

Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

Position(s) for which you wish to be considered:
Fairbanks District Court

Date: October 27, 2020

I. Public Information (Questions 1-24)

Personal

1. (a) State full name* Maria Pia L. Bahr
Name as it should appear on bar survey: Maria Pia L. Bahr
* Unless otherwise specified, this is how your name will appear on the bar survey.
- (b) Have you ever used or been known by any other names or pseudonyms? If so, please identify. Maria L. Bahr

2. How long have you been a resident of the State of Alaska immediately preceding the date of this application? **
Total 5 years 3* months

3. How long have you been engaged in the active practice of law immediately preceding the date of this application? **
Total 29 years 6 months

Nonlegal Education

4. State names and dates of attendance of all colleges and professional schools (other than law schools) ever attended and degrees and dates conferred. List any honors.

Harvard University, BA, History of Science, with Honors, 1986.

** See AS 22.10.090; see also 1984 Inf. Op. Atty. Gen. (July 19; 366- 624-84).

*I moved to Alaska in 1990, and have been a member of the Alaska Bar since 1991. I left the State from 2001-2015, but kept my bar membership and my house in Alaska.

Legal Education

5. List all law schools, dates attended and degrees conferred. If you did not receive a degree from any law school, please indicate.

University of Arizona, 1987-1988, transferred to U.C.L.A.
University of California, Los Angeles, 1988-1990, JD 1990.

6. (a) Did you receive any honors in law school or belong to any honorary societies or groups?
 Yes No If yes, please give details.

International Law Review.

- (b) Have you taken any CLE (continuing legal education) courses during the past five years?

Yes No

Please describe or list. Please do not attach individual certificates of attendance.

I have presented at CLE classes in Alaska over the past five years, including: Representing Children & Youth in CINA Cases, 9/8/15; Contempt of Court: A Lynching that Forever Changed the Practice of Law, 3/24/16; The Ethics Game Show, 9/16/16; Marijuana Law in Alaska, 4/20/17; The Changing Landscape in Judicial Retention, 5/25/17; Wait, Wait, Don't Tell Me: Ethics Scenarios and Alaska Ethics Opinions, 12/5/19. I attended Becoming a Judge in Alaska, 10/8/20.

Military

7. Have you served in the armed forces (reserves or otherwise)? Yes No

If so, please provide the following information:

- (a) Dates of service: _____
(b) Branch of service: _____
(c) Rank at time of discharge: _____
(d) Type of military discharge: _____
(e) Awards or citations:

N/A

- (f) Have you ever been refused admission to or released from any of the armed services for reasons other than honorable discharge? Yes No If so, state the details.

N/A

Nonlegal Employment

8. Describe major nonlegal working experience. If you had a business or association that has been discontinued, please note whether there are unpaid debts or claims pending litigation.

Since graduating law school I have not had any non-legal jobs, but prior to law school I did the following:

1987, Administrative assistant, Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA.

1986, Student intern, Sullivan & Worcester, Boston, MA.

1985, Evening word-processor, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton, Paris, France.

1981-1984, Lifeguard, Tempe, AZ.

1979-1981, Restaurant help, Tempe, AZ.

Legal Experience

9. Describe chronologically your legal employment since admission to law school. Please provide dates and location of employment, name of employer, name AND CURRENT ADDRESS OF supervisor or person who can verify AND COMMENT ON YOUR employment, the reason you left the position, and a brief description of type of practice (i.e., insurance defense, criminal, appellate, general, litigation, etc.) for each position listed below. IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY A TRIAL COURT JUDGE, PLEASE LIST YOUR PRESIDING JUDGE. FOR PAST JUDGESHIPS, PLEASE LIST THE JUDGE WHO LAST PRESIDED DURING YOUR TIME ON THE BENCH.

The Council will ask for comments from your current and former employers about your employment and your judicial qualifications. You may choose to list other persons as character and professional references in response to Question 20 of this application.

