

NEWS 100m U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE, KASSEBAUM ANNOUNCE FINALISTS FOR KANSAS FEDERAL JUDGESHIP

WASHINGTON -- Senators Bob Dole and Nancy Landon Kassebaum announced today that three Kansas lawyers have been recommended as finalists for appointment to the new federal district judgeship for Kansas.

The three finalists are Judge Michael Barbara of Topeka, Judge James Noone of Wichita, and Dale Saffels of Wichita.

The finalists were selected today by the Kansas Judicial Nominating Commission, a nine-member merit selection panel which the two Kansas Senators established in February to screen candidates for the new judgeship. Dole and Kassebaum will forward the three recommendations to the United States Department of Justice tomorrow. The President and Attorney General will then select one of the three for nomination to be the new federal judge in Kansas.

Barbara, 57, is a Judge of the Shawnee County District Court. Noone, 58, presently serves as Judge of the Sedgwick County District Court. Saffels, 58, is a former Chairman of the Kansas Corporation Commission and former Minority Leader of the Kansas House of Representatives.

The three finalists were selected from a list of 23 applicants who submitted detailed resumes and responded to several questions by the Judicial Nominating Commission. In addition, each of the finalists was interviewed by the Commission.