

PRESS RELEASE FOR WIDE DISTRIBUTION

August 19, 2024

LETTERS OF INTEREST AND RESUMES ARE BEING ACCEPTED TO FILL THE VACANCY OF BRUCE E. STAGGS JUSTICE OF THE PEACE IN JUSTICE PRECINCT 3, BENSON

Cochise County Board of Supervisors will be appointing a Justice of the Peace to fill the remaining portion of Justice of the Peace Staggs term through December 31, 2026. Justice of the Peace Staggs has served over Precinct 3, Benson Justice Court since 2014. He announced his resignation effective November 12, 2024.

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statute 16-230 (A) (2): If a county office becomes vacant, the board of supervisors shall appoint a person of the same political party as the person vacating the office to fill the portion of the term until the next regular general election.

A Justice of the Peace Court Selection Committee will be established and review all applications, interview selected applicants in an open meeting and recommend candidates to the Board of Supervisors. See attached approved selection process. The Board of Supervisors shall have the opportunity to interview all applicants and make the final selection by vote in an open meeting. Title 22 of the Arizona Revised Statutes provides more detail on the duties of a Justice of the Peace.

To be eligible for appointment to this vacant office as Justice of the Peace, Arizona law specifies that each potential candidate meet the following criteria:

- Must be a legal Arizona resident living within Precinct 3, Benson Justice Court
- Must be registered to vote
- Must be able to read and write the English language
- Must be at least 18 years of age and
- Must be a registered Republican

Interested individuals should take note of the application criteria, and deadlines below:

- Letters of interest, résumés, and other documents outlining the applicant's qualifications for office shall be submitted to the Clerk of the Board by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, September 18, 2024.
- Candidates should indicate their address, party affiliation and contact information in their resume/letter of interest.

- Candidate names will be posted to the public in compliance with Open Meeting Law. All meetings with the Court Selection Committee or the Board of Supervisors are subject to Open Meeting Law requirements and must be publicly posted at least 24 hours in advance.

For any questions, please contact Lara Loewenheim, Clerk of the Board, at Board@cochise.az.gov or (520) 432-9200.