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JUL 20 2012

ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

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

Alaska Supreme Court

Date: July 20, 2012

I. Public Information (Questions 1-24)

Personal

1. (a) State full name* Joel Harold Bolger

Name as it should appear on bar survey: Joel H. Bolger

* 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 name? If so, please identify.

No

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

22 years 11 months
Total 31 years 11 months

I lived in Seattle while my wife attended Seattle University, 1987-1989.

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

33 years 11 months
Total 33 years 11 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.

University of Iowa
September 1973-May 1976
Bachelor of Science degree with Honors in Economics

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

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 Iowa College of Law
June 1976-August 1978
Juris Doctor degree

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.

I belonged to the Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity.

- (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 attended the Appellate Judges Education Institute sponsored by the American Bar Association in 2011, the New Appellate Judges Seminar at New York University in 2009, a Workgroup Conference on Judicial Education at the University of Memphis in 2007, and a course on Planning Effective Presentations at the National Judicial College in 2007. For the past six years, I have been in charge of planning for the judges' education courses at the spring state bar conventions and the fall judicial conferences, and I have attended those conferences each year.

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: _____

- (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.

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.

During high school and college, I did a variety of general labor: I drove tractors, baled hay, welded machinery, fixed small engines, loaded trucks, and poured concrete. During law school, I worked at the University of Iowa Law School Library, attending the circulation desk and shelving books.

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 Court System

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Presiding Judge Robert Coats

Current address of this person: 303 K Street

City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99501

Dates and location of Employment: From Oct. 2008 To present City Anchorage State Alaska

Description:

Court of Appeals Judge. This court decides appeals in criminal, juvenile and post-conviction cases. In 2009, I served as a Supreme Court Justice Pro Tem.

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

Employer: Alaska Court System

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Circuit Judge Morgan Christen

Current address of this person: 222 West 7th Avenue, Box 60

City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99513

Dates and Location of Employment: From Sept. 2003 To Oct. 2008 City Kodiak State Alaska

Description: Superior Court Judge. I judged the civil and criminal cases filed in Kodiak and cases throughout the Third Judicial District as assigned.

Reason for Leaving: I left Kodiak when I was appointed to the court of appeals.

Employer: Alaska Court System

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Senior Judge Elaine Andrews

Current address of this person: 2131 Belair Drive

City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99517

Dates and Location of Employment: From Sept. 1997 To Sept. 2003 City Valdez State Alaska

Description: District Judge & Administrative Judge for Valdez, Cordova & Glennallen. I judged the superior & district court cases from these three locations.

Reason for Leaving: I left Valdez when I was appointed to the superior court.

Previous Employers (continued)

Employer: Jamin, Ebell, Bolger & Gentry
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Matthew Jamin
Current address of this person: 3344 Spruce Cape Road
City Kodiak State Alaska Zip 99615
Dates and Location of Employment: From Sept. 1982 To July 1997 City Kodiak/Seatt State AK/WA
Description: Managing Attorney 1990-96. I litigated civil & criminal cases, advised the borough assembly, mediated disputes and negotiated business transactions.
Reason for Leaving: I left private practice when I was appointed to the district court.

Employer: Alaska Public Defender Agency
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Geoffry Wildridge
Current address of this person: 700 Third Avenue, Suite 2
City Fairbanks State Alaska Zip 99701
Dates and Location of Employment: From Dec. 1981 To Aug. 1982 City Barrow State Alaska
Description: Assistant Public Defender in Barrow. I handled felony and misdemeanor trials and appeals for indigent defendants.
Reason for Leaving: I left the public defender agency to enter private practice.

Employer: Alaska Legal Services Corporation
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Matthew Jamin
Current address of this person: 3344 Spruce Cape Road
City Kodiak State Alaska Zip 99615
Dates and Location of Employment: From Sept. 1978 To Nov. 1981 City Kodiak/Dlg. State Alaska
Description: Supervising Attorney for a four-attorney legal aid and public defender office in Kodiak. VISTA volunteer attorney in the Dillingham office.
Reason for Leaving: I left ALSC for a higher paying state job.

Employer: _____
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: _____
Current address of this person: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Dates and Location of Employment: From _____ To _____ City _____ State _____
Description: _____
Reason for Leaving: _____

Employer: _____
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: _____
Current address of this person: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Dates and Location of Employment: From _____ To _____ City _____ State _____
Description: _____
Reason for Leaving: _____

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

(a) Percent of your practice that was:

| | |
|----------|--------|
| Civil | 35% |
| Criminal | 50% |
| Other | 15% |
| | = 100% |

Comment: The other 15% was municipal work for the Kodiak Island Borough.

(b) Percent:

| | |
|---------|--------|
| State | 99% |
| Federal | 1% |
| Other | |
| | = 100% |

Comment: _____

(c) Of practice in state courts, percent:

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Supreme Court | 2% |
| Court of Appeals | 15% |
| Superior Court | 48% |
| District Court | 30% |
| | = 100% |

Comment: These percentages varied greatly depending on my position.

