

# Alaska Judicial Council Recommendation

## Judge Dennis P. Cummings, District Court, Bethel

### Judicial Council Recommendation

The Alaska Judicial Council, a non-partisan citizens commission established by the Alaska constitution, evaluates judges on a number of criteria, including their legal ability, their demeanor, their diligence, their ability to manage their caseloads, and their fairness and integrity. After receiving a number of reports and comments from those who work with and appear before Bethel District Court Judge Dennis Cummings, the Judicial Council undertook an additional investigation including a review of court records and interviews with forty people. The Council reviewed a complaint issued by the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct that found probable cause to allege that Judge Cummings had violated several Canons of Judicial Conduct relating to ex parte contact with a state witness in a criminal trial. The Council also reviewed Judge Cummings' response to that complaint. The Council considered ratings from attorneys statewide who rated Judge Cummings "below acceptable" in the areas of Legal Ability and Temperament. Among attorneys in the Fourth Judicial District, where Judge Cummings presides, the judge received ratings that were substantially "below acceptable" on Legal Ability, Impartiality, Temperament, and Overall Performance. Based on this investigation and a meeting with Judge Cummings in which he had an opportunity to respond, the Judicial Council had considerable concerns about Judge Cummings' lack of impartiality, inappropriate ex parte contact, inability to control the courtroom, inadequate legal knowledge, and lack of candor. The Judicial Council finds Judge Cummings to be **Unqualified** and recommends unanimously that the public vote "**No**" on his retention as a district court judge.

### Judicial Council Evaluation

The Judicial Council surveyed 2,884 attorneys and 1,539 peace and probation officers, together with social workers/guardians ad litem, and child advocates, jurors, and court employees about the judges on the ballot. Respondents were asked to rate judicial performance and to submit comments. The Council reviewed court system records concerning peremptory challenges, recusals, and appellate affirmance and reversal rates; any civil or criminal litigation involving the judge; APOC and court system conflict-of-interest statements; any public disciplinary files; and whether a judge's pay was withheld for an untimely decision. The Council investigated judicial conduct in specific cases. The Council interviewed some judges, attorneys, court staff, and others, and held a statewide public hearing to obtain comments about judges.

	Attorney Survey	Peace Officer Survey	Juror Survey	Court Employee Survey	Social Workers Guardians ad Litem CASAs
Legal Ability	2.9	---	---	---	---
Impartiality	3.2	3.8	4.2	3.8	---
Integrity	3.6	4.0	---	3.9	---
Temperament	2.9	3.7	4.4	3.3	---
Diligence	3.2	4.0	---	3.7	---
Overall	3.0	3.9	4.3	3.5	---

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 = Poor

### Summary of Survey Information

Attorneys in Alaska rated Judge Cummings on the six categories summarized in the table above, using 5 as the highest rating possible. The attorney rating for Judge Cummings on overall performance was 3.0. Peace and probation officers rated Judge Cummings on five categories. They gave Judge Cummings a rating of 3.9. Jurors rated Judge Cummings 4.3 overall and court employees gave him 3.5. There were no social workers, guardians ad litem or CASA volunteers who rated Judge Cummings.

**Recommendation: Vote "NO" on the retention of Judge Dennis P. Cummings**

Contact the Judicial Council at 1029 W. Third Avenue, 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)

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**Alaska Judicial Council  
Questionnaire**

**Trial Judge  
2008 Candidates for Judicial Retention**

**November 20, 2008**

Dennis P. Cummings  
Name

Bethel  
Court

1. Please estimate your workload during your present term.

a) 20 % civil cases  
75 % criminal cases  
5 % court administrative work  
100 % Total

b) 20 # of jury trials/year  
5 # of non-jury trials/year  
0 # of administrative appeals/year

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Member of the Governor's Comm. on Juvenile  
Justice Comm. NOV-06 - Present (Term Expires  
6/07)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. 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.

I have enjoyed my Time on the Bench. I believe that I have helped get the Bethel District Ct. Hearings and Calendar organized. I have helped to set dates and Times for Both Bethel and the Four outlying Magistrate's Courts so that Hearing don't conflict with other matters.

