

Colorado Statutes

Title 13. COURTS AND COURT PROCEDURE

COURTS OF RECORD

Article 5.5. Commissions on Judicial Performance

Current through 2016 Legislation and 11/8/2016 Election

§ 13-5.5-101. Legislative declaration

- (1) The general assembly hereby finds and declares that it is in the public interest to establish a system of evaluating judicial performance to provide persons voting on the retention of justices and judges with fair, responsible, and constructive information about judicial performance and to provide justices and judges with useful information concerning their own performances. The general assembly further finds and declares that the evaluation of judicial performance should be conducted statewide and within each judicial district using uniform criteria and procedures pursuant to the provisions of this article.
- (2) The general assembly further finds and declares that it is in the public interest to establish an office of judicial performance evaluation within the judicial department of the state to implement the provisions of this article.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-101

History. L. 88: Entire article added, p. 596, § 1, effective May 12. L. 97: Entire section amended, p. 1647, § 1, effective June 5. L. 2008: Entire section amended, p. 1271, § 1, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-101.5. Office of judicial performance evaluation

- (1) There is hereby established in the judicial department the office of judicial performance evaluation, referred to in this article as the "office". The state commission on judicial performance established pursuant to section [13-5.5-102](#) shall oversee the office.
- (2) The state commission shall appoint an executive director of the office who shall serve at the pleasure of the state commission. The compensation of the executive director shall be the same as the general assembly establishes for a judge of the district court. The compensation paid to the executive director shall not be reduced during the time that a person serves as executive director. The executive director shall hire additional staff for the office as necessary and as approved by the state commission.
- (3) Subject to the supervision of the state commission, the office shall:
 - (a) Staff the state and district commissions when directed to do so by the state commission;

- (b) Train members of the state and district commissions;
 - (c) Collect and disseminate data on judicial performance evaluations;
 - (d) Conduct public education efforts concerning the judicial performance evaluation process and retention recommendations of the state and district commissions;
 - (e) Measure public awareness of the judicial performance evaluation process through regular polling; and
 - (f) Complete other duties as assigned by the state commission.
- (4) Expenses of the office shall be paid for from the state commission on judicial performance cash fund created pursuant to section [13-5.5-107](#).

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-101.5

History. L. 2008: Entire section added, p. 1271, § 2, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-102. State commission on judicial performance

- (1) (a) (I) (A) There is hereby established the state commission on judicial performance, referred to in this article as the "state commission". The state commission shall consist of ten members. The speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate shall each appoint one attorney and one nonattorney. The governor and the chief justice of the supreme court shall each appoint one attorney and two nonattorneys.
- (B) For purposes of this subsection (1), "attorney" means a person admitted to practice law before the courts of this state.
- (II) (A) All members of the state commission shall serve terms of four years. The term of each member of the state commission shall expire on November 30 of an odd-numbered year, and the term of a member appointed to replace a member at the end of the member's term shall commence on December 1 of the year in which the previous member's term expires.
- (B) Repealed.

(b) (I) Any vacancy on the state commission shall be filled by the original appointing authority, but a member shall not serve more than two full terms plus any balance remaining on an unexpired term if the initial appointment was to fill a vacancy. Within five days after a vacancy arises on the state commission, the state commission shall notify the appointing authority of the vacancy, and the appointing authority shall make an appointment within forty-five days after the date of the vacancy. If the original appointing authority fails to make the appointment within forty-five days after the date of the vacancy, the state commission shall make the appointment.

(II) Justices and judges actively performing judicial duties may not be appointed to serve on the state commission. Former justices and judges are eligible to be appointed as attorney members; except that a former justice or judge may not be assigned or appointed to perform judicial duties while serving on the state commission.

(c) The chair of the state commission shall be elected by its members every two years.

(2) Members and employees of the state commission shall be immune from suit in any action, civil or criminal, based upon official acts performed in good faith as members of the state commission.