If the supervisor or contact person asks (in writing) that the letter be shared with the governor, the Council will send designated letters for each nominee. The applicant should not request a copy of the letter from the reference. References or letters not solicited by the Council are considered public (with few exceptions) and will be sent to the governor for all nominees.

Current Employer: Alaska Department of Law

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Janell Hafner

Current address of this person: 1031 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 200

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501

Dates and location of Employment: From 2017 To Present City Anchorage State AK

Job title and description:

Senior Assistant Attorney General in Opinions, Appeals & Ethics Section. Serve as ethics counsel for executive branch employees, present CLEs and ethics training, write appeals and ethics opinions as needed, evaluate amicus requests, participate in moot courts, and other duties as assigned, such as serving as Public Information Officer for the Department of Law.

Previous Employers: *(In chronological order, most recent first)*

Employer: Alaska Bar Association

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Louise Driscoll, Assistant Bar Counsel

Current address of this person: P.O. Box 100279

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501

Dates and Location of Employment: From 2015 To 2017 City Anchorage State AK

Job title and description: Chief Bar Counsel. Supervised Discipline Section in matters involving Alaska lawyers, answered ethics hotline, served as General Counsel and Rules Attorney for Board of Governors, drafted rules on professional responsibility and Bar discipline process, presented at CLEs throughout the state.

Reason for Leaving: Job as Ethics Counsel, Department of Law.

Employer: Phoenix School of Law

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Honorable Stephen Gerst (retired)

Current address of this person: 4045 E. Fanfol Drive

City Phoenix State AZ Zip 85028

Dates and Location of Employment: From 2009 To 2015 City Phoenix State AZ

Job title and description: Assistant Director of General Practice Skills program, and adjunct professor for Professional Responsibility and Law Office Management.

Reason for Leaving: Took part in buy-out of employee contracts and returned to Alaska.

Previous Employers (continued)

Employer: Gila River Indian Community
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Frieda Garcia
Current address of this person: 525 West Go U Ki
City Sacaton State AZ Zip 85147
Dates and Location of Employment: From 2010 To 2010 City Sacaton State AZ
Job title and description: Contract Administrative Law Judge. Presided over administrative hearings as needed on employment disputes. Duties involved taking evidence, applying applicable law and procedures, and providing timely written findings.
Reason for Leaving: Part-time work only 2010.

Employer: State Bar of Arizona
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Jessie Iennarella
Current address of this person: 4201 N. 24th Street, Suite 100
City Phoenix State AZ Zip 85016
Dates and Location of Employment: From 2003 To 2009 City Phoenix State AZ
Job title and description: Director of Lawyer Assistance Programs, Supervised staff handling attorney discipline cases involving probationary monitoring; Assistant Bar Counsel, evaluated and processed attorney discipline matters.
Reason for Leaving: _____ *Job at law school, please see attached, Page 5 A.

Employer: Mesa Municipal Court
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Robyn Dunham
Current address of this person: 250 E. 1st Avenue
City Mesa State AZ Zip 85210
Dates and Location of Employment: From 2003 To 2009 City Mesa State AZ
Job title and description: Judge Pro Tem. Presided over misdemeanor criminal cases, domestic violence hearings, and traffic cases, as needed.
Reason for Leaving: Scheduling issues with other job when Mesa Court moved to four-day work week.

Employer: Alaska Public Defender Agency
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Barb Brink
Current address of this person: 810 W. 16th Avenue
City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501
Dates and Location of Employment: From 1991 To 2001 City Various State AK
Job title and description: Assistant Public Defender in Anchorage, Kodiak, Palmer, and Sitka, handled misdemeanor and felony matters, arraignments and bail hearings, petitions to revoke probation, CINA matters, juvenile delinquencies, mental commitments, and appeals.
Reason for Leaving: Left State of Alaska for family reasons.

Employer: Alaska Court System
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Magistrate Suzanne Cole
Current address of this person: 825 W. 4th Avenue
City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501
Dates and Location of Employment: From 1990-1991 To 1991-1992 City Anchorage State AK
Job title and description: Clerked for Superior Court Judge Joan Katz (Woodward), and Chief Judge Alex Bryner for Alaska Court of Appeals.
Reason for Leaving: Job at Public Defender Agency, clerkship ended.