I have Travelled to the other areas of the 4th Judicial Dist, where Magistrates work and have Assisted them.

I have found the challenges of the Bench interesting and rewarding. I find the Court Personnel to be helpful and appreciate their comments.

I have held meetings with the members of the legal field and community to set-up a Minor Consuming Alcohol/Drug Power and have put a lot of work into get it up and running here in Bethel and other Areas. This is one of the most important Areas where I believe the community of Bethel have been served.

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 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, or with the Alaska Court System that resulted in public proceedings or sanctions?     Yes  No

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

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6. Please provide any other information which you believe would assist the Council in conducting its evaluations and in preparing its recommendations for the 2008 retention elections.

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7. 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, and phone numbers of each attorney involved in these trials. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Case Number 1**

Case Name: STATE of AK Case Number: 4BE-07-1186CR  
v. Parlo Nottic

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Patty Burley</u>	Name: <u>Jeff Robinson</u>
Address: <u>P.O. Box 170</u>	Address: <u>P.O. Box 10</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Bethel, AK 99559</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Bethel, AK 99559</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 2**

Case Name: State of Alaska Case Number: 4BE-07-1310  
v. \_\_\_\_\_

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Chris Capeneti</u>	Name: <u>Jeff Robinson</u>
Address: <u>P.O. Box 170</u>	Address: <u>P.O. Box 10</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Bethel, AK 99559</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Bethel, AK 99559</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 3**

Case Name: STATE Case Number: Sharon Tom  
v. 4BE-07-1341

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Patty Burley</u>	Name: <u>Meg Brady-Vicellio</u>
Address: <u>P.O. Box 170</u>	Address: <u>P.O. Box 10</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Bethel, AK 99559</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Bethel, AK 99559</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

8. 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, and phone numbers of each attorney involved in your three most recent non-jury trials. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Case Number 1**

Case Name: John Sargent & Rhonda Case Number: 4BE-07-107 SC  
v. James W. L. Au

**Attorneys Involved:**

Small  
Claims

Name: <u>MATT Widmer</u>	Name: <u>Sean Brown</u>
Address: <u>P.O. Box 585</u>	Address: <u>P.O. Box 1809</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Bethel, Ak 99559</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Bethel, Ak 99559</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 2**

Case Name: Kwethluk Tribal, Inc Case Number: 4BE 07-279 CT  
v. Martha Constantine

FED

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Cheryl Brooking</u>	Name: <u>Martha Constantine</u>
Address: <u>900 W 5th Ave, Suite 600</u>	Address: <u>P.O. Box 187</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, Ak 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Kwethluk Ak 99621</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 3**

Case Name: AUCP, Devel. Corp Case Number: 4BE-07-183  
v. Maria Kwagley

FED.

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Mark Fineman</u>	Name: <u>Mark Regan</u>
Address: <u>1127 W 7th</u>	Address: <u>P.O. Box 248</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, Ak 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Bethel, Ak 99559</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

9. 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, and phone numbers of each attorney involved in your three most recent non-jury trials. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Case Number 1**

**Case Name:** ST of AK **Case Number:** 4BIE 67-592  
**v.** Jamels Prince

**Attorneys Involved:**

<b>Name:</b> <u>Paty Burley</u>	<b>Name:</b> <u>Jeff Robinson</u>
<b>Address:</b> <u>P.O. Box 170</u>	<b>Address:</b> <u>P.O. Box 10</u>
<b>City, State, Zip:</b> <u>Bethel, AK 99559</u>	<b>City, State, Zip:</b> <u>Bethel, AK 99559</u>
<b>Name:</b> _____	<b>Name:</b> _____
<b>Address:</b> _____	<b>Address:</b> _____
<b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____	<b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____

**Case Number 2**

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

**Attorneys Involved:**

<b>Name:</b> _____	<b>Name:</b> _____
<b>Address:</b> _____	<b>Address:</b> _____
<b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____	<b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____
<b>Name:</b> _____	<b>Name:</b> _____
<b>Address:</b> _____	<b>Address:</b> _____
<b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____	<b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____