(d) Frequency of appearance in court:
 Regularly Occasionally Infrequently Not at All
Comment: _____

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

Comment: I handled all types of civil, criminal, and family law trials.

(f) Percent of these trials which were: Jury 50 Non-Jury 50
Comment: _____

(g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 310

Comment: 30 in practice; 80 in trial courts; 200 in court of appeals.

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

Briefly describe type of matters heard:

Land claims, licenses, permits, various municipal boards & commissions.

(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.).

When I was in private practice, I volunteered for pro bono divorce cases from ALSC. In the late 1980's, my firm helped set up a local pro bono program in Kodiak. I also taught public education programs for ALSC on estate planning, family law, and landlord/tenant law. While I was in Seattle, I volunteered to assist a Salvadoran refugee who was seeking political asylum.

After taking the bench, I volunteered as an instructor for Valdez Youth Court and Kodiak Teen Court and as a judge for the Statewide Mock Trial Competition. I presented judicial education programs on Post-Conviction Procedure, Search Warrants for Electronic Data, Workplace Professionalism, Settlement Ethics, Pretrial Release, Domestic Violence, and Pro Se Litigation. I also served on panels on Alaska Bar Association programs entitled Appellate Off-the-Record, Increasing Diversity in Alaska's Judiciary, and Tips from the Top in Appellate Practice.

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.

State: Iowa (August 1978), Alaska (June 1979), Washington (June 1987).
 Federal: District of Alaska (July 1979), Ninth Circuit (August 1980),
 Western District of Washington (June 1987).

Public Service

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

Alaska Bar Association, Bar Convention Steering Committee, Continuing Legal Education Committee, Anchorage Bar Association.

 American Bar Association, Appellate Judges Conference, Rural Courts Subcommittee.
 Washington State Bar Association (inactive), King County Bar Association.
 Iowa State Bar Association (resigned).

13. List legal publications, if any (give title, subject and date of publications). Please include publications you have co-authored and the name(s) of the co-author(s).

Maintaining the Rule of Law, 34 The Alaska Bar Rag, No. 2 at 13 (2010). I prepared this article on judicial independence for Law Day 2010.

 Bench Guide for New Judges (Alaska Court System 2002). I prepared and collected outlines and scripts of routine court hearings in this guide for new judges. Until recently, I updated the penalty checklist on an annual basis.

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) |
|------------------------------|------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Valdez (Palmer) District Ct. | 1997 | Y | Y (N) |
| Kodiak (Kenai) Superior Ct. | 2003 | Y | Y (N) |
| Alaska Supreme Court | 2007 | Y | N |
| Alaska Court of Appeals | 2008 | Y | Y |

Alaska Supreme Court 2012 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.

Court of Appeals Judge, Anchorage, 2008-present, appointed by Governor Palin.
Superior Court Judge, Kodiak, 2003-2008, appointed by Governor Murkowski.
District Court Judge, Valdez, 1997-2003, appointed by Governor Knowles.

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.

Alaska Conference of Judges. I served as the president, vice president/
treasurer, and secretary of this organization for state judges.

F.I.S.H. Charity Food Bank. I volunteer as a driver, delivering groceries to needy
families.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church. I sing in the choir and served on a pastoral
discernment committee.

Rotary Club, Kodiak & Valdez (1990-2006). I served as president-elect, board
member, and Paul Harris Fellow, and chaired board committees including community
service, club service, and international service. I received the Rotary District
Service Award for the Beyond the Call of Duty Trust, a scholarship fund for the
surviving children of the helicopter crewmembers who perished in a 1985 Coast
Guard medevac flight.

Alaska Legal Services Corporation, Board of Directors (1984-1987).

I am a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a member of the American
Judicature Society.

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.

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.

- (b) Have you ever been sued by a client? Yes No
If so, give particulars, including case numbers.

- (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).

Iowa Savings Bank v. Alan Bolger, District Court, Carroll County, Iowa (1985): A bank requested a mortgage foreclosure on farm land in which I held a future interest. My brother paid the debt, and the suit was dismissed.

Claire Grimm v. Carolyn Conner, District Court, Carroll County, Iowa (late 1970's): My aunt brought a partition action for sale of farm land in which I held a small inherited interest.

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.

See 18(c) above regarding a foreclosure action that was settled before trial.

- (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.