(3) A member of the state commission shall recuse himself or herself from any evaluation of the person who appointed the member to the commission.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-102

History. L. 88: Entire article added, p. 596, § 1, effective May 12. L. 93: (1)(a) and (1)(b) amended, p. 658, § 1, effective April 30. L. 97: (1)(a) and (1)(b) amended, p. 1647, § 2, effective June 5. L. 2008: (1)(a) and (1)(b) amended and (3) added, p. 1272, § 3, effective July 1.

Editor's Note:

§ 13-5.5-103. Powers and duties of the state commission

(1) In addition to other powers conferred and duties imposed upon the state commission by this article, the state commission has the following powers and duties:

(a) To appoint and supervise a person to serve as the executive director of the office of judicial performance evaluation;

(b) To assist the executive director in managing the office and providing fiscal oversight of the operating budget of the office;

(c) To develop uniform procedures and techniques for evaluating district and county

judges, justices of the Colorado supreme court, and judges of the court of appeals based on performance criteria provided in section [13-5.5-105.5](#);

- (d) To develop guidelines and procedures for the continuous collection of data for use in the evaluation process;
- (e) To develop surveys for persons affected by justices and judges, including but not limited to attorneys, jurors, litigants, law enforcement personnel, attorneys within the district attorneys' and public defender's offices, employees of the court, court interpreters, employees of probation offices, employees of local departments of social services, and victims of crimes, as defined in section [24-4.1-302\(5\)](#), C.R.S.;
- (f) To determine the statistical validity of completed surveys, report to the district commissions on the statistical validity of the surveys for their districts, and specify when and how statistically invalid surveys may be used;
- (g) To prepare alternatives to surveys where sample populations are inadequate to produce valid results;
- (h) To produce and distribute narratives and survey reports;
- (i) To review case management data and statistics for individual appellate justices and judges provided by the state court administrator;
- (j) To review written judicial opinions;
- (k) To collect information from direct courtroom observation;
- (l) To interview justices and appellate judges and other persons and accept information and documentation from interested persons;
- (m) To draft narratives that reflect the results of judicial performance evaluations of justices and appellate judges;
- (n) To distribute to the public narratives that reflect the results of each judicial performance evaluation of each appellate justice or judge;
- (o)
 - (I) Subject to approval by the Colorado supreme court, to promulgate rules necessary to implement and effectuate the provisions of this article, including rules to be followed by the district commissions.
 - (II) Prior to the final promulgation of any rule pursuant to this paragraph (o), the state commission shall post a notice of the proposed rule, allow for a period for public comment, and give the public an opportunity to address the commission concerning the proposed rule at a public hearing.

- (III) The state commission may adopt rules or standards that provide guidance to members of the state commission or members of district commissions regarding the review or interpretation of information obtained as a result of the evaluation process and the criteria contained in section [13-5.5-105.5](#). Any such rules or standards shall:
 - (A) Be consistent with paragraphs (e), (f), and (g) of this subsection (1), in that the rules or standards and the application thereof shall take into consideration the statistical reliability of survey data; and
 - (B) Not divest any member of the state commission or a district commission of his or her ultimate authority to decide whether to vote for or against recommending retention of a justice or judge and be consistent with subsection (2) of this section and section [13-5.5-105\(2\)](#).

- (p) To develop procedures for the review of the deliberation procedures established by the district commissions. However, the state commission shall not have the power or duty to review actual determinations made by the district commissions.

- (q) To gather and maintain statewide statistical data and post a statistical report of the statewide data on its website no later than thirty days prior to each retention election. The statistical report shall specify:
 - (I) The total number of justices and judges who were eligible to stand for retention;
 - (II) The total number of evaluations of justices and judges performed by the state and district commissions;
 - (III) The total number of justices and judges who were evaluated but did not stand for retention; and
 - (IV) The total number of justices and judges recommended as "retain", "do not retain", or "no opinion", respectively.

