



Print Questionnaire

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Alaska Judicial Council

# alaska judicial council

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## Alaska Judicial Council Trial Judge Questionnaire

### 2020 Candidates for Judicial Retention

November 2019

Nathaniel Peters

Name

Bethel

Court

1. Please estimate your workload during your present term.

a) <u>45</u> % civil cases	b) <u>8</u> # of jury trials/year
<u>45</u> % criminal cases	<u>20</u> # of non-jury trials/year
<u>10</u> % court administrative work	<u>0</u> # of administrative appeals/year
100 % Total	

2. Please describe your participation on court/bar committees or other administrative activities during your current term of office.

Criminal Pattern Jury Instruction Committee  
Child in Need of Aid Court Improvement Project Co-Chair  
Three-Judge Sentencing Panel  
Training Judge  
Magistrate Judge Evaluation Panel  
PACE Judge  
Local Bethel Bench Bars

3. Please describe any judicial or legal education you have undertaken or provided during your current term in office.

Annual Alaska Judicial Conference  
The National Judicial College Advanced Evidence Course  
The National Association of Counsel for Children's 42nd National Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, and Family Law Conference  
Child in Need of Aid 101 Training

4. Please describe any public outreach activities.

Annual Community Meeting for Rural Courts in Emmonak, Hooper Bay, and Aniak

5. Please assess, in one or two paragraphs, your judicial performance during your present term. Appropriate areas of comment could include: satisfaction with your judicial role, specific contributions to the judiciary or the field of law, increases in legal knowledge and judicial skills, or other measures of judicial abilities that you believe to be important.

Since my appointment to the Bethel Superior Court in February 2017, I've experienced the steep learning curve of any new job. The position is challenging and the workload is high, but I derive a great deal of satisfaction from my work.

I try to treat everyone who appears in front of me with respect and dignity, to follow the law, and to explain my decisions in a way that is understandable to those that appear in court. One of the biggest challenges in Bethel is the difficulty in trying to efficiently balance a high caseload while at the same time making sure all parties feel they have had a full and fair opportunity to be heard.

On a personal level, I have thoroughly enjoyed living in Bethel and being involved in the various activities that are available, from my children's school events, to hunting and fishing.

6. During your most recent term as a judge, have you:
- a) had a tax lien filed or other collection procedure instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? ☐ Yes ☒ No
  - b) been involved in a non-judicial capacity in any legal proceeding whether as a party or otherwise? ☐ Yes ☒ No
  - c) engaged in the practice of law (other than as a judge)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
  - d) held office in any political party? ☐ Yes ☒ No
  - e) held any other local, state or federal office? ☐ Yes ☒ No
  - f) had any complaints, charges or grievances filed against you with the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct, the Alaska Bar Association, the Alaska Court System, or any other agency that resulted in public proceedings or sanctions?  
☐ Yes ☒ No

7. If your answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please give full details, including dates, facts, case numbers and outcomes.

8. Please provide any other information which you believe would assist the Council in conducting its evaluations and in preparing its recommendations for the 2020 retention elections.

I cannot think of any other information to provide the Council, other than what is already in this questionnaire, as the Council's evaluations are already very thorough.

*For questions 9 - 12, please do not list any cases that have pending issues in your court.*

9. Please list your three most recent jury trials including case names and numbers. Please list the names, current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these trials. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

### Case Number 1

**Case Name:** State of Alaska

**Case Number:** 4AK-18-03 CR

**v.** Gregory Kameroff

#### Attorneys Involved:

Name: Monroe Tyler

Name: Terrence Haas

Address: PO Box 170

Address: PO Box 10

City, State, Zip: Bethel, AK 99559

City, State, Zip: Bethel, AK 99559

Name:

Name:

Address:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

City, State, Zip:

### Case Number 2

**Case Name:** State of Alaska

**Case Number:** 4BE-18-515 CR

**v.** Adam Nicolai

#### Attorneys Involved:

Name: Monroe Tyler

Name: Andrew Dunmire

Address: PO Box 170

Address: PO Box 110216

City, State, Zip: Bethel, AK 99559

City, State, Zip: Juneau, AK 99811-0216

Name:

Name:

Address:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

City, State, Zip:

