

The Kansas Judiciary

Kansas Judicial Center
301 S.W. 10th Ave., Topeka 66612-1507
785-296-3229
www.kscourts.org

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, Thomas E. Malone,
G. Joseph Pierron Jr., Anthony J. Powell,
Kim R. Schroeder, Melissa Taylor Standridge, Sarah Warner

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. Gerald R. Kuckelman.....	Leavenworth (1)	Carl William Ossmann.....	Topeka (9)
Martin J. Asher.....	Atchison (2)	Mary E. Mattivi.....	Topeka (10)
Dan K. Wiley.....	Leavenworth (3)	Cheryl A. Rios.....	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. *Taylor J. Wine.....	Burlington (1)
Jeffrey R. Elder.....	Westmoreland (3)	Douglas P. Witteman.....	Ottawa (2)
3. Jason E. Geier.....	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)
Darian Dernovish.....	Topeka (4)	*Merlin G. Wheeler.....	Emporia (3)
*Evelyn Z. Wilson.....	Topeka (5)	6. *Amy Harth.....	Paola (1)
Thomas G. Luedke.....	Topeka (6)	Terri L. Johnson.....	Mound City (2)
Franklin R. Theis.....	Topeka (7)	Mark A. Ward.....	Fort Scott (3)
Mary E. Christopher.....	Topeka (8)	Steve Montgomery.....	Paola (4)

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Division)</i>	<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Division)</i>
7. Amy J. Hanley.....	Lawrence (1)	14. *F. William Cullins.....	Coffeyville (1)
Sally Pokorny.....	Lawrence (2)	Jeffrey D. Gossard.....	Coffeyville (2)
Kay Huff.....	Lawrence (3)	Jeffrey Gettler.....	Independence (3)
James R. McCabria.....	Lawrence (4)	15. *Kevin Berens.....	Colby (1)
Paula B. Martin.....	Lawrence (5)	Scott Showalter.....	Goodland (2)
*Peggy Carr Kittel.....	Lawrence (6)	16. Sidney R. Thomas.....	Dodge City (1)
8. Benjamin J. Sexton.....	Abilene (1)	*E. Leigh Hood.....	Dodge City (2)
Courtney D. Boehm.....	Junction City (2)	Laura Lewis.....	Dodge City (3)
*Michael F. Powers.....	Marion (3)	17. *Preston A. Pratt.....	Norton (1)
Steven L. Hornbaker.....	Junction City (4)	18. Phillip Journey.....	Wichita (1)
Ryan W. Rosauer.....	Junction City (5)	Dave Dahl.....	Wichita (2)
9. *Joe Dickinson.....	Newton (1)	Greg Keith.....	Wichita (3)
Marilyn Wilder.....	Newton (2)	Robb Rumsey.....	Wichita (4)
John B. Klenda.....	McPherson (3)	Seth L. Rundle.....	Wichita (5)
10. Keven M.P. O'Grady.....	Olathe (1)	Eric Williams.....	Wichita (6)
James F. Vano.....	Olathe (2)	Ben Burgess.....	Wichita (7)
Thomas M. Sutherland.....	Olathe (3)	Richard A. Macias.....	Wichita (8)
Rhonda K. Mason.....	Olathe (4)	Christopher Magana.....	Wichita (9)
Erica K. Schoenig.....	Olathe (5)	Bruce Brown.....	Wichita (10)
Robert J. Wonnell.....	Olathe (6)	*James Fleetwood.....	Wichita (11)
David W. Hauber.....	Olathe (7)	Kevin M. Smith.....	Wichita (12)
James Charles Droege.....	Olathe (8)	Kevin J. O'Connor.....	Wichita (13)
Christina Dunn Gyllenborg.....	Olathe (9)	J. Patrick Walters.....	Wichita (14)
Kathleen Sloan.....	Olathe (10)	David Kaufman.....	Wichita (15)
Paul C. Gurney.....	Olathe (11)	Terry L. Pullman.....	Wichita (16)
Thomas E. Foster.....	Olathe (12)	John Kisner Jr.....	Wichita (17)
Brenda Cameron.....	Olathe (13)	Faith Maughan.....	Wichita (18)
Kevin P. Moriarty.....	Olathe (14)	Michael Hoelscher.....	Wichita (19)
Michael P. Joyce.....	Olathe (15)	Stephen Ternes.....	Wichita (20)
Neil B. Foth.....	Olathe (16)	Jeff Dewey.....	Wichita (21)
*Thomas Kelly Ryan.....	Olathe (17)	Deborah Hernandez Mitchell.....	Wichita (22)
Timothy P. McCarthy.....	Olathe (18)	William Sioux Woolley.....	Wichita (23)
Sara Welch.....	Olathe (19)	Tyler Roush.....	Wichita (24)
11. Mary Jennifer Brunetti.....	Frontenac (1)	Sean Hatfield.....	Wichita (25)
*Oliver Kent Lynch.....	Columbus (2)	Jeff Goering.....	Wichita (26)
Fred W. Johnson.....	Parsons (3)	Jeff Syrios.....	Wichita (27)
Lori A. Bolton Fleming.....	Girard (4)	Eric Commer.....	Wichita (28)
Kurtis I. Loy.....	Pittsburg (5)	19. *Nicholas St. Peter.....	Winfield (1)
Jeff Jack.....	Parsons (6)	Christopher Smith.....	Arkansas City (2)
12. *Kim Cudney.....	Washington (1)	LaDonna L. Lanning.....	Winfield (3)
13. Jan Satterfield.....	El Dorado (1)	20. Scott E. McPherson.....	Lyons (1)
Charles M. Hart.....	El Dorado (2)	Steve Johnson.....	Great Bend (2)
*David A. Ricke.....	El Dorado (3)	*Mike Keeley.....	Great Bend (3)
Mike Ward.....	El Dorado (4)		

