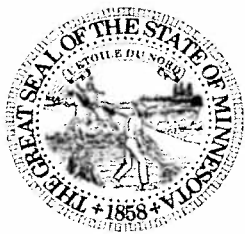


STATE OF MINNESOTA



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JUN 28 2011

**MARK DAYTON**  
**GOVERNOR**

President of the Senate

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

**George W. Perez**

2522 Claremont Drive  
Mendota Heights, Minnesota 55120  
County of Dakota  
Congressional District 4

Because of the special trust and confidence I have in your integrity, judgment and ability, I have appointed and commissioned you to have and to hold the office of:



**JUDGE**  
**MINNESOTA TAX COURT**

Effective: July 1, 2011  
Term Expires: January 2, 2017

This appointment carries with it all rights, powers, duties, and emoluments granted by law and pertaining to this position until this appointment is superseded or annulled by me or other lawful authority or by any law of this State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the Capitol in the City of Saint Paul, June 27, 2011.



  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

Reappointment

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STATE OF MINNESOTA  
OPEN APPOINTMENTS APPLICATION FOR SERVICE ON STATE AGENCY 2011  
All information on this form is available to the public upon request.

JUN 28 2011

President of the Senate

Agency Name: \* Minnesota Tax Court  
(Name of board, council, commission or task force to which you are applying.)

Position Sought: Chief Judge  
(Membership position sought or enter "member" if no specific requirements exist for position sought.)

Applicant Name: \* George Perez  
(First Name) (Last Name)

Preferred Mailing Address: \* 25 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Work Phone: \* ( 651 )296-2806 Home Phone: ( )

E-MAIL: \* george.perez@taxcourt.state.mn.us

County: Dakota MN House of Rep District: 39A U.S. House of Rep District: 4  
\* Indicates information that will appear on the Office of the Secretary of State web site: [www.sos.state.mn.us](http://www.sos.state.mn.us)

Have you ever been convicted of a felony: Yes        No X

Did the Appointing Authority suggest you submit your application? YES X NO       

**Please attach a current resume or a biographical statement containing work history, education, community activities, etc., and any other information the Applicant or Nominating Person feels would be helpful to the Appointing Authority.**

**OPTIONAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION**

The following information is optional and voluntary. Information is collected for, and compiled in, the annual report on the open appointments process pursuant to *Minnesota Statutes* §15.0597.

Sex:        Female X Male      Political Party:        Democratic-Farmer-Labor  
       Independence  
       Republican  
       Other         
       No party preference

Disability:        Yes X No      Race\*:        African American / Black  
       American Indian / Alaska Native  
       Asian  
X Hispanic  
       Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander  
       White  
       Other Race       

National Origin:        (\* Select as many as apply)  
(Country of Origin or Principle Tribe)

I swear that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is correct and that I satisfy all legally prescribed qualifications for the position sought.

*George W. Perez* 1.4.11  
(Signature of Applicant)\* (Date)

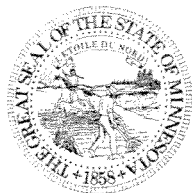
\* If another person or group is nominating the applicant, the applicant's signature indicates consent to nomination.

MAIL, FAX, OR SUBMIT APPLICATION IN PERSON, TO:      Office of the Secretary of State, Open Appointments  
180 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1299

FAX: (651) 296-9073  
Phone: (651) 297-5845  
Email: [open.appointments@state.mn.us](mailto:open.appointments@state.mn.us)

Applicants will not receive an acknowledgement of submitted applications; the appointing authority will notify you if an interview is desired.      By request, this application will be made available in alternative format (for example, braille, large print, audio tape, or computer disk.)

FOR OFFICE USE:      Sub by AA:        AA:        Trans Date:



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MINNESOTA TAX COURT  
25 CONSTITUTION AVENUE  
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155

President of the Senate

CHAMBERS OF  
GEORGE W. PEREZ  
JUDGE

January 24, 2011

Governor Mark Dayton  
130 State Capitol  
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Dayton,

Congratulations on your election!

I am currently serving as Chief Judge of the Minnesota Tax Court and have served on the Court for the past 13 years. The Tax Court consists of three Judges and three staff. This year my term is up for reappointment. I have also filed an application with the Secretary of State. I ask to be reappointed and would consider it an honor to continue to serve the citizens of Minnesota.

#### Service as a Tax Court Judge

As a Tax Court Judge, I handle civil trials, motions, and write opinions. I take great pride in my work and handle each litigant and case respectfully and thoughtfully. I believe I have served with integrity and have brought distinction and recognition to Minnesota and the Tax Court. I received the National Outstanding Tax Court Judge of the year award for 2002-2003.

