

Received  
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Alaska Judicial Council

## Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

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

Anchorage Superior Court

Date: July 22, 2022

### I. Public Information (Questions 1-24)

#### Personal

1. (a) State full name\* Laura Suzanne Hartz  
Name as it should appear on bar survey: Laura Hartz  
\* 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. Laura Suzanne Sadowski
2. How long have you been a resident of the State of Alaska immediately preceding the date of this application? \*\*  

	<u>12</u> years	<u>5</u> months
Total	<u>13</u> years	<u>10</u> months
3. How long have you been engaged in the active practice of law immediately preceding the date of this application? \*\*  

	<u>12</u> years	<u>5</u> months
Total	<u>14</u> years	<u>5</u> 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.

Fall 1998 - Winter 2001: Gonzaga University  
Bachelor's Degree in Journalism. Cum laude.  
Alpha Sigma Nu (Jesuit National Honor Society)  
Lambda Pi Eta (National Communication Association's Honor Society)

\*\* 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.

Fall 2002 - Spring 2005: University of Oregon School of Law  
Juris Doctor.

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.

Spring 2005: Myself and one other graduating student were the first recipients of the law school's Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) award for graduating students pursuing legal careers in the public interest.

- (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.

Ethics Tonight; Wellness CLE; Family Law Section CLE's presented by trial court judges re: effective presentation in domestic relations and custody cases; Family Law Section appellate update; Family Law Section: Legal Practice During COVID-19; Attorney General's Office appellate update in CINA cases; FASD in juvenile cases; NACC Child Welfare Redbook training; appellate practice in child welfare cases (NACC); Representing a Criminal Defendant on Appeal; A Walk in my Shoes: A parent's perspective engaging parents in crisis (NACC); Implicit Bias in Child Welfare (NACC); Practice Impacts and Responses to COVID-19 (NICWA); Understanding Institutional Racism to Improve Cultural Responsiveness, Race Equity (NICWA); Alaska Bar Convention 2021; Basic Trusts & Estates Law; and, Eviction Proceedings Basics. Additionally, at the Attorney General's Office, I presented bar-approved CLE's to the Child Protection Section on topics including trial preparation for CINA adjudication and termination trials.

## 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.

In high school, I worked in a restaurant. I worked the front counter and washed dishes. I left that job to work as a file clerk at a financial services firm. After I left for college, I returned to this firm to work summers and on winter break.

I was the Managing Editor of my college newspaper, the Gonzaga Bulletin. In college, I also worked part-time for the Spokane Parks and Recreation Department. I edited the Parks & Rec publication of course offerings, and eventually taught arts and crafts classes to children. I volunteered throughout college for Big Brothers and Sisters as a Big Sister.

The summer before I started law school, I worked as an assistant to a Trusts & Estates attorney co-located in the financial services firm I had worked in for years.

In law school, I volunteered at a non-profit supervised visitation program as a visit supervisor for parents who had court-ordered supervised visitation with their children.

## 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: Office of Public Advocacy

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Anita Alves, Supervising Attorney

Current address of this person: 900 W. Fifth Avenue, Suite 525

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501

Dates and location of Employment: From August 2020 To Present City Anchorage State AK

#### Job title and description:

Assistant Public Advocate. My caseload is a mix of appellate and trial court cases. I write Child in Need of Aid appeals on behalf of guardians ad litem. I represent GAL's in trial court cases with complex legal issues and trials. I serve as a GAL to a number of children in CINA cases. I have been appointed as a GAL in civil custody and criminal matters. Finally, I have been appointed as counsel for juvenile delinquency clients.

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

Employer: Alaska Department of Law

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Carla Erickson, Section Chief

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

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501

Dates and Location of Employment: From Feb. 2010 To August 2020 City Anchorage State AK

#### Job title and description:

Senior Assistant Attorney General. Trial attorney—I represented the Office of Children's Services in Child in Need of Aid (CINA) cases in superior court from the filing of a petition through reunification, guardianship or adoption. My caseload primarily consisted of Anchorage cases, but I also handled Kodiak cases for a time, plus cases in Bethel, Juneau, and Palmer. This position involved significant motion practice. As the prevailing party, the trial court frequently asked me to draft the order following trial. Provided training to less experienced attorneys. Drafted internal Practice Manual for attorneys in the Section.

