

JAN 26 2018

ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

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

Juneau Superior Court

Date: January 24, 2018

I. Public Information (Questions 1-24)

Personal

1. (a) State full name* Amy Gurton Mead

Name as it should appear on bar survey: Amy Gurton Mead

* 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.

Amy Gurton

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

Total 21 years 6 months

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

Total 21 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.

Boston University, 1985 - 1989
Bachelor of Arts in psychology (1989)

** 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.

Tulane University Law School, 1993 - 1996
Juris Doctorate (cum laude) with a certificate of specialization in environmental law

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.

Public Interest Law Foundation
Environmental Law Clinic

- (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 attended all Alaska Bar conventions and annual conferences of the Alaska Municipal Attorneys Association held in the past five years.

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.

Though I have been steadily employed since the age of 16, my only significant paid professional work experience has been as an attorney. Between college and law school, I was a research assistant for a psychiatrist; held an editorial internship for a periodical; was a production assistant at a radio station in Boston; and did a marketing internship with Sony Records.

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: City and Borough of Juneau

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Kendell D. Koelsch, Mayor

Current address of this person: 1586 Evergreen Ave.

City Juneau State AK Zip 99801

Dates and location of Employment: From June 2010 To present City Juneau State AK

Description:

Municipal Attorney, 2013 to present; assistant municipal attorney, 2010 - 2013.

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

Employer: Hoffman & Blasco, LLC (formerly Robertson, Monagle & Eastaugh)

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Robert Blasco

Current address of this person: 9360 Glacier Highway, Suite 202

City Juneau State AK Zip 99801

Dates and Location of Employment: From July 1998 To June 2010* City Juneau State AK

Description: Senior associate (litigation, municipal law, family law, criminal defense). (*minus one year from 2000 - 2001)

Reason for Leaving: Took position with City and Borough of Juneau.

Employer: State of Alaska, Department of Law, Civil Division, Human Services Section

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Stacie Kraly

Current address of this person: Box 110300

City Juneau State AK Zip 99801

Dates and Location of Employment: From 2000 To 2001 City Juneau State AK

Description: Assistant attorney general, Human Services Section (Medicaid). Also served as prosecutor for criminal division on "as needed" basis.

Reason for Leaving: Returned to litigation position with Robertson, Monagle & Eastaugh.

Previous Employers (continued)

Employer: State of Alaska, Department of Law, Criminal Division
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Judge Trevor Stephens
Current address of this person: 415 Main St., Room 400
City Ketchikan State AK Zip 99901
Dates and Location of Employment: From March 1997 To July 1998 City Ketchikan State AK
Description: Assistant district attorney
Reason for Leaving: Moved to Juneau.

Employer: State of Alaska, Court System
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Judge Thomas M. Jahnke
Current address of this person: Box 15911
City Seattle State WA Zip 98115
Dates and Location of Employment: From July 1996 To March 1997 City Ketchikan State AK
Description: Law clerk
Reason for Leaving: Judge Jahnke encouraged me to apply for the position with the DAO.

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: _____

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 70
Criminal 30
Other _____
= 100%

Comment: _____

(b) Percent: State 95
Federal 5
Other _____
= 100%

Comment: _____

(c) Of practice in state courts, percent: Supreme Court 5
Court of Appeals _____
Superior Court 55
District Court 40
= 100%

Comment: _____

(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: _____

(f) Percent of these trials which were: Jury 60 Non-Jury 40

Comment: _____

(g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 9

Comment: This does not include appellate matters heard by CBJ Assembly.

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

Briefly describe type of matters heard:

As advocate (labor, ABC permit), and advising quasi-judicial body.

(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 taken three cases that I can recall for ANDVSA. One took well over a year to resolve (and only after a lengthy trial in front of Judge Patricia Collins).

MLK Day, 2018.

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.

Courts of the State of Alaska: 1997
 United States District Court, District of Alaska: 1998
 United States Circuit Court for the Ninth Circuit: 2004

Public Service

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

I am serving my second term as a commissioner on the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct and am currently the chair.

Current member: Alaska Bar Association; Juneau Bar Association; Alaska Municipal Attorney's Association (President 2017); Municipal Law Section (Chair 2017)
 Former member: Ketchikan Bar Association; AK Bar CLE Committee

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).

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)
Juneau District Court	2016	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.

I am a commissioner on the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct, now serving as its chair. I was first appointed to the Commission in October of 2012. I was re-appointed for a second term in 2016.

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 was a board member for the Juneau Youth Corporation in 2002, Gold Creek Child Development Center in 2006, and Auke Bay Cooperative Preschool from 2006 -2010. I was an officer for the Parent Teacher Organization at my children's elementary school from 2006 - 2013. I was a co-leader for my daughter's Girl Scout troop for five years (2010 - 2015). I was a member of the Rotary Club of Juneau, Glacier Valley from 2006 until 2010, serving as an officer on its board for two years. I left the club in 2010 when the location of my job changed and getting to meetings proved problematic, but I re-joined in 2015. I regularly volunteer for community projects organized by Rotary.

Though not tied to membership in any organization, I also regularly volunteer for my children's schools and their extra-curricular organizations. In addition to devoting time for specific events at school, I have been a speaker for the local youth court and have chaperoned for the high school cross-country team.

In 2017, I served as president of the Alaska Municipal Attorney's Association. As president, I was responsible for organizing the annual conference. 2017 was one of the best attended conferences (over 60 attendees), and was approved for 10.25 general CLE credits, and 3.0 credits by the Alaska Bar Association.