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Division)</i>
21. John F. Bosch	Manhattan (1)
*Meryl D. Wilson	Manhattan (2)
Grant D. Bannister	Manhattan (3)
22. *James A. Patton	Hiawatha (1)
John L. Weingart.....	Hiawatha (2)
23. Blake A. Bittel.....	Hays (1)
*Glenn R. Braun.....	Hays (2)
24. *Bruce Gatterman	Larned (1)
25. *Robert J. Frederick	Garden City (1)
Michael L. Quint.....	Garden City (2)
Ricklin R. Pierce.....	Garden City (3)
Wendel W. Wurst	Garden City (4)
26. *Bradley Ambrosier	Elkhart (1)
Clint Peterson	Liberal (2)
Linda P. Gilmore.....	Hugoton (3)
27. Trish Rose.....	Hutchinson (1)
Timothy J. Chambers.....	Hutchinson (2)
Joseph L. McCarville III.....	Hutchinson (3)
*Patricia Macke Dick.....	Hutchinson (4)
28. Jared B. Johnson.....	Salina (1)
Paul J. Hickman.....	Salina (2)
*Rene Young	Salina (3)
Patrick Thompson	Salina (4)

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Division)</i>
29. R. Wayne Lampson	Kansas City (1)
Constance Alvey	Kansas City (2)
Timothy L. Dupree.....	Kansas City (3)
Michael A. Russell.....	Kansas City (4)
Aaron T. Roberts	Kansas City (5)
*Robert P. Burns.....	Kansas City (6)
William Mahoney.....	Kansas City (7)
Bill L. Klapper.....	Kansas City (8)
J. Dexter Burdette (retired 9/30)	Kansas City (9)
Kathleen M. Lynch.....	Kansas City (10)
Courtney H. Mikesic.....	Kansas City (11)
Renee S. Henry	Kansas City (12)
Jennifer L. Myers	Kansas City (13)
Daniel Cahill.....	Kansas City (14)
Delia M. York.....	Kansas City (15)
Wesley K. Griffin	Kansas City (16)
30. Francis E. Meisenheimer	Pratt (1)
*William Mott.....	Wellington (2)
R. Scott McQuin.....	Wellington (3)
Vacant	Kingman (4)
31. *Daniel D. Creitz	Iola (1)
David Rogers	Fredonia (2)
Daryl D. Ahlquist	Chanute (3)

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Position)</i>
16. Philip J. Moore	Ashland (1)
Rustin C. Martin	Coldwater (2)
Joey Duncan	Cimarron (3)
Richard McVey.....	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)
Richard Burgess	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)
R. Scott Barrows	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	Sublette (2)
Thomas Kemp.....	Elkhart (3)
Vernon Butt	Johnson (4)
Paula J. Sosa.....	Hugoton (5)
27. Daniel D. Gilligan	Hutchinson (1)
28. Mary Thrower.....	Minneapolis (1)
30. Richard N. Raleigh.....	Medicine Lodge (1)
James R. Biles	Anthony (2)
Roseanna Mathis	Kingman (3)
31. Tod Michael Davis.....	Iola (1)
Leo Gensweider	Yates Center (2)

District Magistrate Judges

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Position)</i>
2. Dennis L. Reiling.....	Oskaloosa (1)
Erich G. Campbel.....	Westmoreland (2)
Blaine A. Carter.....	Alma (3)
4. Taylor Wine	Lyndon (1)
Kevin L. Kimball	Ottawa (2)
5. Douglas P. Jones	Cottonwood Falls (1)
6. Valerie R. Leblanc.....	Fort Scott (1)
8. Keith Collett.....	Abilene (1)
Margaret F. White.....	Council Grove (2)
Charles Zimmerman	Junction City (3)
9. Steve Hilgers.....	McPherson (1)
10. Jenifer J. Ashford	Olathe (1)
Robert Scott.....	Olathe (2)
James E. Phelan.....	Olathe (3)
Daniel Vokins	Olathe (4)
11. Samuel J. Marsh	Columbus (1)

<i>District, Name</i>	<i>Office Address (Position)</i>
12. Guy R. Steier	Concordia (1)
Kevin L. Phillips.....	Mankato (2)
Brian Grace.....	Lincoln (3)
Debra J.G. Wright	Beloit (4)
Starla Borg Nelson.....	Belleville (5)
Paul Monty	Washington (6)
13. Kristin Hutchison	Howard (1)
Ross R. McIlvain	Eureka (2)
14. David A. Casement	Sedan (1)
15. Paula Keller.....	St. Francis (1)
Mark J. Temaat.....	Oakley (2)
John Cahoj.....	Hoxie (3)
Steve Unruh	Sharon Springs (4)
Richard J. Ress.....	Colby (5)
James Schroeder	Atwood (6)