- (2) Unless recused pursuant to a provision of this article, each member of the state commission shall have the discretion to vote for or against retention of a justice or judge based upon his or her review of all information before the state commission.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-103

History. L. 88: Entire article added, p. 597, § 1, effective May 12. L. 93: (1)(k) amended and (1)(l) added, p. 659, § 2, effective April 30. L. 97: (1)(g) repealed, p. 1482, § 39, effective June 3; (1)(b), (1)(c), (1)(e), and (1)(i) amended and (1)(d.5) and (1)(m) added, p. 1648, § 3, effective June 5. L. 2008: Entire section R&RE, p. 1273, § 4, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-104. District commission on judicial performance

- (1)
 - (a)
 - (I) (A) There is hereby established in each judicial district a district commission on judicial performance, referred to in this article as the "district commission". The district commission shall consist of ten members. The speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate shall each appoint one attorney and one nonattorney. The governor and the chief justice of the supreme court shall each appoint one attorney and two nonattorneys.
 - (B) For purposes of this subsection (1), "attorney" means a person admitted to practice law before the courts of this state.
 - (II) All members of the district commission shall serve terms of four years. The term of each member of a district commission shall expire on November 30 of an odd-numbered year, and the term of any member appointed to replace a member at the end of the member's term shall commence on December 1 of the year when the previous member's term expires.
 - (III) The appointing authority may remove members of the district commissions for cause.
 - (b)
 - (I) Any vacancy on the district commission shall be filled by the original appointing authority, but a member shall not serve more than two full terms plus any balance remaining on an unexpired term if the initial appointment was to fill a vacancy. Within five days after a vacancy arises on a district commission, the district commission shall notify the appointing authority and the state commission of the vacancy, and the appointing authority shall make an appointment within forty-five days after the date of the vacancy. If the original appointing authority fails to make the appointment within forty-five days after the date of the vacancy, the state commission shall make the appointment.
 - (II) Justices and judges actively performing judicial duties may not be appointed to serve on the district commission. Former justices and judges are eligible to be appointed as attorney members; except that a former justice or judge may not be assigned or appointed to perform judicial duties while serving on the district commission.
 - (c) The chair of the district commission shall be elected by its members every two years.
- (2) The district administrator of each judicial district and his or her staff shall serve as the staff for the district commission.

- (3) Members and employees of a district commission shall be immune from suit in any action, civil or criminal, based upon official acts performed in good faith as members of the district commission.
- (4) A member of a district commission shall recuse himself or herself from an evaluation of the person who appointed the member to the commission.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-104

History. L. 88: Entire article added, p. 598, § 1, effective May 12. L. 93: (1)(a) and (1)(b) amended, p. 659, § 3, effective April 30. L. 97: (1)(a) and (1)(b) amended, p. 1649, § 4, effective June 5. L. 2008: (1)(a), (1)(b), and (2) amended and (4) added, p. 1275, § 5, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-105. Powers and duties of district commissions

- (1) In addition to other powers conferred and duties imposed upon a district commission by this article, in conformity with the rules, guidelines, and procedures adopted by the state commission pursuant to section [13-5.5-103\(1\) \(f\)](#) and the state commission's review of the deliberation procedures pursuant to section [13-5.5-103\(1\) \(p\)](#), a district commission has the following powers and duties:
 - (a) To review case management statistics and data for individual district and county court judges provided by the state court administrator;
 - (b) To review written judicial opinions and orders of district and county court judges within the judicial district;
 - (c) To collect information from direct courtroom observation of district and county court judges within the judicial district;
 - (d) To interview district and county court judges and other persons and accept information and documentation from interested persons;
 - (e) To obtain information from parties and attorneys regarding district and county court judges' handling of domestic relations and family law cases with respect to the judges' fairness, patience with pro se parties, gender neutrality, and handling of emotional parties; and
 - (f) To draft narratives that reflect the results of judicial performance evaluations of district and county court judges.
- (2) Unless recused pursuant to a provision of this article, each member of a district commission shall have the discretion to vote for or against retention of a district or county judge based upon his or her review of all information before the district commission.
- (3) Upon completing its required recommendations and narratives, each district commission shall collect all documents and other information, including all copies, received regarding

the justices or judges evaluated. Each district commission shall forward the documents and other information, including all copies, to the state commission within thirty days following submission of the district commission's recommendations and narratives to the state commission. The state commission shall adopt rules regarding retention of evaluation information, which shall be made available to district commissions for subsequent evaluations of the justices or judges.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-105