Reason for Leaving: Accepted a position with the Office of Public Advocacy.

Employer: American University, Washington College of Law

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: David Jaffe, Associate Dean of Student Affairs

Current address of this person: 13429 Locksley Lane

City Silver Spring State MD Zip 20904

Dates and Location of Employment: From August 2008 To Feb. 2010 City Washington State DC

Job title and description: Senior Academic Counselor. I provided academic counseling to law students. I also coordinated testing accommodations for students experiencing a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Reason for Leaving: Returned to Alaska to resume my work with the Attorney General's Office.

**Previous Employers (continued)**

Employer: District of Columbia Office of the Attorney General  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Leslie Gross, Supervising Attorney  
Current address of this person: 3021 John Marshall Drive  
City Arlington State VA Zip 22207  
Dates and Location of Employment: From Dec. 2007 To August 2008 City Washington State DC  
Job title and description: Assistant Corporation Counsel. I represented the Child and Family Services Agency in court in child protection matters in the District of Columbia. This position involved significant motion practice, frequent court appearances, and trials.  
Reason for Leaving: Accepted a position with the Washington College of Law at American University.

Employer: Alaska Department of Law  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Carla Erickson, Section Chief  
Current address of this person: 1031 W. Fourth Avenue, Suite 200  
City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501  
Dates and Location of Employment: From Sept. 2006 To Nov. 2007 City Anchorage State AK  
Job title and description: Assistant Attorney General. Trial attorney in CINA cases from removal to reunification, guardianship or adoption. This position also involved significant motion practice. Once per month I would also represent the state in involuntary mental health commitments for individuals held at the Alaska Psychiatric Institute.  
Reason for Leaving: Relocated to Washington D.C.

Employer: Lane County Circuit Court  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Hon. Kip Leonard (retired)  
Current address of this person: 2066 University Avenue  
City Eugene State OR Zip 97403  
Dates and Location of Employment: From Sept. 2005 To August 2006 City Eugene State OR  
Job title and description: Law Clerk. Researched and wrote memoranda. Prepared orders for the court's signature. I also acted in the role of an in-court clerk. I assisted with the therapeutic teen drug court.  
Reason for Leaving: Clerkship ended

Employer: Oregon Department of Justice  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Kristen Farnworth, Attorney  
Current address of this person: 222 Commercial Street NE  
City Salem State OR Zip 97301  
Dates and Location of Employment: From Nov. 2003 To Dec. 2004 City Eugene State OR  
Job title and description: Law Clerk. I prepared dependency cases for Termination of Parental Rights trials. I appeared in court as a court-certified law student handling uncontested TPR trials involving absent parents.  
Reason for Leaving: Graduated from law school.

Employer: University of Oregon School of Law  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Prof. Dominick Vetri  
Current address of this person: 24580 Gap Road  
City Brownsville State OR Zip 97327  
Dates and Location of Employment: From June 2002 To August 2002 City Eugene State OR  
Job title and description: Research Assistant to Prof. Dominick Vetri. I performed legal research and writing primarily related to tort law.  
Reason for Leaving: This was a summer research position.

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

(a) Percent of your practice that was: Civil 95%  
Criminal 5%  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  
= 100%

Comment: My criminal experience is limited to appointment as the GAL for a child victim in criminal matters. I do have delinquency defense experience.

(b) Percent: State 100%  
Federal \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  
= 100%

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Of practice in state courts, percent: Supreme Court 10%  
Court of Appeals \_\_\_\_\_  
Superior Court 90%  
District Court \_\_\_\_\_  
= 100%

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Comment: I have handled hundreds of trials in CINA matters, primarily in Anchorage, but in all four judicial districts.

(f) Percent of these trials which were: Jury 0%    Non-Jury 100%

Comment: I have participated in an interim and final civil custody trial as the GAL.

