



alaska judicial council

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Press Release

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Alaska Supreme Court

Fourteen attorneys have applied to the Alaska Judicial Council for a position on the Alaska Supreme Court created by the appointment of Justice Morgan Christen to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Applicants for the judgeship will be evaluated by the Council's seven members (the chief justice, three non-attorney and three attorney members). Comprehensive background investigations, a survey of Alaska Bar members, and personal interviews with the applicants are all part of the evaluations, according to the Council's executive director, Larry Cohn. Interviews with applicants and a public hearing will be held in Anchorage. The Council will select two or more nominees to send to the governor. The governor will have 45 days to make an appointment from the Council's list.

Applicants are:

Joel H. Bolger: Judge Bolger has been an Alaska resident for 31½ years, and has practiced law for 33½ years. He graduated from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1978, and is currently a judge on the Alaska Court of Appeals.

William Grant Callow: Mr. Callow has been an Alaska resident for 34½ years, and has practiced law for 34½ years. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1977, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

Kevin G. Clarkson: Mr. Clarkson has been an Alaska resident for 27½ years, and has practiced law for 27½ years. He graduated from Willamette University College of Law in 1985, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

Jeffrey Friedman: Mr. Friedman has been an Alaska resident for 24 years, and has practiced law for 23½ years. He graduated from the University of Maryland, School of Law in 1984, and is currently an administrative law judge in Anchorage.

Andy Harrington: Mr. Harrington has been an Alaska resident for 31½ years, and has practiced law for 30½ years. He graduated from Harvard University Law School in 1980, and is currently an assistant attorney general in Fairbanks.

Charles T. Huguelet: Judge Huguelet has been an Alaska resident for 21½ years, and has practiced law for 25½ years. He graduated from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, School of Law in 1986, and is currently a superior court judge in Kenai.

Peter J. Maassen: Mr. Maassen has been an Alaska resident for 31 years, and has practiced law for 30 years. He graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in 1980, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

Michael A. MacDonald: Judge MacDonald has been an Alaska resident for 31 years, and has practiced law for 22 years. He graduated from the University of New Mexico, School of Law in 1988, and is currently a superior court judge in Fairbanks.

Don McClintock: Mr. McClintock has been an Alaska resident for 31½ years, and has practiced law for 30½ years. He graduated from Harvard Law School in 1980, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

Frank A. Pfiffner: Judge Pfiffner has been an Alaska resident for 36½ years, and has practiced law for 35½ years. He graduated from the University of Iowa, School of Law in 1974, and is currently a superior court judge in Anchorage.

Eric Smith: Judge Smith has been an Alaska resident for 30 years, and has practiced law for 32½ years. He graduated from Yale Law School in 1979, and is currently a superior court judge in Palmer.

Terry L. Thurbon: Judge Thurbon has been an Alaska resident for 20½ years, and has practiced law for 24½ years. She graduated from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 1986, and is currently Chief Administrative Law Judge in Juneau.

Daniel Westerburg: Mr. Westerburg has been an Alaska resident for 33 years, and has practiced law for 32½ years. He graduated from the Ohio State University College of Law in 1978, and is currently in private practice in Homer.

Marc Wilhelm: Mr. Wilhelm has been an Alaska resident for 28½ years, and has practiced law for 25½ years. He graduated from the University of Washington School of Law in 1982, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THESE APPLICANTS IS ENCOURAGED DURING THE EVALUATION PHASE OF THE COUNCIL'S WORK. TO COMMENT, OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT LARRY COHN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL, 1029 W. THIRD AVENUE, SUITE 201, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-1969, (907) 279-2526.