

# Alaska Judicial Council Recommendation

## Judge Stephanie Rhoades, District Court, Anchorage

**I. Judicial Council Evaluation.** The Alaska Judicial Council, a non-partisan citizens commission established by the Alaska Constitution, finds Judge Rhoades to be *Qualified* and recommends (4-1) that the public vote "YES" to retain her as a district court judge.

**II. Summary of Evaluation Information.** A survey of 2,860 attorneys in Alaska rated Judge Rhoades on sixteen categories that are summarized in the adjacent graph. Attorneys rated Judge Rhoades 3.6 on a scale of 5 on overall judicial performance. She scored highest in the categories of "controls courtroom" (3.9) and "promptness in making decisions" (3.9). She scored lowest in "courtesy" (3.1) and "understanding and compassion" (3.3).

	Attorney Survey	Peace Officer Survey	Juror Survey	Court Employee Survey	CourtWatch Survey
Legal Ability	3.7	---	---	---	---
Impartiality	3.5	4.3	4.8	4.1	---
Integrity	3.8	4.3	---	4.1	---
Temperament	3.4	4.3	4.9	4.0	---
Diligence	3.9	4.5	---	4.3	---
Special Skills	3.7	4.4	---	---	---
Overall	3.6	4.3	4.9	4.0	3.9

Ratings are based on a one to five scale. Five is the best rating and three is "acceptable."

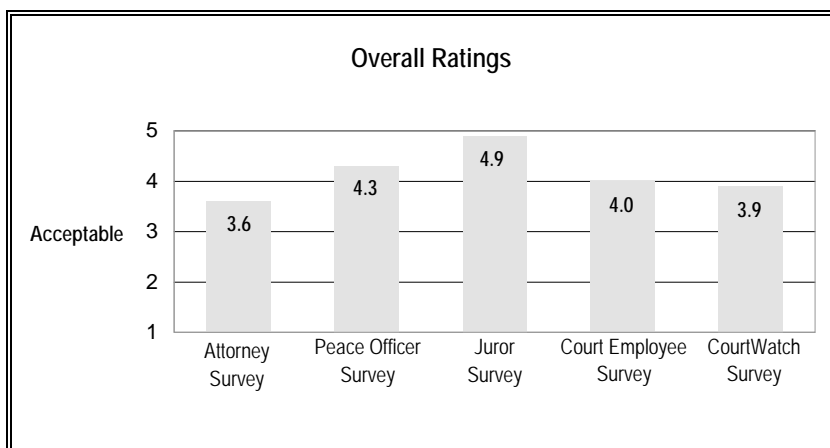
#### Rating Scale

5.0 = Excellent  
 4.0 = Good  
 3.0 = Acceptable  
 2.0 = Deficient  
 1.0 = Unacceptable

A survey of 1,704 peace and probation officers in Alaska rated Judge Rhoades on twelve categories that are summarized in the adjacent graph. Peace and probation officers rated Judge Rhoades 4.3 on a scale of 5 on overall judicial performance. She scored highest in the category of "promptness in making decisions" (4.5). She scored 4.3 or better in all categories.

A survey of all jurors appearing before Judge Rhoades in 2000 and 2001 rated her 4.9 on a scale of 5 on overall performance. A survey of all court employees rated her 4.0 on a scale of 5 on overall performance. The CourtWatch Report prepared by Victims for Justice gave Judge Rhoades a 3.9 overall rating on a scale of 5.

The Council also completed a background investigation including a court records check, a disciplinary records check, a review of conflict of interest statements submitted to the court system and a review of financial disclosure statements submitted to the Alaska Public Offices Commission. Attorneys, peace officers, court employees and jurors were asked to submit written comments about the judge. The Council actively encouraged the public to comment, both in writing and in a statewide public hearing teleconference.



**Recommendation: Vote "YES" to retain Judge Rhoades**

Contact the Judicial Council at 1029 W. 3rd, Suite 201, Anchorage, AK 99501 (telephone: (907) 279-2526) for more detailed information, or review the information on our Internet site at:

[www.ajc.state.ak.us](http://www.ajc.state.ak.us)



# alaska judicial council

1029 W. Third Avenue, Suite 201, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-1969 (907) 279-2526 FAX (907) 276-5046  
http://www.ajc.state.ak.us E-Mail: postmaster@ajc.state.ak.us

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Larry Cohn

NON-ATTORNEY MEMBERS  
Eleanor Andrews  
Katie Hurley  
Gigi Pilcher

## Alaska Judicial Council Questionnaire

ATTORNEY MEMBERS  
Geoffrey G. Currall  
Robert B. Groseclose  
Robert H. Wagstaff

CHAIR, EX OFFICIO  
Dana Fabe  
Chief Justice  
Supreme Court

RECEIVED

DEC - 7 2001

ALASKA  
JUDICIAL COUNCIL

### Trial Judge 2002 Candidates for Judicial Retention

November 16, 2001

Stephanie Rhoades

District Court Anchorage

Name

Court

1. Describe your workload during your present term.

a) <u>25</u> % Civil Cases	b) _____ # of trials/year
<u>65</u> % Criminal Cases	_____ # Administrative Appeals
<u>10</u> % Court Administrative	
100 % Total	

---

---

---

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

10 hours per week average spent on mental health court administrative duties -  
largely done during my own lunch hours or after court hours and weekends.

