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ALASKA
JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Alaska Judicial Council
Application for Judicial Appointment

Palmer District Court
Palmer, Alaska - 3rd Judicial Dist.

Date: February 3, 2003

Position(s) for which you wish to be
considered

I. PUBLIC INFORMATION (Qs. 1-24 & 35)

PERSONAL

1. (a) State full name* William Lee Estelle
Name as it should appear on bar survey: Bill Estelle
* 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

3. How long have you been a resident of the State of Alaska immediately preceding the date of this application? ** 48 years 6 months
Total years 48 months 6
4. How long have you been engaged in the active practice of law immediately preceding the date of this application? ** 20 years 6 months
Total years 20 months 6

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

NONLEGAL EDUCATION

5. 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 Alaska Anchorage - Bachelor of Business Administration - 1980

Double Major - Business Management and Marketing

Alaskan of the Year Scholarship - 1976

Athletic Scholarship - Cross Country Skiing - 1974-78

LEGAL EDUCATION

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

Duke University School of Law

August 1980 - May 1983

Juris Doctor

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

- (b) Have you taken any CLE (continuing legal education) courses during the past five years?
Yes x No _____ Please describe:

2002 - 14.5 hrs. CLE (13.5 General CLE credits & 1.0 Ethics CLE credits.)
Federal VAWA legislation. - 3/4 hr. CLE credit.
New Alaska Laws and Legislation. - 1/2 hr. CLE credit.
Cyberstalking: Crime in a Computer-Oriented World. - 3.5 hrs. CLE credit.
Ethics: Limitations on Argument to Juries. - 1.0

MILITARY

8. Have you served in the armed forces (reserves or otherwise)? 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. If so, state the details.

NONLEGAL EMPLOYMENT

9. Describe major nonlegal working experience, if any.

Hay Farming & Nursery Stock Production
Retail Flower Business
Commercial Fishing for Salmon in Bristol Bay
Construction
Cross-Country Ski Coaching
Volunteer Work

10. Describe major nonlegal business or professional experience, if any. If your association has been discontinued, please note whether there are unpaid debts or claims pending litigation.

Retail Small Business Management (discontinued) (no claims or litigation)
Construction Subcontractor Business (discontinued) (no claims or litigation)
Family Real Estate Investments (no claims or litigation)

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

11. Describe chronologically your legal employment since admission to law school. Please provide dates, name of employer, name of supervisor, addresses, the reason you left the position, and a brief description of type of practice (i.e., insurance defense, criminal, appellate, general, litigation, etc.). **Also, provide the name and current address of a person, preferably your supervisor, who can verify your employment *for each position listed below.***

1982 - Summer Law Clerk - Bradbury, Bliss & Riordan, Inc. - Ron Bliss - Bliss, Wilkens & Clayton, 500 L St. Suite 200, Anchorage 99501. Admiralty & General Litigation. - Returned to Duke University.

1983-84 - Law Clerk - Anchorage Superior Court. - Hon. Victor D. Carlson, Judge - 1408 W. 10th Ave., Anchorage 99501. Trial Court Clerk & Deputy Magistrate. - Clerkship Term Expired.

1984-85 - Associate - Middleton, Timme & McKay. - R. Collin Middleton - 421 W. 1st Ave. Suite 250, Anchorage 99501. - General Litigation, Commercial, Native Law, Criminal Defense. - Left to open AG Office in Bethel.

1985-87 - Assistant Attorney General - Alaska Department of Law - Bethel. Dianne Olsen - 1031 W. 4th Ave., Suite 200, Anchorage 99501. - Opened local Attorney General Office in Bethel doing Child-in-need-of-aid, Indian Child Welfare Act, Juvenile Delinquency, URESA Child Support Enforcement, and general civil litigation cases. Transferred to Palmer District Attorney's Office.

1987-2003 - Assistant District Attorney - Alaska Dept. of Law. - Roman J. Kalytiak - 800 W. Evergreen Ave., Suite 102, Palmer 99645 - Supervise investigations, provide legal advice, teach at academy, litigate felony criminal cases, travel as needed for Valdez, Cordova & Glennallen court calendars, and train new attorneys.

