

## **Letters of interest and resumes are being accepted to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Justice of the Peace Lyle Riggs.**

Pinal County Board of Supervisors will be appointing a Justice of the Peace to fill the portion of J.P. Riggs' term until the 2024 General Election.

FLORENCE – Lyle Riggs, who has served as Justice of the Peace over Precinct 4, Western Pinal District of the Pinal County Justice Court, since 2014, has announced his resignation effective February 2, 2024.

The law that covers vacancies in county offices makes a distinction between whether the vacancy occurs within the first two years of an official's term or the last two years of the four year term. Arizona Revised Statute 16-230(A)(2) states:

*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. If the person vacating the office changed political party affiliations after taking office, the person who is appointed to fill the vacancy shall be of the same political party that the vacating officeholder was when the vacating officeholder was elected or appointed to that office.*

Judge Riggs was elected as a Republican at the 2022 General Election, so the Pinal County Board of Supervisors is only accepting applications from registered Republicans for the Justice of the Peace position, Precinct 4, Western Pinal District of the Pinal County Justice Court. Because the vacancy being filled occurred in the first two years of the term, and before the date on which a nomination paper is required to be filed (April 8, 2024), a Primary Election will be held to determine candidates to fill the unexpired term. At the November 5, 2024, General Election, the person elected shall fill the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacant office.

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 4, Western Pinal District Justice Court
- Must be registered to vote
- Must be able to read and write the English language and
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- 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, along with the required authorization for release of information for a background check, shall be submitted by **5:00 PM on Friday, March 8, 2024** [Clicking Here For Application](#)
- Candidates should indicate their address, party affiliation and contact information in their resume/letter of interest.

[Title 22 of the Arizona Revised Statutes](#) provides more detail on the duties of a Justice of the Peace.

For any questions, please contact Natasha Kennedy, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at [ClerkoftheBoard@pinal.gov](mailto:ClerkoftheBoard@pinal.gov) or (520) 866-6219.