History. L. 88: Entire article added, p. 598, § 1, effective May 12. L. 93: Entire section amended, p. 660, § 4, effective April 30. L. 97: Entire section amended, p. 1650, § 5, effective June 5. L. 2008: Entire section R&RE, p. 1276, § 6, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-105.5. Judicial performance criteria

- (1) The state commission shall evaluate each justice of the Colorado supreme court and each judge of the Colorado court of appeals based on the following performance criteria:
 - (a) Integrity, including but not limited to whether:
 - (I) The justice or judge avoids impropriety or the appearance of impropriety;
 - (II) The justice or judge displays fairness and impartiality toward all participants; and
 - (III) The justice or judge avoids ex parte communications;
 - (b) Legal knowledge, including but not limited to whether:
 - (I) The justice's or judge's opinions are well-reasoned and demonstrate an understanding of substantive law and the relevant rules of procedure and evidence;
 - (II) The justice's or judge's opinions demonstrate attentiveness to factual and legal issues before the court; and
 - (III) The justice's or judge's opinions adhere to precedent or clearly explain the legal basis for departure from precedent;
 - (c) Communication skills, including but not limited to whether:
 - (I) The justice's or judge's opinions are clearly written and understandable; and
 - (II) The justice's or judge's questions or statements during oral arguments are clearly stated and understandable;
 - (d) Judicial temperament, including but not limited to whether:

- (I) The justice or judge demonstrates courtesy toward attorneys, litigants, court staff, and others in the courtroom; and
 - (II) The justice or judge maintains appropriate decorum in the courtroom;
 - (e) Administrative performance, including but not limited to whether:
 - (I) The justice or judge demonstrates preparation for oral argument, attentiveness, and appropriate control over judicial proceedings;
 - (II) The justice or judge manages workload effectively;
 - (III) The justice or judge issues opinions in a timely manner and without unnecessary delay; and
 - (IV) The justice or judge participates in a proportionate share of the court's workload; and
 - (f) Service to the legal profession and the public by participating in service-oriented efforts designed to educate the public about the legal system and to improve the legal system.
- (2) The district commissions shall evaluate district and county judges based on the following criteria:
 - (a) Integrity, including but not limited to whether:
 - (I) The judge avoids impropriety or the appearance of impropriety;
 - (II) The judge displays fairness and impartiality toward all participants; and
 - (III) The judge avoids ex parte communications;
 - (b) Legal knowledge, including but not limited to whether:
 - (I) The judge demonstrates an understanding of substantive law and relevant rules of procedure and evidence;
 - (II) The judge demonstrates awareness of and attentiveness to factual and legal issues before the court; and
 - (III) The judge appropriately applies statutes, judicial precedent, and other sources of legal authority;
 - (c) Communication skills, including but not limited to whether:

- (I) The judge's findings of fact, conclusions of law, and orders are clearly written and understandable;
 - (II) The judge's oral presentations are clearly stated and understandable and the judge clearly explains all oral decisions; and
 - (III) The judge clearly presents information to the jury;
- (d) Judicial temperament, including but not limited to whether:
- (I) The judge demonstrates courtesy toward attorneys, litigants, court staff, and others in the courtroom;
 - (II) The judge maintains and requires order, punctuality, and decorum in the courtroom; and
 - (III) The judge demonstrates appropriate demeanor on the bench;
- (e) Administrative performance, including but not limited to whether:
- (I) The judge demonstrates preparation for all hearings and trials;
 - (II) The judge uses court time efficiently;
 - (III) The judge issues findings of fact, conclusions of law, and orders without unnecessary delay;
 - (IV) The judge effectively manages cases;
 - (V) The judge takes responsibility for more than his or her own caseload and is willing to assist other judges; and
 - (VI) The judge understands and complies with directives of the Colorado supreme court; and
- (f) Service to the legal profession and the public by participating in service-oriented efforts designed to educate the public about the legal system and to improve the legal system.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-105.5