Additional Information for Legal Experience

Contract Attorney, various dates, 1994-2003. On occasion, I worked for private attorneys writing briefs on matters involving family law, immigration, maritime law, and workers compensation.

Law School Summer Clerkships:

1988, Winston & Strawn, Tucson, AZ. Summer Clerk. This firm no longer has a Tucson office and I cannot find anyone to verify my employment as a summer law clerk.

1989, Manatt Phelps & Phillips, Los Angeles, CA. Summer Clerk. Verification by Suzy Wilson, 10514 Wyton Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

1990, Davis Wright Tremaine, Anchorage, AK. Summer Clerk. Verification by Samantha Astrup, HRIS Administrator, 920 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3300, Seattle, WA 98104.

*In 2009, the Arizona Bar hired a new Executive Director. We had different visions for the future of the Lawyer Assistance Programs, and I was told that my services were no longer needed. I had been teaching night classes as an adjunct professor at the Phoenix School of Law, and I was then hired as Assistant Director to the General Practice Skills program.

10. During your legal career, please indicate (approximately) the following:

(a) Percent of your practice that was: Civil 50
Criminal 50
Other _____
= 100%

Comment: Matters involving attorney discipline and ethics are included as civil.

(b) Percent: State 90
Federal _____
Other 10
= 100%

Comment: I presided over municipal cases as a Judge Pro Temp, and did administrative hearings as an ALJ.

(c) Of practice in state courts, percent: Supreme Court 10
Court of Appeals 10
Superior Court 40
District Court 40
= 100%

Comment: _____

(d) Frequency of appearance in court (select one):
 Regularly Occasionally Infrequently Not at All

Comment: Regularly while I was a public defender, occasionally now.

(e) Number of trials (by court or jury) you conducted (select one):
 None 1-5 6-15 16-30 31 or more

Comment: Two jury trials as public defender, traffic trials and bench trial as Judge Pro Tem.

(f) Percent of these trials which were: Jury 33 % Non-Jury 66 %

Comment: The bench trial and traffic cases were non-jury.

(g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 20

Comment: I have at least five published opinions, and the rest are MOJs.

(h) Approximate number of arbitrations or administrative hearings (select one):
 None 1-5 6-15 16-30 31 or more

Briefly describe type of matters heard:

Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection matters as bar counsel, and employment law matters as a contract ALJ.

(i) Please briefly summarize any *pro bono* work that you have done and indicate whether the work was done through a *pro bono* legal service provider (e.g. Alaska Legal Services, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, etc.).

I have provided assistance and training to the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA), to the MLK Day Legal Clinic, and to the Elizabeth Peratrovich Legal Clinic.

11. List all the courts and administrative tribunals in the United States or elsewhere to which you are or have been admitted to practice, and the dates of admission.

Alaska, 1991
 Arizona, 2002

Public Service

12. List bar associations, and sections and committees of which you are or have been a member or officer.

I am a member of the Alaska Bar Ethics Committee, and the Alaska Bar Professional Rules Committee. As Bar Counsel I also sat on the Fee Arbitration Committee, and the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection Committee.

13. List publications, if any (give title, subject and date of publications). Please include online publications such as blogs or websites, and any publications you have co-authored and the name(s) of the co-author(s).

"Teaching Professional Skills and Values: An Alumni Assessment," Phoenix Law Review, Vol 5:487, 2012, co-authored with Judge Stephen Gerst.

14. Have you ever applied for a judgeship? Yes No

Please list dates and judgeships applied for, as well as whether you were nominated by the Judicial Council and appointed.

Judgeship	Date	Nominated By Council (Y/N)	Appointed By Governor (Y/N)

15. Have you ever held public or political office, elective or appointive? Yes No
If so, state office, manner selected, and when and where held.