**Case Number 3**

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

**Attorneys Involved:**

<b>Name:</b> _____	<b>Name:</b> _____
<b>Address:</b> _____	<b>Address:</b> _____
<b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____	<b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____
<b>Name:</b> _____	<b>Name:</b> _____
<b>Address:</b> _____	<b>Address:</b> _____
<b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____	<b>City, State, Zip:</b> _____

10. *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, and phone numbers 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: _____



**39. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE DENNIS P. CUMMINGS**

**A. Alaska Bar Association**

**Demographic Description (N=101)**

	N	%
<b>Type of Practice</b>		
No Response	3	2.9%
Private, Solo	14	13.8%
Private, 2-5 Attorneys	21	20.7%
Private, 6+ Attorneys	9	8.9%
Private, Corporate Employee	2	1.9%
Judge or Judicial Officer	21	20.7%
Government	28	27.7%
Public Service Agency or Organization (Not Govt)	--	0.0%
Retired	3	2.9%
Other	--	0.0%
<b>Length of Alaska Practice</b>		
No Response	5	4.9%
5 Years or fewer	13	12.8%
6 to 10 years	9	8.9%
11 to 15 years	8	7.9%
16 to 20 years	12	11.8%
21 years or more	54	53.4%
<b>Gender</b>		
No Response	4	3.9%
Male	72	71.2%
Female	25	24.7%
<b>Cases Handled</b>		
No Response	4	3.9%
Prosecution	9	8.9%
Mainly Criminal	8	7.9%
Mixed Criminal & Civil	41	40.5%
Mainly Civil	36	35.6%
Other	3	2.9%
<b>Location of Practice</b>		
No Response	3	2.9%
First District	3	2.9%
Second District	--	0.0%
Third District	67	66.3%
Fourth District	26	25.7%
Outside of Alaska	2	1.9%

**Evaluation of Judge Dennis P. Cummings:  
Alaska Bar Association Members**

**Summary of Findings**

Judge Dennis P. Cummings was evaluated by 74 Alaska Bar Association members who reported having direct professional experience with the judge. The mean score on *overall evaluation* was 3.0. The highest mean score was obtained on *integrity* (3.6) and the lowest mean scores were obtained on *legal ability* and *judicial temperament* (2.9). Details are presented in the two tables that follow.

	Poor		Deficient		Accept		Good		Excellent		Mean
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
<b>Legal Ability</b>	9	12.1%	20	27.0%	24	32.4%	14	18.9%	7	9.4%	2.9
<b>Impartiality\Fairness</b>	5	6.8%	16	21.9%	21	28.7%	18	24.6%	13	17.8%	3.2
<b>Integrity</b>	4	5.4%	6	8.2%	24	32.8%	18	24.6%	21	28.7%	3.6
<b>Judicial Temperament</b>	11	15.2%	15	20.8%	21	29.1%	17	23.6%	8	11.1%	2.9
<b>Diligence</b>	6	8.4%	11	15.4%	27	38.0%	19	26.7%	8	11.2%	3.2
<b>Overall Evaluation</b>	6	8.1%	16	21.6%	29	39.1%	15	20.2%	8	10.8%	3.0

Note: Ratings for only those respondents who reported direct professional experience with the judge.