Tax Court cases are appealed directly to the Minnesota Supreme Court for review. For additional information on the quality of my work, you may consult with former Chief Justices Kathleen Blatz and Russell Anderson and current Chief Justice Lorie Gildea, as well as other current Justices including Justices Alan Page and Barry Anderson, who have reviewed my decisions over the years.

#### Responsibilities as Chief Judge of the Tax Court

As Chief Judge for the past ten years, I have developed the Court budget, met with legislators and testified on the merits of the Court budget before the State Legislature during each biennium. I oversee the administrative functions of the Court, including hiring and conducting job performance reviews, training, contracts with vendors, and development and improvement of the Tax Court website (at [www.taxcourt.state.mn.us](http://www.taxcourt.state.mn.us)). One of the first state tax court websites, it provides free information to tax practitioners and taxpayers, including all tax court decisions, statutes, court rules, policies and procedures, tax forms and other helpful information. Several years ago, I oversaw the development of a Pro Se Handbook, which has information for tax court litigants choosing not to be represented by legal counsel for cost or other reasons. Our Pro Se Handbook is available on our website and has been imitated by other states.

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Because we do not have paid law clerks, I developed and implemented an internship program in 2000 with the Minnesota law schools for law students to clerk at the Tax Court and receive class credit. This addressed an important need for the Court at no cost.

President of the Senate

**Presentations in Continuing Legal and Professional Education**

I give numerous presentations at continuing education seminars. I have been involved with the National Conference of State Tax Judges, who sponsors an annual conference with the Lincoln Institute Foundation. Over the past thirteen years I have presented at this annual national conference on a variety of tax topics including: valuation, classification, statutory interpretation, exemption, statute of limitations, unequal assessment, online tax research, handling pro se cases, and tax court procedure. For the past two years, I have chaired the national conference. In the fall of 2010 I hosted the annual conference in St. Paul. In addition to this work, I also give an average of seven to nine presentations per year in Minnesota and nationally in the areas of tax law and practice, the judiciary, judicial clerkships, and diversity. For example, in the past two years I have presented at the following seminars:

- Minnesota CLE, "Handling Property Tax Appeals in Minnesota" Minneapolis, Jan. 2011, Jan. 2009 (biennial seminar)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Judicial Clerkship Brunch, Keynote Speaker, William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul, Oct. 2010, Oct. 2009 (and previous years)
- National Conference of State Tax Judges, Chair of Conference and Planning Committee, Moderator for Conference and Panel on Statutory Interpretation, St. Paul, Sept. 2010
- National Hispanic Bar Association Annual Conference, "Trial Advocacy," Minneapolis, Sept. 2010
- Minnesota Association of Assessing Officers, "Update on Tax Court and Handling Tax Court Cases," Anoka County, Aug. 2010
- International Association of Assessing Officers, Judge for Teaching Trial on Property Tax Valuation, Kansas City, MO, June 2010
- Annual Tax Section Judges Conference and Tax Seminar, "Equitable Powers and Case Precedent," St. Paul, June 2010 (and 2009 and annually in previous years)
- Minnesota State Bar Association Annual Tax Section Seminar, hosted annually at Tax Court, "Tax Court Update," St. Paul, May 2010 (annual seminar)
- Hamline Law School Panel on Judicial Clerkships, St. Paul, Spring 2010
- Minnesota CLE Annual Tax Institute, "Litigating in Minnesota Tax Court," Minneapolis, Dec. 2009
- Minnesota CLE Ethics and Elimination of Bias, "Diversity in the Judiciary Statistics and Trends," and Panel on "Judicial Reflections on the Past, Present and Future of Diversity in the Judiciary," Minneapolis, Dec. 2009

- University of St. Thomas Law School, Program on "Justice Sotomayor's Influence on the Future of Diversity in Law and Higher Education," Minneapolis, Oct. 2009

### **Bar Association Involvement**

American Bar Association. At the national level, I am involved in the American Bar Association, developing and passing the ABA Model Rules for establishing Tax Courts. I have been active for several years in the ABA National Conference of Specialized State Courts and am currently serving as Vice-Chair. I have been a MSBA appointed delegate to the ABA House of Delegates. In the past few years I have worked on some of the most significant issues facing the judiciary throughout the United States, through participation in the ABA Standing Committee on Judicial Independence (issues regarding judicial selection and independence) and its five-member working committee on judicial disqualification following the US Supreme Court's Caperton v. Massey decision. I also serve on the ABA's Commission on Immigration, which is developing recommendations on immigration law that will be presented to Congress.

