

**Board of County
Commissioners**

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March 4, 2024

North Dakota Supreme Court
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0530

RE: Support of Judgeship in the East Central Judicial District

Dear Clerk:

On February 23, 2024, the Cass County Commission received notice that the Honorable John C. Irby indicated his decision not to pursue candidacy for Judgeship No. 8 upon the expiration of his term on December 31, 2024.

This vacancy coincides with the Commission's observation of the escalating population and caseload within Cass County, situated in the East Central Judicial District with its hub in Fargo. Recognizing the pressing demands on the judicial system, the Cass County Board of Commissioners supports the retention of Judgeship No. 8 in the district, deeming it a judicious allocation of resources to sustain the efficient operation of the courts in the area.

Respectfully,

Chad Peterson, Chairman
Cass County Commission

cc: Cass County Commissioners

SUGGESTED MOTION: Move to authorize the chairman to sign a letter to the North Dakota Supreme Court recommending the vacancy in Judgeship No. 8 in the East Central Judicial Court be filled with its chambers in Fargo.

IN THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

NOTICE OF CONSULTATION
Supreme Court No. 20240055

**In the Matter of the Vacancy in Judgeship No. 8,
with Chambers in Fargo, East Central Judicial District**

[¶1] On February 13, 2024, this Court received notice that the Honorable John C. Irby, District Judge for the East Central Judicial District, does not intend to be a candidate for Judgeship No. 8, when his term expires December 31, 2024. Therefore, under N.D.C.C. § 27-05-02.1(2), a vacancy is created. Section 27-05-02.1, N.D.C.C., requires the Supreme Court to determine whether the judgeship is necessary for effective judicial administration in the East Central Judicial District or whether the judgeship may be transferred. The Court considered the matter, and

[¶2] **ORDERED**, the Supreme Court will undertake a written consultation with the attorneys and judges of the East Central Judicial District under N.D. Sup. Ct. Admin. R. 7.2. Any person wishing to comment on the vacancy may do so in writing no later than March 18, 2024. It is expected the Supreme Court will receive a report from the Court Administrator for Unit 2, regarding the East Central Judicial District and discussing the criteria under N.D. Sup. Ct. Admin. R. 7.2, and statewide caseload data from the State court administrator's office. Written comments may be e-mailed to Petra H. Mandigo Hulm, Clerk of the Supreme Court, at supclerkofcourt@ndcourts.gov, or addressed to 600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck, ND 58505-0530.

[¶3] The Supreme Court of the State of North Dakota, with the Honorable Jon J. Jensen, Chief Justice, the Honorable Daniel J. Crothers, the Honorable Lisa Fair McEvers, the Honorable Jerod E. Tufte, and the Honorable Douglas A. Bahr, Justices, directing the Clerk of the Supreme Court to enter the above order.

Dated: February 23, 2024

Petra H. Mandigo Hulm
Clerk
North Dakota Supreme Court