History. L. 2008: Entire section added, p. 1277, § 7, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-106. Evaluation in retention election years

- (1) (a) (I) The state commission shall conduct an evaluation of each justice of the supreme court and each judge of the court of appeals whose term is to expire and who must stand for retention election. The evaluations shall be referred to in this subsection (1) as "retention year evaluations".
- (II) Retention year evaluations shall be completed and the narrative prepared and communicated to the appellate justice or judge no later than forty-five days prior to the last day available for the appellate justice or judge to declare such justice's or judge's intent to stand for retention.
- (III) Prior to the completion of the narratives for retention year evaluations, and following at least ten days' notice to the public and the appellate justices and judges, it is highly recommended that the state commission hold a public hearing regarding all appellate justices and judges who are subject to retention year evaluations. The state commission shall arrange to have the public hearing electronically recorded and shall make copies of the recording available to members of the public. The state commission shall supply a copy of the recording at no cost to any justice or judge who is the subject of the hearing.
- (IV) The narrative prepared for a retention year evaluation shall include an assessment of the appellate justice's or judge's strengths and weaknesses with respect to the judicial performance criteria contained in section [13-5.5-105.5\(1\)](#), a discussion regarding any deficiency identified in the interim evaluation prepared pursuant to section [13-5.5-106.3](#), and a statement of whether the state commission concludes that any deficiency identified has been satisfactorily addressed by the justice or judge.
- (V) Each appellate justice or judge who receives a retention year evaluation shall have the opportunity to meet with the state commission or otherwise respond to the evaluation no later than ten days following the justice's or judge's receipt of the evaluation. If the meeting is held or response is made, the state commission may revise its evaluation.
- (b) After the requirements of paragraph (a) of this subsection (1) are met, the state commission shall make a recommendation regarding the retention of each appellate justice or judge who declares his or her intent to stand for retention, which recommendation shall be stated as "retain", "do not retain", or "no opinion". A "no opinion" recommendation shall be made only when the state commission concludes that results are not sufficiently clear to make a firm recommendation and shall be accompanied by a detailed explanation. The narrative shall include the number of commission members who voted for and against the recommendation.
- (c) The state commission shall release the narrative, the recommendation, and any other relevant information related to a retention year evaluation to the public no later than

forty-five days prior to the retention election. The state commission shall arrange to have the narrative and recommendation printed in the ballot information booklet prepared pursuant to section [1-40-124.5](#), C.R.S., and mailed to electors pursuant to section [1-40-125](#), C.R.S.

- (2) (a) (I) The district commission shall conduct an evaluation of each district and county judge whose term is to expire and who must stand for retention election. The evaluations shall be referred to in this subsection (2) as "retention year evaluations".
- (II) Retention year evaluations shall be completed and the narrative communicated to each judge no later than forty-five days prior to the last day available for the judge to declare the judge's intent to stand for retention.
- (III) Prior to the completion of narratives for retention year evaluations, and following at least ten days' notice to the public and the district and county judges, it is highly recommended that the district commission conduct a public hearing regarding all district and county judges who are subject to retention year evaluations. The district commission shall arrange to have the public hearing electronically recorded and shall make copies of the recording available to members of the public. The district commission shall supply a copy of the recording at no cost to any judge who is the subject of the hearing.
- (IV) The narrative prepared for a retention year evaluation shall include an assessment of the district or county judge's strengths and weaknesses with respect to the judicial performance criteria contained in section [13-5.5-105.5\(2\)](#), a discussion regarding any deficiency identified in the interim evaluation prepared pursuant to section [13-5.5-106.3](#), and a statement of whether the district commission concludes that any deficiency identified has been satisfactorily addressed by the judge.
- (V) Each judge who receives a retention year evaluation shall have the opportunity to meet with the district commission or otherwise respond to the evaluation no later than ten days following the judge's receipt of the evaluation. If the meeting is held or response is made, the district commission may revise its evaluation.
- (b) After the requirements of paragraph (a) of this subsection (2) are met, the district commission shall make a recommendation regarding the retention of each district or county judge who declares his or her intent to stand for retention, which recommendation shall be stated as "retain", "do not retain", or "no opinion". A "no opinion" recommendation shall be made only when the district commission concludes that results are not sufficiently clear to make a firm recommendation and

shall be accompanied by a detailed explanation. The narrative shall include the number of commission members who voted for and against the recommendation.

