Kansas City (12)
26. *Bradley Ambrosier .....	Elkhart (1)	Michael Grosko .....	Kansas City (13)
Clint Peterson .....	Liberal (2)	Daniel Duncan .....	Kansas City (14)
Linda P. Gilmore.....	Hugoton (3)	Aaron T. Roberts .....	Kansas City (15)
27. Trish Rose.....	Hutchinson (1)	Constance Alvey .....	Kansas City (16)
Timothy J. Chambers.....	Hutchinson (2)	30. Francis E. Meisenheimer .....	Pratt (1)
Joseph L. McCarville III.....	Hutchinson (3)	William Mott .....	Wellington (2)
*Patricia Macke Dick .....	Hutchinson (4)	R. Scott McQuin .....	Wellington (3)
28. Jared B. Johnson.....	Salina (1)	*Larry T. Solomon.....	Kingman (4)
Paul J. Hickman .....	Salina (2)	31. *Daniel D. Creitz .....	Iola (1)
Rene Young .....	Salina (3)	David Rogers .....	Fredonia (2)
Patrick Thompson .....	Salina (4)	Daryl D. Ahlquist .....	Chanute (3)

## District Magistrate Judges

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Position)</i>	<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Position)</i>
2. Dennis L. Reiling.....	Oskaloosa (1)	12. Guy R. Steier .....	Concordia (1)
Steven M. Roth .....	Westmoreland (2)	John L. Bingham.....	Mankato (2)
Blaine A. Carter .....	Alma (3)	Brian Grace.....	Lincoln (3)
4. Taylor Wine .....	Lyndon (1)	Debra J.G. Wright .....	Beloit (4)
Kevin L. Kimball .....	Ottawa (2)	Starla Borg Nelson.....	Belleville (5)
5. Douglas P. Jones .....	Cottonwood Falls (1)	Paul Monty .....	Washington (6)
6. Valerie R. Leblanc.....	Fort Scott (1)	13. Kristin Hutchison .....	Howard (1)
8. Keith Collett.....	Abilene (1)	Ross R. McIlvain .....	Eureka (2)
Margaret F. White.....	Council Grove (2)	14. David A. Casement .....	Sedan (1)
Charles Zimmerman .....	Junction City (3)	15. Robert Van Allen .....	St. Francis (1)
9. Steve Hilgers.....	McPherson (1)	Mark J. TEMAAT.....	Oakley (2)
10. Jenifer J. Ashford .....	Olathe (1)	John Cahoj.....	Hoxie (3)
Robert Scott .....	Olathe (2)	Steve Unruh .....	Sharon Springs (4)
James E. Phelan.....	Olathe (3)	Richard J. Ress.....	Colby (5)
Daniel Vokins .....	Olathe (4)	Pat Carroll.....	Atwood (6)
11. Samuel J. Marsh .....	Columbus (1)		

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<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Position)</i>
16. Philip J. Moore .....	Ashland (1)
Rustin C. Martin .....	Coldwater (2)
Joey Duncan .....	Cimarron (3)
Ann L. Dixson.....	Greensburg (4)
Keith Whitney.....	Meade (5)
17. Jessie A. Thompson.....	Hill City (1)
Jay E. Tate .....	Oberlin (2)
Debra Anderson .....	Norton (3)
Renee Henke .....	Osborne (4)
Paula D. Hofaker.....	Phillipsburg (5)
Michael Kirchhoff.....	Smith Center (6)
20. Verle Willey .....	Ellsworth (1)
Don L. Alvord .....	Lyons (2)
Marty K. Clark .....	Russell (3)
Timarie Ann Walters.....	St. John (4)
21. William Malcolm .....	Clay Center (1)
James R. Kepple.....	Manhattan (2)
22. Roy M. Roper .....	Troy (1)
Angela Hecke.....	Marysville (2)
Elizabeth Ensley Deiter.....	Seneca (3)
23. Brendon Boone .....	Gove (1)
Douglas Bigge.....	Stockton (2)
Richard Flax.....	WaKeeney (3)

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Position)</i>
24. Ken Schmidt.....	Kinsley (1)
Kenton Gleason .....	Jetmore (2)
Shelley Selfridge .....	Dighton (3)
James R. Kepple.....	Ness City (4)
Julie Cowell.....	Larned (5)
Dale Snyder .....	LaCrosse (6)
25. Wade Dixon.....	Tribune (1)
Meghan M. Houtsma.....	Syracuse (2)
Richard H. Hodson.....	Lakin (3)
Harry Edward Frock.....	Scott City (4)
Janna DeLissa .....	Leoti (5)
Ricklin Pierce .....	Garden City (6)
Christopher Sanders .....	Garden City (7)
26. Margaret L. Alford .....	Ulysses (1)
Steven A. Santala .....	Satanta (2)
Thomas Kemp.....	Elkhart (3)
Vernon Butt .....	Johnson (4)
Paula J. Sosa.....	Hugoton (5)
27. Cheryl I. Allen.....	Hutchinson (1)
28. Mary Thrower .....	Minneapolis (1)
30. Richard N. Raleigh.....	Medicine Lodge (1)
James R. Biles .....	Anthony (2)
Roseanna Mathis .....	Kingman (3)
31. Thomas M. Saxton Jr. ....	Iola (1)
Leo Gensweider.....	Yates Center (2)