12. For the past five years, please indicate (approximately) the following:

- (a) Percent of your practice that was
- | | |
|----------|-------------|
| Civil | <u>5 %</u> |
| Criminal | <u>90 %</u> |
| Other | <u>5 %</u> |
- = 100%

Comment: Post-Conviction-Relief (PCR), Criminal, & Childrens' Cases.

- (b) Percent
- | | |
|---------|-------------------|
| State | <u>100 %</u> |
| Federal | <u> </u> |
| Other | <u> </u> |
- = 100%

Comment: Most in Palmer, Valdez & Glennallen; some Anchorage & Bethel.

- (c) Of practice in state courts, percent:
- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Supreme Court | <u> </u> |
| Court of Appeals | <u>5 %</u> |
| Superior Court | <u>85 %</u> |
| District Court | <u>10 %</u> |
- = 100%

Comment: I help in District Court on an as-needed basis. Most of my work is now with felony cases in the Superior Court.

- (d) Frequency of appearance in court: Regularly x; Occasionally ;
Infrequently ; Not at All

Comment: Court proceedings range from Warrants to Trial, Appeal, & PCR;

- (e) Number of trials (by court or jury) you conducted in the past 5 years:
 None 1 to 5 6 to 16 x 16 to 30 31 or more

Comment: I have done 26 jury trials and 2 more with new attorneys.

- (f) Percent of these trials which were: Jury 25 Non-Jury 1

Comment: The non-jury trial was a defense decision to expedite appeal.

- (g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 6;

Comment: Pet. for Review, Fel. Sentence App. & Misd. Merit for another

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

Briefly describe type of matters heard:

(i) Have you undertaken any pro bono work during this period?

Yes _____ No X

Describe: It was prohibited until recently and now no time is available.

13. 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 Court System - 1984

Alaska Federal District Court - 1984

PUBLIC SERVICE

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

Alaska Bar Assn. - Prosecution, Criminal Defense, & Elder Law sections.

Matanuska Bar Assn. - Past President, Vice President, & Secretary.

15. List legal publications, if any (give title, subject and date of publications):

None

16. Have you ever applied for a judgeship? 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)
Anchorage District Court	1997	N	N/A

17. Have you ever held public or political office, elective or appointive? Yes

If so, state office, manner selected, and when and where held.

Acting District Court Magistrate, Anchorage - 1983-84.

18. List all other legal and any nonlegal organizations and clubs of which you are a member, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social and fraternal. (Please indicate whether you participate in the organization's activities, or simply hold a membership.)

Alaska Association for Historic Preservation - Member.

National Trust for Historic Preservation - Member.

Palmer Historical Society - Past President & officer.

Duke Law Alumni & UAA Alumni Associations - Member.

Family - Father of 5 (Doctor, Lawyer, Electrician, College & PHS IB Student.)

19. 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 other than minor traffic offenses (those for which a fine of \$50.00 or less, and no other sanctions were imposed)? No

(b) failed to answer any summons or other legal process served upon you personally at any time? 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? No

(d) had any proceedings brought to have you declared a ward of any court or adjudged an incompetent? 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.

20. (a) Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state or local authorities? 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? If so, give particulars, including case numbers.

No.

- (b) Have you ever been sued by a client? If so, give particulars, including case numbers.

No.

- (c) Have you ever been a party in any other legal proceeding? If so, give the particulars. Include all legal proceedings in which you were a party in interest, including divorce/dissolution proceedings; a material witness; a named co-conspirator or correspondent; and any grand jury investigation in which you figured as a subject, or in which you appeared as a witness. 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).

I was sued in my professional capacity, along with Judge Ashman and the DA, by a criminal defendant (an Anchorage paralegal) charged with multiple counts of forgery & etc. (3PA-S93-1602 Cr.). I was defended by the Attorney General's Office and the case was dismissed in short order. The fortunate net effect was that I was relieved of a case involving protracted and voluminous frivolous litigation. It was assigned to another office and eventually resolved.

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

- (a) Are there any unsatisfied judgments against you? 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? 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? Please state the circumstances and outcome of any such unsatisfied or default judgment, or of any foreclosure.