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 vaguely recall getting a traffic ticket in New Orleans during my last year of school but believe the fine was under \$50.

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).

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.

- (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: Rorie Watt
Address: 119 Spruce Street
City/State/Zip: Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: 907-209-9863

Name: Sherri Layne
Address: P.O. Box 211314
City/State/Zip: Juneau, AK 99821 Phone: 907-321-0951

- (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: Marla Greenstein, Executive Director, Judicial Conduct Commission
Address: 510 L Street, Suite 585
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501-1959 Phone: 907-272-1033

Name: Hon. Keith Levy
Address: 534 Fifth Street
City/State/Zip: Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: 907-723-1427

Name: Bruce Botelho
Address: 401 F Street
City/State/Zip: Douglas, AK 99824 Phone: 907-723-9999

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: K.M. Perry **Case Number:** 1JU-15-637 CI
v. City and Borough of Juneau **Judge Name:** Hon. Thomas Nave

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Mark Choate Name: _____
Address: 424 N. Franklin St. Address: _____
City, State, Zip: Juneau, AK 99801 (586-4490) 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: City and Borough of Juneau **Case Number:** 1JU-12-900 CI
v. Local Boundary Commission **Judge Name:** Hon. Louis Menendez

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Janell Hafner, A.A.G.</u>	Name: <u>James Brennan</u>
Address: <u>Box 110300</u>	Address: <u>619 E. Ship Creek Ave, Ste. 310</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Juneau, AK 99811 (465-3600)</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501 (279-5528)</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: City and Borough of Juneau **Case Number:** 1JU-12-812 CI
v. Ronald R. Hohman **Judge Name:** Hon. Louis Menendez

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Bruce Weyhrauch</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>114 S. Franklin St., Ste 200</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Juneau, AK 99801 (463-5566)</u>	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: Juneau Empire **Case Number:** 1JU-12-650 CI
v. City and Borough of Juneau **Judge Name:** Hon. Philip Pallenberg

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>E. Budd Simpson</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>One Seaalaska Plaza, Ste. 300</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Juneau, AK 99801 (586-1400)</u>	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

These cases are not the most recent cases in which I did significant work (but which did not go to trial). As explained above, since becoming the CBJ's Municipal Attorney, it is not always practicable for me to act as attorney of record. I am, however, materially and actively involved in all of the CBJ's litigation. I normally serve as attorney of record in at least one case pending before the CBJ at any given time; my most recent case has been pending since 2016.

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.

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.

My position as the City and Borough of Juneau's Municipal Attorney has prepared me to serve on the trial court bench.

- I oversee a significant criminal and civil caseload. Though it is not always practicable for me to be attorney of record, I am directly and actively involved in all of the CBJ's cases. I manage the overall litigation strategy and supervise the attorneys assigned to the approximately 1000 criminal cases and 15 to 20 civil and appellate matters involving the CBJ each year. With respect to the criminal caseload, I am consulted with on all aspects of the case from evidentiary issues to trial preparation. With respect to the CBJ's civil cases, the practice of the department is to work collaboratively - from the drafting of pleadings through trial preparation. In the past eight years, only one of the CBJ's civil cases has gone to trial. I was the trial attorney. I am currently counsel of record in a civil case that has been pending in superior court since 2016.

Additional Comments (Continued)

- I supervise a legal department of 11, responsible for keeping the office running in as smooth and efficient manner as possible. In this role, I provide a range of services for a home rule government encompassing not only traditional core functions (police, fire, schools, streets, sewer and water, parks, libraries, and planning), but also docks and harbors, a public hospital, a ski area, and a municipal airport. In addition to litigation and appeals, I am responsible for the review of personnel and employment actions; the drafting of legislation; the review and drafting of contracts, leases, and other transactional documents; and the provision of legal advice and guidance to the Assembly as well as all of the municipality's departments, boards, and commissions.
- I am the legal advisor to the CBJ Assembly on all matters, but play a special role for it when it engages in quasi-judicial decision-making. (In these instances, the parties appearing before the body are invariably represented by counsel.) In that capacity, I draft the orders on any pre-hearing motions, provide advice on procedural and evidentiary issues, and draft the final decision for adoption by the Assembly.
- Like a judicial officer's, my position as Municipal Attorney is very public. The public's confidence in their government is determined in no small part by how I do my job. I take that responsibility very seriously. Not only does this fact dictate how I comport myself in public, it means that when I am asked to communicate in a public forum, I must do so in a way that is easily understood and accessible.

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 five photographs of yourself with your application.

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

Biographical Statement

Name Amy Gurton Mead

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

Juneau Superior Court

Please leave this area blank

Date: January 12, 2018

I have a bachelor of arts in psychology from Boston University. After graduating cum laude (with a certificate of specialization in environmental law) from Tulane University Law School, I moved to Ketchikan to clerk for Superior Court Judge Thomas Jahnke. After my clerkship, I took a position as an assistant district attorney in the Ketchikan District Attorney's Office. Two years later, in 1998, I moved to Juneau to work as a litigation association for Robertson, Monagle and Eastaugh. Except for a one year stint with the AG's office doing Medicaid work, I was with Robertson Monagle until joining the City and Borough of Juneau Law Department in 2010. In 2013, I became Juneau's Municipal Attorney, responsible for the second largest municipal law department in the State.

I live with my husband (a captain with Capital City Fire & Rescue), our two children, and our two dogs.