(g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 14

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

(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:

I handled several administrative hearings in front of OAH on behalf of OCS related to substantiated findings of abuse or neglect by parents of children in their care.

(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.).

In January 2021, I started answering questions on Alaska Legal Services' Landlord Tenant Hotline. This work involves giving real-time advice to both landlords and tenants regarding housing issues.

While in Washington D.C., I volunteered for the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless. I would participate in intake once a month at the women's day shelter, and take on representation of clients on landlord-tenant, subsidized housing, and utilities-related issues.

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 of Oregon. Admitted 2005. Inactive effective 2009.  
 State of Alaska. Admitted 2007. Active.  
 District of Columbia. Admitted 2008. I resigned from the DC Bar in 2015 in Good Standing because I no longer intended to practice law in the District of Columbia.

**Public Service**

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

Alaska Bar Association  
 Oregon Bar Association (Inactive status)  
 Family Law Section of the Alaska Bar  
 CINA Court Improvement Project Youth Engagement Subcommittee (past member). Together with the Hon. Mark Rindner and Linda Beecher, I co-authored the bench card used in Alaska superior courts for hearings pursuant to Alaska Statute 47.10.087.  
 CINA Court Improvement Project ICWA Subcommittee  
 CINA Court Improvement Project Remote/Telephonic Hearings Subcommittee

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).

N/A

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)
Anchorage Superior Court	July 2021	Y	N
Anchorage Superior Court	December 2021	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.

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 am the Communications Director of the Inlet View Elementary PTA.

I volunteer in my children's classrooms at school and chaperone field trips.

My husband and I both volunteer as cross-country ski coaches for Anchorage's Junior Nordic Program. We are members of the Nordic Ski Association.

I am a member of U.S.A. Triathlon. I volunteer at local races, including the Gold Nugget Triathlon.

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.

April 1999: Speeding. Kennewick, Washington. This ticket may not have amounted to more than \$50.  
October 1999: Following too close. Spokane, WA. I paid a fine.  
September 2000: Minor in Possession of Alcohol in Grant County, WA, Case No. C12434. I was 20 years old; I had a breath-alcohol level of .01 at a concert where I was camping. This case was ultimately dismissed and expunged from my record.  
June 2003: Speeding. Eugene, Oregon. I paid a fine.  
November 2011: Failure to Stop. Anchorage, Alaska. I paid a fine.  
May 2016: Speeding. Anchorage, Alaska. I paid a 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).

In October 1999, I was involved in a four-car motor vehicle accident in Spokane, Washington. I rear-ended the vehicle in front of me. The driver of that vehicle filed suit in Spokane Superior Court (Case No. 01-2-002167-7). The case went to arbitration where damages in the amount of \$10,000 were awarded. These were paid by my insurer, State Farm. The lawsuit was dismissed on June 14, 2002.

- (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: Ashley Brown

Address: 4155 Horizon Avenue

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99517 Phone: (907) 748-2549

Name: Hanley Robinson

Address: 4441 South Park Bluff Drive

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99516 Phone: (907) 360-1452

- (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 Jennifer Henderson

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (907) 632-4937

Name: Samantha Cherot

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (907) 601-0162

Name: Hon. Andrew Guidi

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (907) 301-8395

**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:** ITMO: P.T.C.G. **Case Number:** 3AN-16-00633CN  
**v.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Judge Name:** Hon. Josie Garton

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Eric Land</u>	Name: <u>Jessica Pierson, guardian ad litem (deceased)</u>
Address: <u>900 W. 5th 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:** ITMO: H.E.R.K. **Case Number:** 3AN-17-00514CN  
**v.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Judge Name:** Hon. Eric Aarseth

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Elizabeth Brennan</u>	Name: <u>Bridgette Ellis</u>
Address: <u>900 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 200</u>	Address: <u>645 G Street, Suite 100-807</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
Name: <u>Rebecca Karstetter, guardian ad litem</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>658 W. Jones Drive</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Wasilla, AK 99654</u>	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** ITMO: B.B., L.B. (I was attorney for GAL in this matter) **Case Number:** 3KO-17-0023/24CN  
**v.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Judge Name:** Hon. Christina Reigh

