



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION

Sarah T. Dowling
CHAIRPERSON

Department of Administration
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One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908 - 5890

VIA HAND DELIVERY

July 6, 2016

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
82 Smith Street
State House, Room 119
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

The Honorable Nicholas A. Mattiello
82 Smith Street
State House, Room 323
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

The Honorable M. Teresa Paiva Weed
82 Smith Street
State House, Room, 318
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

This is the promised update to my February 6, 2016 report in accordance with Rhode Island General Laws §8-16.1-4(b). Since the filing of the initial report on February 6, 2016, the Judicial Nominating Commission reports as follows:

1. The Commission has made significant efforts to encourage racial, ethnic and gender diversity during the period February 5, 2016 to June 30, 2016, the effective date of this update. Specifically, on June 9th the Chair convened a meeting with the Governor and representatives of the Thurgood Marshall Society, the Hispanic Law Society, the NAACP, the Women's Bar Association, the Rhode Island Bar Association and the current and former Deans of Roger Williams Law School to discuss ways to increase applicants from diverse backgrounds for judicial positions. As a follow-up to that meeting, the Rhode Island Bar Association agreed to transmit notices of judicial vacancies to all Bar Association members thereby reaching

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July 6, 2016
Page 2

every lawyer in the State. In addition, a meeting has been scheduled with the Governor and the Chief Justice, the Presiding Justice of the Superior Court, the Chief Judge of the District Court, the Chief Judge of the Workers' Compensation Court and the Chief Justice of the Family Court on July 20th to discuss ways to improve diversity in the judiciary.

2. In connection with selection of qualified candidates on the Rhode Island Superior Court vacated by the resignation of Judge Clifton, the Commission interviewed five Caucasian men, five Caucasian women, one man of color and sent three names to the Governor as highly qualified for the position, that being two women and one Caucasian man.
3. For the Family Court vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge Voccola, the Commission interviewed eleven applicants consisting of eight women, two Caucasian men and one man of color and sent to the Governor the names of three women and one man of color.
4. In connection with the Family Court vacancy occasioned by the death of Judge Mutter, the Commission interviewed seven applicants consisting of three women, one man of color and three Caucasian men and sent to the Governor the names of three Caucasian men and two women.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah T. Dowling
Chair