- (c) The state commission shall release the narrative, the recommendation, and any other relevant information to the public no later than forty-five days prior to the retention election. The state commission shall arrange to have a summary of the narrative and recommendation printed in the ballot information booklet prepared pursuant to section [1-40-124.5](#), C.R.S., and mailed to electors within the judicial district pursuant to section [1-40-125](#), C.R.S.

(3) Repealed.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-106

History. L. 88: Entire article added, p. 598, § 1, effective May 12. L. 93: (1)(a), (1)(c), (2)(a), and (2)(c) amended, p. 660, § 5, effective April 30. L. 97: (1)(c) and (2)(c) amended and (3) added, p. 1650, § 6, effective June 5. L. 2008: (1) and (2) amended and (3) repealed, pp. 1280, 1282, §§ 8, 9, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-106.3. Interim evaluations

- (1)
 - (a) During each full term of office of each Colorado supreme court justice and each judge of the court of appeals, the state commission shall conduct at least one interim evaluation of each justice and each judge. The evaluations shall be referred to in this subsection (1) as "interim evaluations".
 - (b) Interim evaluations shall be completed and communicated to the chief justice of the Colorado supreme court or the chief judge of the court of appeals and the appellate justice or judge being evaluated.
 - (c) Each appellate justice or judge who receives an interim evaluation shall have the opportunity to meet with the state commission or otherwise respond to the evaluation no later than ten days following the justice's or judge's receipt of the evaluation. If the meeting is held or response is made, the state commission may revise its evaluation.
 - (d) The state commission shall release the survey evaluations related to interim evaluations to the public simultaneously with, and no earlier than, the release of the retention year evaluations pursuant to section [13-5.5-106\(1\) \(c\)](#) prepared for that year.
- (2)
 - (a) During each full term of office of each district judge and county judge, the district commission shall conduct at least one interim evaluation of each district judge and county judge. The evaluations shall be referred to in this subsection (2) as "interim evaluations".

- (b) Interim evaluations shall be completed and communicated to the chief judge of the district and to the district or county judge being evaluated.
- (c) Each district or county judge who receives an interim evaluation shall have the opportunity to meet with the district commission or otherwise respond to the evaluation no later than ten days following the judge's receipt of the evaluation. If the meeting is held or response is made, the district commission may revise its evaluation.
- (d) The state commission shall release the survey evaluations related to interim evaluations to the public simultaneously with, and no earlier than, the release of the retention year evaluations prepared for that year.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-106.3

History. L. 2008: Entire section added, p. 1282, § 10, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-106.4. Recusal

- (1) A member of the state commission or a district commission shall disclose to the commission any professional or personal relationship with a justice or judge that may affect an unbiased evaluation of the justice or judge, including involvement with any litigation involving the justice or judge and the member, the member's family, or the member's financial interests. The state commission or a district commission may require the recusal of one of its members on account of a relationship with a justice or judge upon a two-thirds vote of the other members of the commission.
- (2) A member of the state commission or a district commission shall recuse himself or herself from participating in the consideration and vote on any matter involving the evaluation of a justice or judge for failure to meet the training, courtroom observation, interview, or opinion review responsibilities provided by rule, unless excused by a two-thirds vote of the other members of the commission.
- (3) An attorney serving as a member of the state commission or a district commission shall not request that a justice or judge being evaluated by the commission be recused from hearing a case in which the attorney appears as counsel of record, or request permission to withdraw from a case pending before a justice or judge being evaluated, solely on the basis that the attorney is serving as a member of a commission.
- (4) An attorney who appears in a matter where opposing counsel or a witness serves as a member of the state commission or a district commission that is evaluating the justice or judge before whom the matter is set may not seek withdrawal of the attorney, exclusion of the witness, or recusal of the justice or judge solely on the basis that the opposing counsel or witness is serving as a member of a commission.