**Judge Dennis P. Cummings: Detailed Information Responses  
Alaska Bar Association Members**

	Legal Ability		Impartiality/ Fairness		Integrity		Judicial Temperament		Diligence		Overall Evaluation	
	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N
<b>Basis for Evaluation</b>												
No Response	4.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	1
<b>Direct Professional</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>74</b>
Professional Reputation	3.1	20	3.5	19	3.7	18	3.6	18	3.5	17	3.3	19
Other Personal Contacts	3.3	6	3.8	6	4.0	6	4.2	5	4.0	5	3.5	6
<b>Type of Practice</b>												
No Response	3.0	3	3.0	3	3.3	3	2.7	3	2.7	3	3.0	3
Private, Solo	3.6	10	3.6	10	3.8	10	3.5	10	3.6	10	3.6	10
Private, 2-5 Attorneys	2.6	14	2.9	13	3.5	13	2.8	13	3.0	13	2.9	14
Private, 6+ Attorneys	2.2	6	3.0	6	3.7	6	2.8	6	3.0	6	2.7	6
Private, Corporate Employee	1.0	1	1.0	1	1.0	1	1.0	1	1.0	1	1.0	1
Judge or Judicial Officer	3.4	17	3.8	17	3.9	17	3.5	17	3.7	16	3.6	17
Government	2.4	21	2.9	21	3.4	21	2.4	20	2.8	20	2.5	21
Public Service Agency or Organization (Not Govt)	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
Retired	4.5	2	5.0	2	5.0	2	4.0	2	4.0	2	4.5	2
Other	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
<b>Years of Practice in Alaska</b>												
No Response	2.8	5	3.0	5	3.4	5	2.6	5	3.0	5	3.0	5
5 Years or fewer	2.1	12	2.5	12	3.8	12	2.4	12	3.3	12	2.3	12
6 to 10 years	2.8	5	3.2	5	3.4	5	2.2	5	2.6	5	2.8	5
11 to 15 years	2.7	6	2.6	5	2.8	5	2.6	5	3.0	5	2.7	6
16 to 20 years	2.7	9	3.3	9	3.4	9	3.0	9	2.7	9	2.9	9
21 years or more	3.2	37	3.6	37	3.8	37	3.3	36	3.4	35	3.4	37
<b>Gender</b>												
No Response	3.3	4	3.5	4	3.8	4	3.0	4	3.0	4	3.3	4
Male	3.0	53	3.5	52	3.8	52	3.1	51	3.3	51	3.2	53
Female	2.2	17	2.5	17	3.2	17	2.5	17	2.8	16	2.5	17
<b>Cases Handled</b>												
No Response	3.0	3	3.0	3	3.3	3	2.7	3	2.7	3	3.0	3
Prosecution	2.5	8	3.1	8	3.4	8	2.8	8	3.1	8	2.6	8
Mainly Criminal	2.2	6	2.5	6	3.7	6	2.5	6	3.2	6	2.5	6
Mixed Criminal & Civil	3.1	29	3.5	28	3.8	28	3.0	28	3.4	28	3.2	29
Mainly Civil	2.8	26	3.2	26	3.5	26	3.1	26	3.0	25	3.0	26
Other	3.5	2	4.5	2	5.0	2	4.0	1	3.0	1	4.0	2
<b>Location of Practice</b>												
No Response	3.0	3	3.0	3	3.3	3	2.7	3	2.7	3	3.0	3
First District	3.0	2	4.5	2	4.5	2	3.5	2	3.5	2	3.5	2
Second District	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
Third District	3.0	47	3.4	46	3.7	46	3.2	45	3.2	44	3.2	47
Fourth District	2.4	21	2.9	21	3.4	21	2.5	21	3.2	21	2.6	21
Outside of Alaska	3.0	1	2.0	1	3.0	1	1.0	1	2.0	1	2.0	1

Note: Ratings for only those respondents who reported direct professional experience with the judge.

**39. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE DENNIS P. CUMMINGS**

**B. Peace and Probation Officers**

**Demographic Description (N=27)**

	N	%
<b>Type of Work</b>		
No Response	--	0.0%
State Law Enforcement Officer	16	59.2%
Municipal/Borough Law Enforcement Officer	1	3.7%
Village Public Safety Officer (VSPO)	2	7.4%
Probation/Parole Officer	8	29.6%
Other	--	0.0%
<b>Length of Alaska Experience</b>		
No Response	--	0.0%
5 Years or fewer	12	44.4%
6 to 10 years	9	33.3%
11 to 15 years	2	7.4%
16 to 20 years	2	7.4%
21 years or more	2	7.4%
<b>Gender</b>		
No Response	1	3.7%
Male	22	81.4%
Female	4	14.8%
<b>Location of Practice</b>		
No Response	--	0.0%
First District	--	0.0%
Second District	--	0.0%
Third District	6	22.2%
Fourth District	21	77.7%
Outside of Alaska	--	0.0%
<b>Community Population</b>		
No Response	--	0.0%
Under 2,000	3	11.1%
Between 2,000 and 35,000	19	70.3%
Over 35,000	5	18.5%

