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6 March 2026

JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES FOR JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT

This serves as a reminder to the Law Bodies and members of the public to submit comments on the suitability or otherwise of candidates nominated for judicial vacancies. The due date is set for **Thursday, 12 March 2026. No comments received after 12 March 2026 will be considered.**

On 5 November 2025 the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) published notices in the media calling for nominations of interested persons to fill vacancies in the following courts – Supreme Court of Appeal, Land Court, Competition Appeal Court, Western Cape Division of the High Court, Eastern Cape Division of the High Court and Gauteng Division of the High Court. The closing date for submission of nominations was 5 December 2025. The following candidates have been shortlisted to be interviewed:

1. Supreme Court of Appeal (3 vacancies)

Judge Gerald Hercules Bloem
Judge Nkosinathi Emmanuel Chili
Judge Thandi Victoria Norman
Judge Esther Johanna Sophia Steyn
Judge Bashier Vally
Judge Leonie Windell

2. Land Court (1 vacancy)

Ms Diana Mabasa
Adv Mzokhulayo Maxwell Mthembu

3. Competition Appeal Court (2 vacancies)

Judge Evette Fiona Dippenaar



4. Western Cape Division of the High Court (5 vacancies)

Mr Rodges (Roy) Deon Barendse
Adv Ajay Bhoopchand SC
Adv Diane Margaret Davis SC
Ms Elzanne Mureen Jonker
Adv Ashley Henri Kantor SC
Adv Zuko Luvo Mapoma
Ms Ncumisa Thoko Mayosi
Ms Sharon Mthimunye
Adv Pinda Njokweni
Adv Stanley Christopher O'Brien SC
Ms Phillipa Susan Van Zyl

5. Eastern Cape Division of the High Court (3 vacancies: 2 vacancies in Makhanda and 1 vacancy in Mthatha)

Ms Gaynor Appels
Ms Nolubabalo Cengani-Mbakaza
Adv Sally Ann Collett
Mr Mziwonke Samson Dunywa
Prof Rosaan Krüger
Adv Nicola Molony
Ms Shirley Thembela Tilana-Mabece
Mr Mbulelo Victor Nqumse
Prof Nomthandazo Patience Ntlama-Makhanya
Mr Aron Sipho Zono

6. Gauteng Division of the High Court (1 vacancy: Judge President)

Judge Aubrey Phago Ledwaba

The shortlisted candidates will be interviewed on **13 -17 April 2026** and will be notified of the venue, date and time of the interviews in due course.



Law bodies and any persons who wish to comment on the suitability or otherwise of a shortlisted candidate should address their comments to the Secretariat of the JSC at SMthombeni@judiciary.org.za and TPhaahlamohlaka@judiciary.org.za, Copied to: JSC@judiciary.org.za. Comments in respect of each candidate must be submitted on a separate page in both pdf and word format and must reach the Secretariat by no later than **12 March 2026**. **Comments received after 12 March 2026 will not be considered.**

Issued by the Judicial Service Commission

6 March 2026

