

NOMINATIONS

Trump announces another round of judicial picks

Nick Sobczyk, E&E News reporter

Published: Tuesday, April 10, 2018

President Trump has tapped an oil and gas lawyer and former state natural resources official to serve as an Alaska federal judge.

If confirmed, Jonathan Katchen, an attorney with the Anchorage branch of Holland & Hart LLP, will fill a slot on the U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska.

In his current role, Katchen focuses on oil and gas law and natural resources litigation, according to a brief White House bio.

Katchen has also served in various energy-related positions for Alaska, including in the Department of Natural Resources and as an assistant attorney general in the oil, gas and mining section.

The nominee could end up ruling on issues including the controversial Pebble mine project and oil and gas drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Katchen's nomination is part of a wave of other judicial picks announced this morning, including:

- Patrick Wyrick to serve on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma. Wyrick previously served for six years as Oklahoma's solicitor general under then-Attorney General Scott Pruitt (R).
- Britt Grant of Georgia to serve on the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Paul Matey of New Jersey to serve on the 3rd Circuit.
- David Porter of Pennsylvania to also serve on the 3rd Circuit.
- Raúl Arias-Marxuach to the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico.
- Pamela Barker to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio.
- Kenneth Bell to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina.
- Wendy Williams Berger to the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida.
- Holly Brady to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Indiana.
- Andrew Brasher to the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama.
- Stephen Clark to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.
- J.P. Hanlon to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Indiana.
- Mary McElroy to the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island.
- David Morales to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas.
- Sarah Daggett Morrison to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.
- John O'Connor to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern, Northern and Western Districts of Oklahoma.
- Lance Walker to the U.S. District Court for the District of Maine.
- Allen Winsor to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida.
- Emin Toro of Virginia to the U.S. Tax Court.

Today, the full Senate advanced the nomination of Claria Horn Boom for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky.

Tomorrow, the Judiciary Committee will consider several more judicial picks, including Mark Jeremy Bennett to sit on the 9th Circuit. He is Hawaii's former attorney general.



Jonathan Katchen, Holland & Hart LLP

Twitter: @nick_sobczyk | Email: nsobczyk@eenews.net