**Evaluation of Judge Dennis P. Cummings:  
Peace and Probation Officers**

**Summary of Findings**

Judge Dennis P. Cummings was evaluated by 21 Peace and Probation Officers who reported having direct professional experience with the judge. The mean score on *overall evaluation* was 3.9. The highest mean scores were obtained on *integrity* and *diligence* (4.0) and the lowest mean score was obtained on *judicial temperament* (3.7). Details are presented in the two tables that follow.

	Poor		Deficient		Accept		Good		Excellent		Mean
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
<b>Impartiality/Fairness</b>	--	0.0%	2	9.5%	6	28.5%	8	38.0%	5	23.8%	3.8
<b>Integrity</b>	--	0.0%	1	4.7%	6	28.5%	5	23.8%	9	42.8%	4.0
<b>Judicial Temperament</b>	1	5.0%	2	10.0%	4	20.0%	9	45.0%	4	20.0%	3.7
<b>Diligence</b>	--	0.0%	2	10.0%	4	20.0%	7	35.0%	7	35.0%	4.0
<b>Overall Evaluation</b>	--	0.0%	2	9.5%	4	19.0%	9	42.8%	6	28.5%	3.9

Note: Ratings for only those respondents who reported direct professional experience with the judge.

**Judge Dennis P. Cummings: Detailed Information Responses  
Peace and Probation Officers**

	<b>Impartiality/ Fairness</b>		<b>Integrity</b>		<b>Judicial Temperament</b>		<b>Diligence</b>		<b>Overall Evaluation</b>	
	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N
<b>Basis for Evaluation</b>										
No Response	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
<b>Direct Professional</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>21</b>
Professional Reputation	3.5	6	3.7	6	3.5	6	3.7	6	3.3	6
Other Personal Contacts	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
<b>Type of Work</b>										
No Response	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
State Law Enforcement Officer	3.5	15	3.9	15	3.4	14	3.8	14	3.7	15
Municipal/Borough Law Enforcement Officer	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
Village Public Safety Officer (VSPO)	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
Probation/Parole Officer	4.3	6	4.3	6	4.2	6	4.3	6	4.3	6
Other	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
<b>Years</b>										
No Response	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
5 Years or fewer	3.9	10	4.1	10	3.7	10	4.0	10	4.0	10
6 to 10 years	3.4	7	4.1	7	3.6	7	3.8	6	3.7	7
11 to 15 years	4.0	1	3.0	1	--	0	4.0	1	4.0	1
16 to 20 years	5.0	1	5.0	1	4.0	1	5.0	1	5.0	1
21 years or more	3.5	2	3.5	2	3.5	2	3.5	2	3.5	2
<b>Gender</b>										
No Response	4.0	1	5.0	1	2.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	1
Male	3.7	18	3.9	18	3.6	17	3.9	17	3.8	18
Female	4.5	2	4.5	2	4.5	2	4.5	2	4.5	2
<b>Location of Practice</b>										
No Response	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
First District	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
Second District	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
Third District	3.3	3	3.3	3	3.0	2	3.3	3	3.3	3
Fourth District	3.8	18	4.2	18	3.7	18	4.1	17	4.0	18
Outside of Alaska	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
<b>Community Population</b>										
No Response	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
Under 2,000	3.0	1	3.0	1	3.0	1	3.0	1	3.0	1
Between 2,000 and 35,000	3.9	16	4.2	16	3.8	16	4.1	16	4.1	16
Over 35,000	3.5	4	3.8	4	3.3	3	3.3	3	3.5	4

Note: Ratings for only those respondents who reported direct professional experience with the judge.