N/A

16. Please provide the Council with information that you would like the Council to consider about other legal and nonlegal organizations and clubs of which you are a member, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social and fraternal organizations. Please indicate whether you participate in the organization's activities, or simply hold a membership. Your involvement in the community is one of the criteria the Council uses in its evaluations. The Council does not use affiliation with a particular group as a criterion except to the extent that it might raise questions of conflict of interest or would affect an applicant's ability to impartially apply the law.

I have been active in various animal rescue groups, including serving as a local (volunteer) coordinator for the Blackhat Humane Society. I have fostered dogs for Bethel Friends of Canines, and the Alaskan Animal Rescue Friends.

I have participated in community clean-ups through Friends of Fish Creek, the Anchorage Waterways Council, and the Spenard Community Council.

I was very involved in PTA and other parent groups, including Little League fundraising and support, when my children were younger.

17. Indicate (Yes or No) whether you have ever:
- (a) been arrested, charged with, pled guilty or *nolo contendere* to, or been convicted of the violation of any law or ordinance, or been requested to appear before any prosecuting or investigative agency in connection with any matter in any jurisdiction, including all traffic offenses, unless the fine was less than \$50 and there were no other sanctions?
 Yes No
 - (b) failed to answer any summons or other legal process served upon you personally at any time? Yes No
 - (c) as a member of any armed forces, been the subject of any charges which may have resulted in disciplinary action or court martial? Yes No

(d) had any proceedings brought to have you declared a ward of any court or adjudged an incompetent? Yes No

If your answer is "yes" to any part of this question, state the facts in detail. Give the name and place of the court or agency, dates of the beginning and end of any action or proceeding, case numbers, and the judgment or other disposition.

I had a ticket for failure to stop at a stop sign in 3KO-94KOD10286. This had a \$50 fine.

18. (a) Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state or local authorities? Yes No

In particular, have you been the subject of any proceeding, criminal or civil, initiated against you by the Internal Revenue Service or a State Tax Office? Yes No

If so, give particulars, including case numbers.

N/A

(b) Have you ever been sued by a client? Yes No

If so, give particulars, including case numbers.

N/A

(c) Have you ever been a party in any other legal proceeding? Yes No

If so, give the particulars. Include all legal proceedings in which you were a party in interest, including petitioner or respondent in dissolution or divorce proceedings; a material witness; a named co-conspirator or correspondent; and subject or witness in any grand jury proceedings. Do not list proceedings in which you were sued only in a representative capacity (e.g. guardian ad litem, or as Commissioner of Natural Resources).

3AN-01-04923CI, Domestic Relations.

(d) Has a court ever found you to have provided ineffective assistance of counsel? Yes No

If so, provide the particulars including petitioner and case number.

N/A

19. State the nature and disposition of any of the following actions which apply to you:

(a) Are there any unsatisfied judgments against you? Yes No

Have you ever defaulted in the performance of any court-imposed obligation, including payment of alimony or child support or compliance with another court order or decree?

Yes No

In each case, list the name and address of the creditor, the court which rendered the judgment, the case number, the date, the amount of the judgment, and the circumstances on which such claim was based.

Has property owned by you been either judicially or non-judicially foreclosed?

Yes No

Please state the circumstances and outcome of any such unsatisfied or default judgment, or of any foreclosure.

N/A

(b) Have you ever made an assignment for the benefit of creditors? Yes No

Have you ever filed any petition in bankruptcy? Yes No

If so, state the circumstances, case number, and the outcome.

N/A

References and Counsel Questionnaires*

- * **Please Note:** Letters of reference from these persons are confidential and will not be given to the applicant. If the reference asks (in writing) that the letter be shared with the governor, the Council will send designated letters and counsel questionnaires for each nominee. The applicant should not request a copy of the letter from the reference. (You **should not** list the Chief Justice of the Alaska Supreme Court.)

References or letters not solicited by the Council are considered public (with few exceptions) and will be sent to the governor for all nominees.

20. (a) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes**, and **phone numbers** of two persons whom the Judicial Council may contact who can discuss your general character and background.

