

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 17-09**

**Re-Establishment of the Probate Panel Implementation Committee**

**WHEREAS**, by Administrative Order 15-18, issued on September 14, 2015, the Probate Fiduciary Panel was established as a permanent, standing panel of attorneys from which judicial officers of the Superior Court select attorneys for appointment in any capacity in guardianship, conservatorship, and all other Probate Division proceedings; and

**WHEREAS**, in Administrative Order 15-01, issued on February 12, 2015, the Court determined that it is in the best interest of the administration of justice that the Court establish a regular and ongoing process for re-establishing the Probate Fiduciary Panel on a predictable schedule and to otherwise establish a process to accept, at any time, applications from attorneys who wish to become a member of the Panel during the time between the periodic re-establishment of the Panel; and

**WHEREAS**, Administrative Order 17-08 establishes a process for the expansion of the Probate Fiduciary Panel in 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, a committee of judicial officers must be appointed to address issues concerning the process by which attorneys may become members of the Probate Fiduciary Panel;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, it is, by the Court,

**ORDERED**, that there is hereby created the Probate Panel Implementation Committee (“Committee”) which shall consist of judicial officers designated by the Presiding Judge of the Probate Division, and whose purpose shall be to consider applications to the Probate Fiduciary Panel; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the Presiding Judge of the Probate Division shall prepare an application, for attorneys seeking appointment to the Probate Fiduciary Panel, and have said application available to attorneys on or before April 28, 2017; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the Committee shall have the authority to review the application and make changes to the application as deemed necessary by the Committee to ensure that qualified candidates are appointed to the Probate Fiduciary Panel; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the application shall request the applicant’s name, office address, office telephone number, cellular telephone number, email address, bar admissions, any disciplinary actions, and any additional information the Committee deems pertinent for review during the application process; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that, on or before August 31, 2017, as outlined by Administrative Order 17-08, the Committee shall determine whether an applicant’s education, experience, quality of performance, and expressed interest warrant appointment to the Probate Fiduciary Panel and shall recommend those applicants to the Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Superior Court; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that, in deciding which applicants are best qualified for appointment to the Probate Fiduciary Panel, the Committee may seek the views of other judicial officers, including present and past members of the Probate Division, as well as comments from the Probate Panel Advisory Committee consisting of members of the Probate Education Committee; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that, after considering the recommendations of the Committee, the Chief Judge, in consultation with the Presiding Judge of the Probate Division, will make the final decision on the appointment of attorneys to the Probate Fiduciary Panel pursuant to Administrative Order 17-08; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the Chief Judge, in consultation with the Presiding Judge of the Probate Division, may appoint attorneys whose qualifications do not warrant full membership on the Probate Fiduciary Panel as provisional panel members with the anticipation that after a period of one (1) year they will be considered for full membership upon review of their work during the provisional period; and it is further

**ORDERED**, that the following judicial officers are hereby appointed to the Probate Panel Implementation Committee:

- JUDGE GERALD I. FISHER
- JUDGE ALFRED S. IRVING
- JUDGE RUSSELL F. CANAN
- JUDGE DARLENE M. SOLTYS
- JUDGE ERIK P. CHRISTIAN

**SO ORDERED.**

**BY THE COURT.**

**Date: April 20, 2017**



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**Robert E. Morin, Chief Judge**

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