---

3. On a separate sheet of paper 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.

4. 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 nonjudicial 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 .

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

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Please provide any other information which you believe would assist the Council in conducting its evaluations and in preparing its recommendations for the 2002 retention elections.

See attached

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

5. Please list the names and case numbers of the three most recent jury cases tried before you, identify the attorneys involved, and show their current addresses. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

	<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
1	Municipality of Anchorage v. Kyong Lee	3AN-01-316 Cr.

---

***Attorneys Involved***

Name: Levi Martin, MOA	Name: _____
Address: 420 L Street, Suite 100	Address: _____
Anchorage, Alaska 99501	_____

Name: Eugene Cyrus, Defense	Name: _____
Address: 13135 Old Glenn Hwy, Suite 205	Address: _____
Eagle River, Alaska 99577	_____

	<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
2	MOA v. Oscar Cano	3AN-01-4182 Cr

---

***Attorneys Involved***

Name: Nick Spiropoulous, MOA	Name: _____
Address: 420 L Street, Suite 100	Address: _____
Anchorage AK 99501	_____

Name: Ella Anagick, Defense	Name: _____
Address: 310 K Street Suite 200	Address: _____
Anchorage AK 99501	_____

	<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
3	MOA v. Frank Prince	3AN-01-2705 Cr.

---

***Attorneys Involved***

Name: John Darnell, MOA	Name: _____
Address: 420 L Street, Suite 100	Address: _____
Anchorage, Alaska 99501	_____

Name: Hugh Fleischer, Defense	Name: _____
Address: 310 K Street, Suite 200	Address: _____
Anchorage, Alaska 99501	_____

6. Please list the names and case numbers of the three most recent non-jury cases tried before you, identify the attorneys involved, and show their current addresses. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

1

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
Alexander v. Suzuki	3AN-00-8084 Civil

*Attorneys Involved*

Name: Terry Aglietti  
Address: 733 W. 4th Ave, Suite 206  
Anchorage AK 99501

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

Name: John Pharr  
Address: 733 W. 4th, Suite 308  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

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

2

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
MOA v. Kyong Lee	3AN-01-3797 Cr.

*Attorneys Involved*

Name: Levi Martin, MOA  
Address: 420 L Street, Suite 100  
Anchorage AK 99501

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

Name: Gene Cyrus,  
Address: 13135 Old Glenn Hwy, Suite 205  
Eagle River, AK 99577

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

3

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
MOA v. Lorenzo James	3AN-01-86 Cr.

*Attorneys Involved*

Name: Sarah Gehrig, MOA (no longer with MOA)  
Address: 420 L Street Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99501

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

Name: Lorenzo James, Pro Per  
Address: 3130 Brookridge Cir.  
Anchorage AK 99504

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

7. Please list the names and case numbers of the three most recent cases which did not go to trial, but on which you did significant work (such as settlement conference, hearings, motion work, etc.), identify the attorneys involved, and show their current addresses. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

<b><i>Name of Case</i></b>	<b><i>Case Number</i></b>
<b>1</b> SOA v. Charlie Mute	3AN-00-5026 Cr.

***Attorneys Involved***

Name: <u>Paul Roetman, DAO</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>310 K Street, Suite 520</u>	Address: _____
<u>Anchorage, Alaska 99501</u>	_____
Name: <u>Dana White, Public Defender</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>900 W. 5th Suite 200</u>	Address: _____
<u>Anchorage, Alaska 99501</u>	_____

<b><i>Name of Case</i></b>	<b><i>Case Number</i></b>
<b>2</b> MOA v. Darlene Moses	3AN-01-2131 Cr, 99-8182 Cr, 99-8347 Cr.

***Attorneys Involved***

Name: <u>Dan Wilkerson, MOA</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>420 L Street, Suite 100</u>	Address: _____
<u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	_____
Name: <u>James Gorton, Defense</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>737 M Street</u>	Address: _____
<u>Anchorage, Alaska 99501</u>	_____

<b><i>Name of Case</i></b>	<b><i>Case Number</i></b>
<b>3</b> MOA v. Krook, MOA v. Lopez, MOA v. Oh MOA v. Villarreal, MOA v. Oh	3AN-01-315 Cr., 01-3796 Cr., 01-4063 Cr. <del>01-4361 Cr. and 01-4825 Cr.</del>