Name: Judge Kari McCrea
Address: 825 W. 4th Avenue
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 907-545-0348

Name: Judge Stephen B. Wallace
Address: 204 Mission Road, Rm 124
City/State/Zip: Kodiak, AK 99615 Phone: 907-486-1600

- (b) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes**, and **phone numbers** of three other persons whom the Judicial Council may contact who can discuss your professional competence and qualifications for a judicial position.

Name: Joanne Grace
Address: 1031 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 200
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 907-269-5237

Name: Justice Dario Borghesan
Address: 303 K Street
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 907-264-0624

Name: Jahna Lindemuth
Address: 701 W. 8th Avenue, Suite 700
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 907-222-8412

References and Counsel Questionnaires (continued)

(c) List the names, addresses, including zip codes, and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in your three most recent cases that have gone to trial. Please do not list cases with any pending issues in the trial or appellate courts. (Applicants who are currently judges should list the three most recent trials they presided over.) List only those cases that have gone to trial within the past three years. If you have no cases that have gone to trial within the past three years, you may include cases that went to trial before that date, or may provide up to six cases in response to the next subsection, 20(d). Please include the judge's name and case names and numbers. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Case Number 1

Case Name: State of Alaska **Case Number:** 1SI-90-00301CR
v. Dale Losselyong **Judge Name:** Judge Larry Zervos

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>(Judge) David Wallace</u>	Name _____
Address: <u>825 W. 4th Avenue</u>	Address _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name _____
Address: _____	Address _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: State of Alaska **Case Number:** 3KO-93-00652CR
v. Edgardo Bitbit **Judge Name:** Judge Donald Hopwood

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Roger Rom</u>	Name _____
Address: <u>P.O. Box 177</u>	Address _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Ely, MN 55731</u>	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name _____
Address: _____	Address _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: _____ **Case Number:** _____
v. _____ **Judge Name:** _____

Attorneys Involved:

Name: _____	Name _____
Address: _____	Address _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name _____
Address: _____	Address _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

References and Counsel Questionnaires (continued)

(d) List the names, addresses, including zip codes, and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in your three most recent cases that did not go to trial but in which you did significant work. Please do not list cases with any pending issues in the trial or appellate courts. (Applicants who are currently judges should list the three most recent cases they presided over that did not go to trial but in which they did significant work.) Please include the judge's name and case names and numbers. *(Attach additional pages if necessary.)*

Case Number 1

Case Name: Hartman Construction **Case Number:** 3AN-17-5546CI
v. State of Alaska, Department of Labor **Judge Name:** Judge Herman Walker

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Kevin Fitzgerald</u>	Name: <u>Jeff Vance</u>
Address: <u>813 W. 3rd Ave.</u>	Address: <u>2525 Gambell Street, Suite 410</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99503</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: ITMO the Necessity of Hospitalization of JJ **Case Number:** 3AN-18-03189 PR, S-17362
v. _____ **Judge Name:** _____

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Megan Webb</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>900 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 200</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: ITMO DS, Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection **Case Number:** LFCP Panel
v. _____ **Judge Name:** _____

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Jahna Lindemuth</u>	Name: <u>Paula Jacobson</u>
Address: <u>701 W. 8th Avenue, Suite 700</u>	Address: <u>604 W. 2nd Ave.</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Writing Sample

21. Attach one example of a brief, memorandum of law, or legal opinion or similar example of legal writing (10-20 pages in length; 15-25 pages for appellate positions) prepared solely by you within the last five years. Please choose a sample that reflects your ability to do legal research and analysis. If you do not have a good sample of this length, include an excerpt from a longer writing. Make sure the sample contains sufficient facts to make it understandable. (Some reply briefs may not meet these requirements.)

Please do not submit: (a) coauthored writing samples, (b) samples with confidential information unless redacted to remove such information, (c) longer writing samples, (d) samples from open cases including cases on appeal.

22. Has any public sanction been imposed against you in response to a complaint, charge or grievance brought against you as an attorney or a judge? Yes No

Have formal grievance procedures been brought against you? Yes No

See Bar Rule 22(b) & (e) concerning public bar grievance procedures against attorneys, and AS 22.30.011(b) and .060(b)(3) concerning public disciplinary grievance procedures against judges.