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Paul Morin, Assistant Attorney General</u>	Name: <u>Paul Tony</u>
Address: <u>110 Trading Bay Road, Ste. 110</u>	Address: <u>310 K Street, Ste. 200</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Kenai, AK 99611</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
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:** ITMO: Z.T. **Case Number:** 3AN-15-00435CN  
v. **Judge Name:** Hon. Jennifer Henderson

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Julie Webb	Name: Rachel Espejo
Address: 900 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 525	Address: 20130 Constitution Drive
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip: Eagle River, AK 99577
Name: Marika Athens	Name:
Address: 1810 Parkside Drive	Address:
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip:

### Case Number 2

**Case Name:** ITMO: C.S. **Case Number:** 3AN-18-00121CN  
v. **Judge Name:** MJ Suzanne Cole

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Eric Land	Name: Erika Kahill
Address: 900 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 525	Address: 900 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 200
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501
Name: Lorie Ann Hardin, guardian ad litem	Name:
Address: 517 W. 12th Avenue	Address:
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip:

### Case Number 3

**Case Name:** ITMO: A.N. **Case Number:** 3AN-18-00367CN  
v. **Judge Name:** Hon. Jennifer Henderson

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Elizabeth Brennan	Name: Julie Webb
Address: 900 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 200	Address: 900 W. 5th Avenue, Suite 525
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501
Name: Shawn McConnell, guardian ad litem	Name:
Address: 900 W. Fifth Avenue, Suite 525	Address:
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	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 have committed my career to public service. Until the pandemic, I was in an Anchorage Superior Court courtroom daily. I have built my practice around the core values of honesty, hard work, and fidelity to the law. The longer I have practiced law in the trial courts, I have become less interested in the ideas of advocacy and argument, and more interested in identifying solutions.

While I have specialized in my practice, prosecuting Child in Need of Aid cases simultaneously exposed me to both civil custody and criminal cases. In my position as a Senior Assistant Attorney General, I intervened for a limited purpose (to ensure proper procedures for disclosure of confidential records) in criminal cases where children on my CINA caseload were physically harmed or severely neglected by a parent. Several times a year, I would also accompany OCS workers to testify in civil custody matters and in hearings for domestic violence protective orders. In limited circumstances, I would intervene in those cases for purposes of disclosure of confidential records. I have also been appointed as a guardian ad litem to children in civil custody and criminal matters. Family law cases, including CINA matters, civil custody matters, and petitions for domestic violence restraining orders, make up a significant amount of the workload for judges on the civil bench.

Throughout my career, as a law clerk, and as an attorney, I have worked in therapeutic courts (teen drug court in Oregon, and Family Care Court and CINA Therapeutic Court in Anchorage). I have observed people turn their lives and the lives of their families around with the structure, support, and treatment provided by these programs.

I am a quick study, and am not afraid to ask questions when I do not know something or need to be pointed in the right direction. I submit this application knowing that serving as a superior court judge is a tremendous amount of work. It would be an honor and a privilege to serve the people of Alaska as a superior court judge.

**Additional Comments (Continued)**

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 Laura Hartz

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

Anchorage Superior Court

*Please leave this area blank*

Date: July 22, 2022

I received my Bachelor's degree in Journalism from Gonzaga University. After graduating from the University of Oregon School of Law, I clerked in the Lane County Circuit Court.

In 2006, I moved to Alaska where I served as an Assistant Attorney General in Child Protection at the Department of Law.

After two years on the East Coast, I rejoined the AG's Office where I worked as a trial attorney for 10 years.

In 2020, I joined the Office of Public Advocacy. I write appeals on behalf of guardians ad litem, represent GAL's in Child in Need of Aid matters, and act as a GAL in CINA, civil custody, and criminal matters. I represent youth clients in juvenile delinquency cases. I volunteer with Alaska Legal Services answering questions on the Landlord/Tenant Hotline.

It would be an honor to serve the people of the State of Alaska as a superior court judge.