### Case Number 3

**Case Name:** State of Alaska

**Case Number:** 4AK-16-144 CR

**v.** John Hamilton, Sr.

#### Attorneys Involved:

Name: Christopher Storz

Name: Jason Gazewood

Address: 510 2nd Ave., Ste. 200

Address: 1008 16th Ave., Ste. 200

City, State, Zip: Fairbanks, AK 99701

City, State, Zip: Fairbanks, AK 99701-6078

Name:

Name:

Address:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

City, State, Zip:

10. Please list your three most recent non-jury trials including case names and numbers. Please list the names, current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these trials. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Case Number 1**

**Case Name:** Carl Jimmie  
v. Tanya Chavez

**Case Number:** 4BE-17-366 CI

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Justin Eschbacher	Name:
Address: 718 Barrow Street	Address:
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip:
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City, State, Zip:	City, State, Zip:

**Case Number 2**

**Case Name:** Julia Nick  
v. State of Alaska

**Case Number:** 4BE-14-13 CI

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Winter Montgomery	Name: Monroe Tyler
Address: PO Box 1569	Address: PO Box 170
City, State, Zip: Bethel, AK 99559	City, State, Zip: Bethel, AK 99559
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City, State, Zip:	City, State, Zip:

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** Christopher Byrnes  
v. Valerie Joy Byrnes

**Case Number:** 4BE-17-147 CI

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Herbert Pearce	Name: Brian Starr
Address: 731 I Street, Ste. 203	Address: 912 West Sixth Ave.
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City, State, Zip:	City, State, Zip:

11. Please list your three most recent cases, including case names and numbers, which did not go to trial, but on which you did significant work (such as settlement conference, hearings, motion work, etc.). Please list the names, current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these cases. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Case Number 1**

**Case Name:** State of Alaska **Case Number:** 4EM-18-55 CR  
v. Rick Andrews

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Chris Storz	Name: Jane Imholte
Address: 510 2nd Ave., Ste. 200	Address: PO Box 10
City, State, Zip: Fairbanks, AK 99559	City, State, Zip: Bethel, AK 99559
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City, State, Zip:	City, State, Zip:

**Case Number 2**

**Case Name:** State of Alaska **Case Number:** 4AK-18-27 CR  
v. Raven Levi

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Monroe Tyler	Name: David Case
Address: PO Box 170	Address: 130 Trading Bay Dr., Ste. 390
City, State, Zip: Bethel, AK 99559	City, State, Zip: Kenai, AK 99559
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City, State, Zip:	City, State, Zip:

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** State of Alaska **Case Number:** 4SM-14-90 CR  
v. Kendra Beans

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Bailey Woolfstead	Name: Chris Knowles
Address: PO Box 110300	Address: PO Box 170
City, State, Zip: Juneau, AK 99811	City, State, Zip: Bethel, AK 99559
Name: Nathaniel Hainje	Name: Katie Stephenson
Address: PO Box 10	Address: 900 W. 5th Ave., Ste. 200
City, State, Zip: Bethel, AK 99559	City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99559

12. *Optional:* If you deem it helpful to the Council, please list up to three other cases during your past term in which you believe your work was particularly noteworthy. Please list the names, current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these cases. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Case Number 1**

**Case Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Case Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**v.** \_\_\_\_\_

***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.** \_\_\_\_\_

***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.** \_\_\_\_\_

***Attorneys Involved:***

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

(This question pertains to Superior Court judges only.)

State law requires the Council to conduct an evaluation of judges standing for retention, and to provide information to the public about the judges. Under a provision added in 2013, the information the Council provides to the public "shall include the judge's consideration of victims when imposing sentence on persons convicted of felony offenses where the offenses involve victims." (see AS 22.10.150). Although the Council's evaluations address all aspects of judicial performance, including felony sentencing, they have not in the past explicitly solicited judges' thoughts on this topic.

Please submit a short statement about how you consider victims when imposing sentences in felony offenses.

One of the most fundamental rights we have is the right to speak and to be heard. That is why a victim's impact statement is always a relevant consideration of mine in determining the appropriate sentence to impose. I strive to always take into consideration the victim's perspective; I also consider it my duty to ensure court proceedings are understood by the victim and that victims present in my courtroom feel safe and respected.

Nathaniel Peters