**39. DISTRICT COURT JUDGE DENNIS P. CUMMINGS**

**C. Social Workers, Guardians ad Litem, and CASA Volunteers**

**Demographic Description (N=1)**

	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Type of Work</b>		
No Response	--	0.0%
Social Worker	1	100.0%
Guardian Ad Litem	--	0.0%
CASA Volunteer	--	0.0%
Other	--	0.0%
<b>Length of Alaska Experience</b>		
No Response	--	0.0%
5 Years or fewer	--	0.0%
6 to 10 years	--	0.0%
11 to 15 years	1	100.0%
16 to 20 years	--	0.0%
21 years or more	--	0.0%
<b>Gender</b>		
No Response	--	0.0%
Male	--	0.0%
Female	1	100.0%
<b>Location of Practice</b>		
No Response	--	0.0%
First District	--	0.0%
Second District	--	0.0%
Third District	--	0.0%
Fourth District	1	100.0%
Outside of Alaska	--	0.0%
<b>Community Population</b>		
No Response	--	0.0%
Under 2,000	--	0.0%
Between 2,000 and 35,000	1	100.0%
Over 35,000	--	0.0%

**Evaluation of Judge Dennis P. Cummings:  
Social Workers, Guardians ad Litem, and CASA Volunteers**

**Summary of Findings**

Judge Dennis P. Cummings was not evaluated by any Social Workers, Guardians ad Litem, and CASA Volunteers who reported having direct professional experience with this judge.