Have you ever been held in contempt of court? Yes No

Have you ever been fined or otherwise sanctioned by a judge? Yes No

In each case, state in detail the circumstances and the outcome.

N/A

Additional Comments (Non-Confidential)

23. Please make any additional comments that you wish to bring to the Council's attention about your experience and suitability for this judgeship.

I believe my experiences as a Judge Pro Tem and as a contract Administrative Law Judge provide a significant foundation upon which my suitability to be a District Court judge should be considered. As a Judge Pro Tem, I presided over misdemeanor criminal matters including change of plea hearings and sentencing hearings, bench and traffic trials, and hearings for domestic violence restraining orders. The subject matter and types of hearings were very similar to the matters handled by a District Court judge.

As a contract Administrative Law Judge, I conducted hearings involving testimony and evidence from opposing parties to resolve employment disputes. I prepared timely written findings on those matters for the Gila River Tribal Human Resources Department.

As Bar Counsel, I coordinated and participated in a number of hearings for clients seeking financial compensation resulting from the negligence of their disciplined (or deceased) attorneys through the Lawyers' Fund for Client Protection. The hearings involved taking witness testimony, document review, and preparing written findings for the Board of Governors.

Additional Comments (Continued)

Much of the ethics work I do now with the Department of Law is sensitive and confidential. For general background information, I can offer that I conduct investigations involving the Executive Branch Ethics Act into the alleged misconduct of public officers and board and commission members under the executive branch. The investigations include interviews, extensive document and electronic records review, and prepared written findings for the Attorney General and the Personnel Board.

I was a public defender in Alaska approximately 10 years, and I was in court virtually every day. For the years spent in Anchorage my focus was resolving cases involving probation violations and appearing at daily arraignments and bail hearings. I have two trials from my time spent outside of Anchorage. I believe that number is a reflection of my ability to successfully engage in motion work and negotiate with opposing counsel to resolve cases short of trial. It also speaks to the good working relationship I had with opposing counsel and their respect for my advocacy and work product.

During this pandemic I have volunteered to cover District Court hearings for the criminal division. I obtained security clearance and have been covering arraignments, bail hearings, and change of plea hearings when possible.

24. Please indicate whether you prefer to be interviewed in public session or in private session. Your choice of a public or private interview has no bearing on the Council's determination of your qualifications or on the questions the Council may ask. You may change your request in writing at any time before the interview starts (select one).

Public Interview

Private Interview

25. Please prepare a brief biographical statement (*limited to 150 words*) about your background, legal education, and legal experience. Please do not list personal information about minor children. Your picture and a copy of this statement will be scanned and posted on the Council's website after the application deadline. In its bar survey, the Council will invite attorneys to review the information if they wish to become more familiar with your background and experience. Use the form on the following page for your biographical statement. Please leave the box at the top empty. The Council will use this space for your scanned picture. ***To be fair to all applicants, the Council will strictly enforce the 150 word limit.***

If you object to the posting of your picture on the Council's website, please indicate your objection below. If you object, we will not post your picture, although you still must submit two photographs of yourself with your application.

If you check this box we will not post your picture on the website.

Biographical Statement

Name Maria Pia L. Bahr

Position(s) for which you wish to be considered:

Fairbanks District Court

Please leave this area blank

Date: October 26, 2020

After completing my education at Harvard University and UCLA Law School, I moved to Alaska in 1990 for a judicial clerkship, and made it my home. For much of the next ten years, I worked for the Public Defender Agency, representing clients in Kodiak, Palmer, Sitka, and Anchorage. Then I left the state and worked for the Arizona Bar, and taught courses on legal ethics. I also served as a Judge Pro Tem in municipal court, presiding over a caseload very similar to that of the Alaska District Courts. In 2015, I returned to serve as Bar Counsel for the Alaska Bar, answering many of your ethics questions. In my current position as ethics counsel for the Department of Law, I have represented the state in a variety of matters, including ethics investigations and appeals. It would be an honor to serve as a judge for this great state