***Attorneys Involved***

Name: <u>Levi Martin, MOA</u>	Name: <u>Andrew Lambert, Defense</u>
Address: <u>420 L Street, Suite 100</u>	Address: <u>711 H Street, Suite 450</u>
<u>Anchorage AK 99501</u>	<u>Anchorage, Alaska 99501</u>
Name: <u>Ron Offret, Defense</u>	Name: <u>Leigh Ann Bauer, Defense</u>
Address: <u>733 W. 4th, Suite 206</u>	Address: <u>750 W. 2nd Ave, Suite 210</u>
<u>Anchorage, Alaska 99501</u>	<u>Anchorage, Alaska 99501</u>

8. If you deem it helpful to the Council, please list the name, case number and attorneys' names and current addresses of any other cases during your judicial career in which you believe your work was particularly noteworthy. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**1** *Name of Case* All Mental Health Court Cases *Case Number* Numerous case numbers - 80 cases at any given time

---

**Attorneys Involved**  
Same Legal Team for All

Name: Dan Wilkerson, MOA  
Address: 420 L Street, Suite 100  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Name: Paul Roetman, DAO  
Address: 310 K Street, Suite 520  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Name: James Gorton, Defense  
Address: 737 M Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Name: Dana White, Public Defender Agency  
Address: 900 W. 5th Ave, Suite 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

**2** *Name of Case* *Case Number*

---

**Attorneys Involved**

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

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

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

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

**3** *Name of Case* *Case Number*

---

**Attorneys Involved**

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

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

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

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

**AJC JUDICIAL QUESTIONNAIRE 2002  
JUDGE STEPHANIE RHOADES**

**Paragraph 3:**

In the past term, my satisfaction with my judicial role has increased substantially. I continue to focus on maintaining control of a high volume court process while demonstrating courtesy and respect to all parties who appear.

My specific contributions to the judiciary, the field of law and increases in my own legal knowledge and judicial skills are numerous and they are mainly summarized in the attached resume, which includes education, training, and awards that I have received in the past term, as well as presentations that I have made both nationally and locally.

Foremost among my concentrations this term were and are:

- 1) in accordance with the time Standards for Alaska Court System Trial Courts, adopted by the Alaska Supreme Court on 2/17/00, I have become more proactive in case management of my assigned civil cases. I constructed for myself a schedule of monthly pro-active review of pending civil case assignments with an eye toward promoting earlier dispositions.
- 2) the conceptualization, development, administration and funding of a new specialty diversion court for mentally disabled offenders in the Anchorage district court: the Coordinated Resources Project . A one-page outline of this project is attached. The project is highlighted in the recent publication entitled 'Emerging Judicial Strategies for the Mentally Ill in the Criminal Caseload: Mental Health Court (National Criminal Justice Resource Center publication #182504, available electronically at <http://www.ncjrs.org/txtfiles1/bja/182504.txt>) This project is one of very few pioneer mental health court strategies that have emerged nationally. Based on the early successes that these projects have shown, federal authorization and funding legislation has passed to provide \$4 million to start more mental health courts around the country.
- 3) Judicial outreach into the community delivering numerous presentations to local agencies and interest groups to explain the regular district court process as well as the alternate mental health court process.



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Judicial Council Members  
**FROM:** Staff  
**DATE:** April 24, 2002  
**RE:** Comparison of Previous Survey Results - Stephanie Rhoades

---

Stephanie Rhoades is standing for retention in 2002. The table on the following page compares retention and selection survey scores for Judge Rhoades. Changes in the form and content of the various surveys should be noted carefully in making any comparisons.

Judge Rhoades previously stood for retention as a district court judge in 1994 and 1998. She was evaluated with the other non-retention judges in 1996 and 2000.

Judge Rhoades applied for and was appointed to the Anchorage District Court in 1992.

<b>Judge Stephanie Rhoades</b>												
Appointed to Anchorage District Court 07/30/92												
	<i>2002 Retention</i>		<i>2000 Interim</i>		<i>1998 Retention</i>		<i>1996 Interim</i>		<i>1994 Retention</i>		<i>1992 Anchorage District</i>	
	<i>Bar</i>	<i>PPO</i>	<i>Bar</i>	<i>PPO</i>	<i>Bar</i>	<i>PPO</i>	<i>Bar</i>	<i>PPO</i>	<i>Bar</i>	<i>PPO</i>		
Legal Ability/Professional Competence	3.7	----	3.6	----	3.6	----	3.5	----	3.5	----	3.6	
Impartiality/Fairness	3.5	4.3	3.4	4.4	3.1	4.0	----	----	3.1	4.0	3.5	
Integrity/Good Character	3.8	4.3	3.8	4.4	3.5	4.0	----	----	3.5	3.9	3.8	
Judicial Temperament	3.4	4.3	3.1	4.4	3.1	4.0	2.9	3.9	3.1	3.8	3.3	
Diligence	3.9	4.5	3.8	4.4	3.6	4.0	3.6	4.1	3.7	4.0	----	
Special Skills	3.7	4.4	----	----	3.5	3.9	----	----	3.3	3.9	----	
Overall Performance	3.6	4.3	3.4	4.4	3.2	3.9	3.2	4.0	3.2	3.9	3.5	