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: Matthew Jamin

Address: 3344 Spruce Cape Road

City/State/Zip: Kodiak, Alaska 99615 Phone: 907-486-6024

Name: Timothy Hurley

Address: PO Box 864

City/State/Zip: Kodiak, Alaska 99615 Phone: 907-486-4433

- (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: Justice Walter Carpeneti

Address: PO Box 114100

City/State/Zip: Juneau, Alaska 99811 Phone: 907-463-4771

Name: Justice Craig Stowers

Address: 303 K Street

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99501 Phone: 907-264-0624

Name: Circuit Judge Morgan Christen

Address: 222 West 7th Ave., Box 60

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99513 Phone: 907-677-6295

References and Counsel Questionnaires (continued)

(c) List the names, addresses, including zip codes, and suite numbers where applicable, and phone numbers of each attorney involved in your three most recent cases that have gone to trial. Please do not list cases pending in the trial 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. Please include the judge's name and case names and numbers. (*Attach additional pages if necessary.*)

Case Number 1

Case Name: No trials in last three years. **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: _____ |

Case Number 2

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: _____ |

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, and phone numbers 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 pending in the trial 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: Christopher Rogers Jr. **Case Number:** A-10635
v. State of Alaska **Judge Name:** Bolger

Attorneys Involved:

| | |
|---|---|
| Name: Hanley Smith | Name: Diane Wendlandt |
| Address: 900 West 5th Ave., Suite 200 | Address: 310 K Street, Suite 308 |
| City, State, Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99501 | City, State, Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99501 |
| Name: _____ | Name: _____ |
| Address: _____ | Address: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | City, State, Zip: _____ |

Case Number 2

Case Name: Michael Lawson **Case Number:** A-10164
v. State of Alaska **Judge Name:** Bolger

Attorneys Involved:

| | |
|---|---|
| Name: Tracy Wollenberg | Name: Kenneth Rosenstein |
| Address: 900 West 5th Ave., Suite 200 | Address: 310 K Street, Suite 308 |
| City, State, Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99501 | City, State, Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99501 |
| Name: _____ | Name: _____ |
| Address: _____ | Address: _____ |
| City, State, Zip: _____ | City, State, Zip: _____ |

Case Number 3

Case Name: Johnny Johnson **Case Number:** A-10243
v. State of Alaska **Judge Name:** Bolger

Attorneys Involved:

| | |
|---|---|
| Name: Brooke Berens | Name: Ann Black |
| Address: 1016 West 6th Ave., Suite 100 | Address: 310 K Street, Suite 308 |
| City, State, Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99501 | City, State, Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99501 |
| 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.

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.

I received a suspended \$25 sanction from Superior Court Judge Ralph Moody in 1981, when I neglected to appear for a pretrial hearing in Anchorage after taking over a felony case from another attorney.

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 am prepared for this position because I have litigated many different types of cases, written numerous appeal briefs and decisions, and contributed to many different functions of the justice system.

1. Litigation Experience. As an attorney, I litigated felonies and misdemeanors, divorce and child custody disputes, probate claims, children's cases, personal injury claims, construction claims, maritime cases, and civil and criminal appeals. After I was appointed to the bench, I judged numerous criminal, family, and civil cases of all kinds. Beginning in 2003, I presided over wrongful death litigation regarding an air crash near Dillingham that involved numerous parties and claims.

2. Appeals. I began to write appeals early and continued throughout my career in practice. After I took the bench I decided about 80 appeals to the superior court from the district court and administrative agencies.

Additional Comments (Continued)

On the court of appeals, I have written over 200 opinions and memorandum decisions on criminal law issues, as well as participating in over 400 decisions written by the other two judges. In 2009, I sat on two cases with the Alaska Supreme Court and wrote the opinions in *Smallwood v. Central Peninsula General Hosp.*, 227 P.3d 457 (Alaska 2010) and *Henrichs v. Chugach Alaska Corp.*, 260 P.3d 1036 (Alaska 2011).

3. Court System Service. I serve as the Chair of the Judicial Conference Planning Committee; I have helped to plan more than 20 judicial conferences since 2001. I also served as a Magistrate Training Judge and presented many programs at magistrate conferences, including Jury Trial Techniques, Judicial Ethics, and Appellate Updates. I delivered the keynote address at the Leadership Institute in Judicial Education at the University of Memphis in 2004.

I currently serve on the Appellate Rules Committee, the Criminal Pattern Jury Instructions Committee, and the Fairness Diversity & Equality Committee. When I was a trial court judge I served on the Child Support Guidelines Review Committee and the Family Law Rules Committee, and as an alternate on the Three-Judge Sentencing Panel. In 2010, I represented the Chief Justice at the Cross-Governmental Sentencing Policy Forum, sponsored by the National Governors Association, and the Alabama Sentencing Conference, sponsored by the National Center on State Courts.

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.

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 twelve photographs of yourself with your application.

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

Biographical Statement

Name Joel H. Bolger

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

Alaska Supreme Court

Please leave this area blank

Date: July 20, 2012

I attended college and law school at the University of Iowa. After law school, I moved to Alaska and served in public interest positions for four years. I volunteered for VISTA in Dillingham, supervised the legal aid office in Kodiak, and represented indigent criminal defendants in Barrow.

In 1982, I joined a private practice in Kodiak. I litigated civil and criminal trials and appeals, mediated family disputes, and negotiated business and property transactions. I also served as a contract attorney for the Kodiak Island Borough for fourteen years.

Beginning in 1997, I was appointed to the district court in Valdez, then the superior court in Kodiak, and now the court of appeals in Anchorage. I have been active in planning and presenting education programs for judges, magistrates, and lawyers.

I have two grown children, and my wife works as an accountant. I enjoy biking, skiing, golf, and music.