



alaska judicial council

510 L Street, Suite 450, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-1295 (907) 279-2526 FAX (907) 276-5046
http://www.ajc.state.ak.us E-Mail: postmaster@ajc.state.ak.us

Press Release

Contact: Susanne DiPietro, Executive Director
Alaska Judicial Council
510 L Street, Suite 450
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 279-2526
sdipietro@ajc.state.ak.us
www.ajc.state.ak.us

For immediate release
February 24, 2021

Fairbanks Superior and District Court Judicial Nominees

The Alaska Judicial Council met via videoconference on February 22-23, 2021 to interview applicants for positions on the Fairbanks Superior and District Courts. Following its meeting, the Alaska Judicial Council announced that **Maria Pia L. Bahr, Trisha Haines, Steven Hansen, and Jennifer Page Hite** were nominated as the most qualified applicants to fill the Fairbanks District Court judicial vacancy, and that **Trisha Haines, Steven Hansen, and Jennifer Page Hite** were nominated as the most qualified applicants to fill the Fairbanks Superior Court judicial vacancy. The governor now has 45 days in which to make the appointments from among these nominees.

The Judicial Council is required to nominate the most qualified applicants applying for a judicial vacancy. (The framers of our Constitution referred to this standard as the "best available timber.")

The Council is a citizens' commission created by the Alaska Constitution composed of three attorneys, three non-attorneys, and the Chief Justice of the Alaska Supreme Court. The Council completes an extensive investigation and evaluation of judicial applicants. The Council reviews each applicant's education, experience, bar discipline and credit records, participation in community activities, and other records. It asks members of the Alaska Bar to evaluate the applicants, encourages the public to submit comments, and interviews the applicants.

Nominees for the Fairbanks Superior and/or the Fairbanks District Court are:

Maria Pia L. Bahr: Ms. Bahr has been an Alaska resident for 5½ years, and has practiced law for 30 years. She graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law in 1990, and is currently the Senior Assistant Attorney General in the Opinions, Appeals & Ethics section in Anchorage.

Trisha Haines: Ms. Haines has been an Alaska resident for 10 years, and has practiced law for 9 years. She graduated from Temple University Beasley School of Law in 2010, and is currently a staff attorney for the court of appeals in Anchorage, and resides in Fairbanks.

Steven Hansen: Mr. Hansen has been an Alaska resident for 11½ years, and has practiced law for 11½ years. He graduated from the George Washington University, School of Law, in 2009, and is currently in private practice in Fairbanks.

Jennifer Page Hite: Ms. Hite has been an Alaska resident for 19½ years, and has practiced law for 24½ years. She graduated from the University of Akron, School of Law in 1995, and is currently an assistant public advocate in Fairbanks.

* * * *