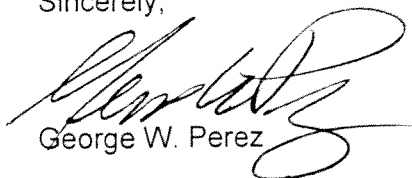
Minnesota State Bar Association. I have been an active volunteer in the Hispanic and legal communities. I have served as President of the Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association, worked to establish the Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association Law Student Scholarship Endowment Fund, and have served as a mentor to countless students. One of my life passions has been to promote equal access to justice within the judicial system in Minnesota and through my work with the American Bar Association. I have served on the Minnesota State Bar Association Board of Governors, Executive Committee and Council, and the Diversity Committee, and the Task Force on revising the ABA Model Rules for Professional Responsibility (for Minnesota). An extension of my life passion has been my continued work in the area of Diversity, in particular, the inclusion and representation of women and minorities in the legal profession.

### **Future of the Minnesota Tax Court**

The Tax Court is in its third year of record number of filings. In conjunction with this historic increase in filings, we face budgetary constraints much like those of other governmental agencies. Despite cutbacks and cost-cutting measures, without additional funding, we face a Court shutdown for 4 to 6 weeks. I am concerned about the impact this will have on Minnesota taxpayers and access to the Court by Minnesota citizens. We are exploring various measures, including among others the implementation of e-filing, which will be both efficient and cost-cutting. Throughout, we will continue to efficiently and effectively resolve all Tax Court cases. The Tax Court will continue to play an essential role in providing a fair and impartial forum for resolving tax disputes, while also providing a consistent body of case law for government officials, tax practitioners and Minnesota taxpayers.

I look forward to meeting with the Merit Selection Commission to discuss my interest in and role on the Minnesota Tax Court. Thank you for this opportunity.

Sincerely,

  
George W. Perez

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JUN 28 2011

**President of the Senate**

# George W. Perez

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## Education

- Oberlin College B.A., 1983
- University of Wisconsin Law School, 1987

President of the Senate

## Career History

- Chief Judge, Minnesota Tax Court, 2001 – Present
- Judge, Minnesota Tax Court, 1997-2001
- U.S. Tax Attorney, Department of the Treasury, 1995-1997
- Immigration Attorney, Centro Legal, 1992-1995
- Law Clerk, Second Judicial District, 1991-1992
- Law Clerk, Judge Susan Steingass, Circuit Court, Madison, WI, 1990
- Associate, Litigation, Kasdorf, Lewis, Swietlik, Milwaukee, WI, 1987-1989

## Professional/Academic Honors

- National Tax Judge of the Year, 2002-2003
- Service Award, Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association, 2006
- Certificate of Commendation, Governor Ventura, 2002
- Certificate of Commendation, Governor Carlson, 1998
- President's Award, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2006
- President's Award, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2003
- Volunteer Award, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2000
- Outstanding Mentor of the Year Award, Ramsey County Bar Association, 1999
- Outstanding Leadership and Service Award, Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association, 1998
- Outstanding Service to Students Award, Hamline University School of Law
- Outstanding Service to Students Award, William Mitchell College of Law
- Outstanding Service, Urban Youth Intern Initiative Program
- Wiggins Award, University of Wisconsin Law School
- International Law Review
- International Moot Court

## Bar Associations

- Commissioner, American Bar Association, Commission on Immigration, 2010 - Present
- Vice-Chair, American Bar Association, National Conference of Specialized Court Judges, 2010 - Present

### Bar Associations Continued

- Member, American Bar Association, Standing Committee on Judicial Independence, 2009 - Present
- Chair, Elections and Appointments Committee, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2009-2010
- Delegate, American Bar Association, Minnesota State Delegation, 2005-2010
- Member, Minnesota State Bar Association Executive Council, 2005-2010
- Assembly Member, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2005-2010
- Chair, Diversity Committee, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2003-2005
- Member, Task Force on the American Bar Association Model Rules of Professional Conduct, 2003
- President, Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association, 1996-1998
- Fellow, American Bar Foundation

### Presentations

- Given hundreds of presentations on Tax, Litigation, Immigration, and Diversity issues.

### Professional and Notable Activities

- Chair, National State Tax Judges Association, 2008 - Present
- Founder, Minnesota Hispanic Bar Association Law Student Scholarship Endowment Fund
- Founder, Minnesota State Bar Association Bar Summit
- Establish a law clerk internship program between the Minnesota Tax Court and the University of Minnesota Law School, Hamline University School of Law, William Mitchell College of Law, and University of St. Thomas Law School.
- Mentor, University of St. Thomas Law School, 2001-2005
- Law Intern, Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson, Wisconsin Supreme Court

### Foreign Languages

- Fluent in Spanish

### Recreational Activities

- Reading, running, biking and golfing.

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