

**Chapter 3.42 RCW  
DISTRICT COURT COMMISSIONERS**

**Sections**

- 3.42.010 District court commissioners—Appointment—Qualifications—  
Term of office.
- 3.42.020 Powers of commissioners—Limitations.
- 3.42.040 Compensation.

**RCW 3.42.010 District court commissioners—Appointment—  
Qualifications—Term of office.** When so authorized by the districting plan, one or more district court commissioners may be appointed in any district by the judges of the district. Each commissioner shall be a registered voter of the county in which the district or a portion thereof is located, and shall hold office at the pleasure of the appointing judges. For purposes of this section, "appointing judge" includes a presiding judge pro tempore fulfilling presiding judge duties for a single judge court pursuant to RCW 3.34.100(2) or 3.34.150(2). Any person appointed as a commissioner authorized to hear or dispose of cases shall be a lawyer who is admitted to the practice of law in the state of Washington or who has passed the qualifying examination for lay judges as provided under RCW 3.34.060. [2022 c 74 s 8; 1984 c 258 s 30; 1980 c 162 s 7; 1961 c 299 s 31.]

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—  
Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Severability—1980 c 162:** See note following RCW 3.02.010.

*District court commissioners*  
*bond:* RCW 3.34.090.  
*oath:* RCW 3.34.080.

**RCW 3.42.020 Powers of commissioners—Limitations.** Each district court commissioner shall have such power, authority, and jurisdiction in criminal and civil matters as the appointing judges possess and shall prescribe, except that when serving as a commissioner, the commissioner does not have authority to preside over trials in criminal matters, or jury trials in civil matters unless agreed to on the record by all parties. [2008 c 227 s 6; 1984 c 258 s 31; 1979 ex.s. c 136 s 16; 1961 c 299 s 32.]

**Effective date—Subheadings not law—2008 c 227:** See notes following RCW 3.50.003.

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—  
Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

**Effective date—Severability—1979 ex.s. c 136:** See notes following RCW 46.63.010.

**RCW 3.42.040 Compensation.** District court commissioners shall receive such compensation as the county legislative authority or city council shall provide. [1984 c 258 s 33; 1969 ex.s. c 66 s 4; 1961 c 299 s 34.]

**Court Improvement Act of 1984—Effective dates—Severability—  
Short title—1984 c 258:** See notes following RCW 3.30.010.

*District court commissioners*  
*salary: RCW 3.58.030.*  
*travel expenses: RCW 3.58.040.*