- (5) A justice or judge being evaluated by the state commission or a district commission may not recuse himself or herself from a case solely on the basis that an attorney, party, or witness is a member of the commission, nor should a justice or judge grant an attorney's request to withdraw from a case, solely on the basis that the attorney, party, or witness is serving as a member of a commission.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-106.4

History. L. 2008: Entire section added, p. 1283, § 10, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-106.5. Confidentiality

- (1) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, all comments in survey reports, self-evaluations, personal information protected under section [24-72-204\(3\) \(a\) \(II\)](#), C.R.S., additional oral or written information, content of improvement plans, and any matter discussed in executive session shall remain confidential except as otherwise specifically provided by rule. Comments in survey reports may be summarized for use in a narrative. A member of a commission shall not publicly discuss the evaluation of any particular justice or judge.
- (2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, all recommendations, narratives, and survey reports are confidential until released to the public on the first day following the deadline for justices and judges to declare their intent to stand for retention. Any comments included in the report shall be made available only to members of the commissions, the justice or judge being evaluated, and the chief justice or chief judge.
- (3) Information required to be kept confidential pursuant to this article may be released only under the following circumstances:
 - (a) To the supreme court attorney regulation committee, as provided by rule of the state commission;
 - (b) To the commission on judicial discipline, as provided by rule of the state commission; or
 - (c) With the consent of the justice or judge being evaluated.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-106.5

History. L. 2008: Entire section added, p. 1284, § 10, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-107. Acceptance of private or federal grants - general appropriations

- (1) The state commission is authorized to accept any grants of federal or private funds made available for any purpose consistent with the provisions of this article. Any funds received

pursuant to this section shall be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall credit the same to the state commission on judicial performance cash fund, which is hereby created and referred to in this section as the "fund". The fund shall also include the amount of the increases in docket fees collected pursuant to sections [13-32-105\(1\)](#) and [42-4-1710\(4\)\(a\)](#), C.R.S. Any interest derived from the deposit and investment of moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund. Any unexpended and unencumbered moneys remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not be credited or transferred to the general fund or another fund. Moneys in the fund may be expended by the state commission, subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly, for the purposes of this article. In addition, the general assembly may make annual appropriations from the general fund for the purposes of this article.

- (2) Notwithstanding any provision of subsection (1) of this section to the contrary, on April 20, 2009, the state treasurer shall deduct nine hundred thousand dollars from the fund and transfer such sum to the general fund.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-107

History. L. 88: Entire article added, p. 598, § 1, effective May 12. L. 99: Entire section amended, p. 167, § 2, effective March 25. L. 2003: Entire section amended, p. 2672, § 3, effective June 6. L. 2009: Entire section amended, ([SB09-208](#)), [ch. 149](#), [p. 620](#), [§9](#), effective April 20.

§ 13-5.5-108. Implementation of article. (Repealed)

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-108

History. L. 88: Entire article added, p. 599, § 1, effective May 12. L. 90: Entire section amended, p. 860, § 1, effective May 23. L. 2008: Entire section repealed, p. 1284, § 11, effective July 1.

§ 13-5.5-109. Repeal of article

- (1) This article is repealed, effective June 30, 2019.
- (2) Repealed.

Cite as C.R.S § 13-5.5-109

History. L. 88: Entire article added, p. 600, § 1, effective May 12. L. 93: Entire section amended, p. 661, § 6, effective April 30. L. 97: (2) repealed, p. 1482, § 40, effective June 3. L. 99: (1) amended, p. 167, § 1, effective March 25. L. 2008: (1) amended, p. 1284, § 12, effective July 1.