



Auto Safety Group • Congress Watch • Energy Program • Global Trade Watch • Health Research Group • Litigation Group  
Joan Claybrook, President

## Selection and Retention of Judges Among the States for Specified Courts, 2009

	Supreme Court		Appeals Court		Circuit/Superior Court		District Court		Municipal Court		Predominant Selection Process		
	App't	Elected	App't	Elected	App't	Elected	App't	Elected	App't	Elected	App't	Ret. Elec.	Elected
<b>AL</b>		PB		PB		PB		PB	LGB				X
<b>AK</b>	GRE		GRE		GRE		GRE					X	
<b>AZ</b>	GRE		GRE		GRE							X	
<b>AR</b>		NB		NB		NB		NB		NB			X
<b>CA</b>	GRE		GRE			NB				NB			X
<b>CO</b>	GRE		GRE		GRE		GRE		LGB			X	
<b>CT</b>	LEG		LEG		LEG				LEG		X		
<b>DE</b>	GOV		GOV		GOV				GOV		X		
<b>FL</b>	GRE		GRE			NB		NB		NB		X	
<b>GA</b>		NB		NB		NB				PB			X
<b>HI</b>	GOV		GOV		JUS						X		
<b>ID</b>		NB		NB		NB							X
<b>IL</b>		PB		PB		PB							X
<b>IN</b>	GRE		GRE			PB				PB		X	
<b>IA</b>	GRE		GRE				GRE		JUS			X	
<b>KS</b>	GRE		GRE				GRE and	PB				X	
<b>KY</b>		NB		NB		NB		NB		NB			X
<b>LA</b>		PB		PB		PB		PB		PB			X
<b>ME</b>	GOV		GOV		GOV		GOV		GOV		X		
<b>MD</b>	GRE		GRE		GCE		GOV					X	
<b>MA</b>	GOV		GOV		GOV		GOV		GOV		X		

	Supreme Court		Appeals Court		Circuit/Superior Court		District Court		Municipal Court		Predominant Selection Process		
	App't	Elected	App't	Elected	App't	Elected	App't	Elected	App't	Elected	App't	Ret. Elec.	Elected
MI		NB		NB		NB		NB		NB			X
MN		NB		NB		NB		NB		NB			X
MS		NB		NB		NB		NB	LGB				X
MO	GRE		GRE		GRE and	PB		PB		PB		X	
MT		NB		NB		NB		NB		NB			X
NE	GRE		GRE				GRE		GRE			X	
NV		NB						NB		NB			X
NH	GOV				GOV				GOV		X		
NJ	GOV		JUS		GOV		GOV		LGB		X		
NM		PB		PB				PB		PB			X
NY		PB	GOV			PB		PB		MAY			X
NC		NB		NB		NB		NB		NB			X
ND		NB	JUS					NB		NB			X
OH		NB		NB		NB				NB			X
OK	GRE		GRE					NB	LGB			X	
OR		NB		NB		NB		NB	LGB				X
PA		PB		PB		PB		PB		PB			X
RI	LEG				GOV		GOV		LGB		X		
SC	LEG		LEG		LEG				MAY		X		
SD	GRE					NB							X
TN	GRE		GRE			PB		PB	LGB			X	
TX		PB		PB		PB		PB		PB			X
UT	GRE		GRE		GRE		GRE					X	
VT	GOV				GOV		GOV				X		
VA	LEG		LEG		LEG		LEG		LEG		X		
WA		NB		NB		NB		NB		NB			X
WV		PB				PB				PB			X
WI		NB		NB		NB				NB			X
WY	GRE						GRE		MAY			X	
DC			PRES		PRES						X		
											12	14	25

**Note:**

GRE -- Gubernatorial appointment and subsequent retention elections.  
GCE -- Gubernatorial appointment and subsequent competitive elections.  
GOV -- Gubernatorial appointment.  
LEG -- Legislative appointment.  
JUS -- Appointment by the courts.  
LGB -- Appointment by the local governing body.  
MAY -- Mayoral appointment.  
PB -- Election on partisan ballot.  
NB -- Election on nonpartisan ballot.  
PRES -- Presidential appointment.

**Source:** Craig Holman, Ph.D., Public Citizen