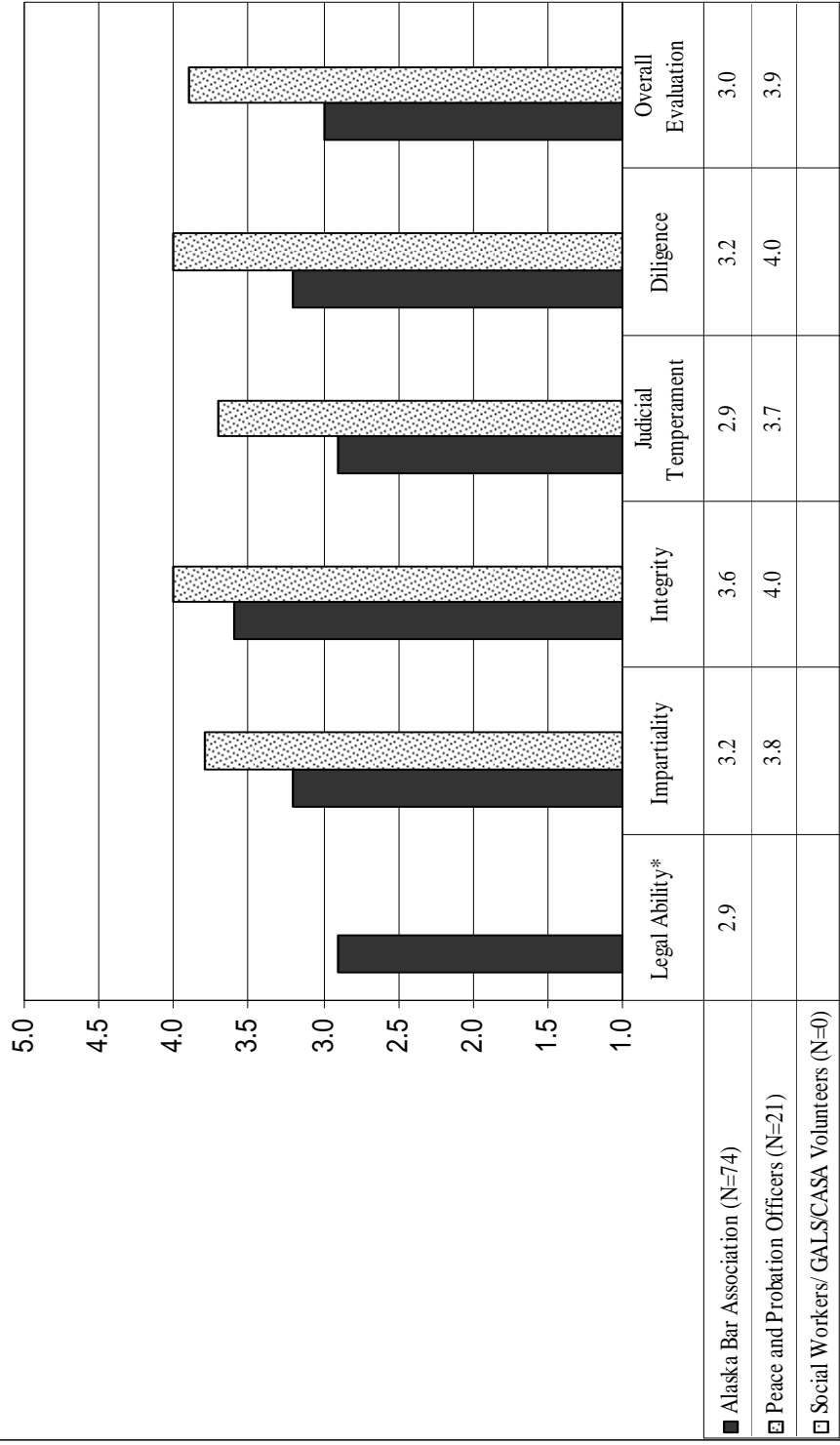


**Judge Dennis P. Cummings: Detailed Information Responses  
Social Workers, Guardians ad Litem, and CASA Volunteers**

	<b>Impartiality/ Fairness</b>		<b>Integrity</b>		<b>Judicial Temperament</b>		<b>Diligence</b>		<b>Overall Evaluation</b>	
	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N	Mean	N
<b>Basis for Evaluation</b>										
No Response	4.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	1	4.0	1
Direct Professional	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
Professional Reputation	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0
Other Personal Contacts	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--	0

## District Court Judge Dennis P. Cummings

*Average Ratings from All Groups Surveyed*



\*Legal Ability items are only completed by Alaska Bar Association members.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Juror Survey Results 2008 Retention Evaluation Dennis P. Cummings</b></p>												
		<b>Distribution of Ratings</b>										
<b>Survey Category</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Excellent</b>		<b>Good</b>		<b>Acceptable</b>		<b>Deficient</b>		<b>Poor</b>		<b>Total</b>
		%	(n)	%	(n)	%	(n)	%	(n)	%	(n)	Returned = 56
<b>Impartiality/Fairness</b>	<b>4.2</b>	43%	24	39%	22	16%	9	2%	1	0%	0	56
<b>Respectful/Courteous</b>	<b>4.4</b>	52%	29	34%	19	14%	8	0%	0	0%	0	56
<b>Attentive during Proceedings</b>	<b>4.3</b>	51%	28	31%	17	16%	9	2%	1	0%	0	55
<b>Control over Proceedings</b>	<b>4.4</b>	57%	32	29%	16	13%	7	2%	1	0%	0	56
<b>Intelligence/Skill as a Judge</b>	<b>4.4</b>	51%	28	38%	21	11%	6	0%	0	0%	0	55
<b>Overall Evaluation</b>	<b>4.3</b>	46%	26	39%	22	13%	7	2%	1	0%	0	56

<p align="center"><b>Court Employee Survey Results 2008 Retention Evaluation Dennis P. Cummings</b></p>												
Question	Excellent		Good		Acceptable		Deficient		Poor		Mean	Total Returned = 35
	%	(n)	%	(n)	%	(n)	%	(n)	%	(n)		
<b>Impartiality/Fairness</b>	32%	11	32%	11	24%	8	3%	1	9%	3	3.8	34
<b>Integrity</b>	39%	13	30%	10	15%	5	6%	2	9%	3	3.9	33
<b>Judicial Temperament</b>	25%	8	22%	7	28%	9	13%	4	13%	4	3.3	32
<b>Diligence</b>	30%	10	33%	11	21%	7	9%	3	6%	2	3.7	33
<b>Overall Evaluation</b>	29%	10	32%	11	15%	5	9%	3	15%	5	3.5	34