No.

- (b) Have you ever made an assignment for the benefit of creditors? Has any petition in bankruptcy ever been filed by you? If so, state the circumstances, case number, and the outcome.

No.

REFERENCES*

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

(1) NAME: Geraldine K. Keeling
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 135
CITY/STATE/ZIP: Palmer, AK 99645 PHONE: (907) 745-3703

(2) NAME: Christopher Gronning
ADDRESS: 3310 North Shore Drive
CITY/STATE/ZIP: Anchorage, AK 99515 PHONE: (907) 248-4471

- (b) List the names, addresses, 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. (You should not list the Chief Justice of the Alaska Supreme Court.)

(1) NAME: Judge Beverly W. Cutler
ADDRESS: 435 S. Denali Street
CITY/STATE/ZIP: Palmer, AK 99645 PHONE: (907) 745-7500

(2) NAME: L. Andrew Robinson
ADDRESS: 808 S. Bailey Street, Suite 101
CITY/STATE/ZIP: Palmer, AK 99645 PHONE: (907) 745-5031

(3) NAME: John R. Snodgrass, Jr.
ADDRESS: 840 S. Colony Way, Suite 250
CITY/STATE/ZIP: Palmer, AK 99645 PHONE: (907) 745-4278

* **Please Note:** Letters of reference from these persons are confidential and will not be given to the applicant. The applicant should not request a copy of the letter from the reference.

REFERENCES (continued)

(c) List the names, addresses and phone numbers of attorneys involved in your three most recent cases that have gone to trial. (Applicants who are currently judges should list the three most recent trials they presided over.) List only those cases which 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.)

1

Case Name: State of Alaska
v. Joseph LaDick

Case Number: 3PA-S01-2328 Cr.
Judge Name: Suzanne H. Lombardi

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Scott Sterling - 376-8076
Address: 851 E. Westpoint Dr., Ste 201
Wasilla, AK 99654

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

2

Case Name: State of Alaska
v. Sandra Onstead

Case Number: 3PA-S01-1604 Cr.
Judge Name: Beverly W. Cutler

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Lisa Reynolds - 761-3803
Address: 1800 Glenn Highway, Ste. 8
Palmer, AK 99645-6736

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

3

Case Name: State of Alaska
v. Ricky L. Handel

Case Number: 3PA-S01-395 Cr.
Judge Name: Hon. Beverly W. Cutler

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Karen E. Bretz - 277-5847
Address: Box 91457
Anchorage, AK 99509

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

REFERENCES (continued)

(d) List the names, addresses and phone numbers of attorneys involved in your three most recent cases that did not go to trial but in which you did significant work. (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.)

1

Case Name: State of Alaska
v. Jesse A. Rice

Case Number: 3PA-S02-2132 Cr.
Judge Name: Beverly W. Cutler

Attorneys Involved:

Name: John C. Pharr - 272-2525
Address: 733 @. 4th Ave., Ste. 308
Anchorage, AK 99501

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

2

Case Name: State of Alaska
v. Jerome F. Byrne

Case Number: 3PA-S02-437 Cr.
Judge Name: Eric B. Smith

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Kenneth J. Goldman - 746-2346
Address: 510 S. Alaska Street
Palmer, AK 99645

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

3

Case Name: State of Alaska
v. William Peters

Case Number: 3PA-S02-1738 Cr.
Judge Name: Beverly W. Cutler

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Larry A. Wiggins - 746-1670
Address: Box 3402
Palmer, AK 99645

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

WRITING SAMPLE

23. Attach as Appendix A 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. If you do not have a good sample of this length, include an excerpt from a longer writing. **Please do not submit longer writing samples.** Make sure the sample contains sufficient facts to make it understandable. Please do not submit coauthored writing samples.
24. 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? Have formal grievance procedures been brought against you? See Bar Rule 22(b) & (e) concerning public grievance procedures against attorneys, and AS 22.30.011(b) and .060(b)(3) concerning public grievance procedures against judges. Have you ever been held in contempt of court? In each case, state in detail the circumstances and the outcome.

No.
