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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 3, 2009**

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***Nominating commission receives 13 applications  
for federal judgeship vacancy in Western District***

MADISON -- Thirteen applications have been received by the Wisconsin Federal Nominating Commission to fill the vacancy on the United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin resulting from the pending retirement of United States District Judge John Shabaz. The following individuals have applied for the post:

- Eric G. Barber
- Louis B. Butler, Jr.
- James R. Cole
- William M. Conley
- Stephen L. Crocker
- Ramona A. Gonzalez
- Kendall W. Harrison
- Paul B. Higginbotham
- Stephen J. Meyer
- James D. Peterson
- John N. Schweitzer
- Stephen P. Sinnott
- Lisa K. Stark

The eleven-member commission, which has been making recommendations since 1979, will screen applicants and interview potential candidates before submitting its final recommendations to the state's two U.S. Senators, Herb Kohl and Russ Feingold.

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