



alaska judicial council

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Press Release

July 30, 2018

Announcing Applicants

**Alaska Court of Appeals
Juneau Superior Court
Utqiagvik Superior Court
Kenai Superior Court
Bethel Superior Court**

Six attorneys have applied to the Alaska Judicial Council for a position on the Alaska Court of Appeals, six attorneys have applied for a position on the Juneau Superior Court, two attorneys have applied for a position on the Utqiagvik Superior Court, eight attorneys have applied for a position on the Kenai Superior Court, and four attorneys have applied for a position on the Bethel Superior Court.

Applicants for the judgeships will be evaluated by the Council's seven members (the chief justice, three public 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, Susanne DiPietro. Interviews with applicants and public hearings will be held in early November. The Council will select two or more nominees for each vacancy to send to the governor. The governor will have 45 days to make appointments from the Council's lists.

Summary of Judgeship Applicants:

Alaska Court of Appeals	Juneau Superior Ct.	Utqiagvik Superior Ct.	Kenai Superior Ct.	Bethel Superior Ct.
Bethany Harbison Douglas Owen Moody Philip Pallenberg Eric Ringsmuth Michael R. Smith Timothy W. Terrell	Kelly Cavanaugh Debra O'Gara Angie Kemp Daniel Schally Shawn Traini Julie Willoughby	Hatton Greer David L. Roghair	Roberta C. Erwin Martin C. Fallon Jason Gist Hatton Greer Scot H. Leaders Daniel Schally Samuel D. Scott Shawn Traini	Kelly Cavanaugh Terrence P. Haas David L. Roghair Dianne Andrea Thoben

Kelly Cavanaugh: Mr. Cavanaugh has been an Alaska resident for 40½ years, and has practiced law for 15 years. He graduated from Syracuse University, College of Law in 2003, and is currently an assistant U.S. attorney in Anchorage.

Roberta C. Erwin: Ms. Erwin has been an Alaska resident for 49½ years, and has practiced law for 24 years. She graduated from the University of Puget Sound School of Law in 1994, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

Martin C. Fallon: Magistrate Judge Fallon has been an Alaska resident for 10½ years, and has practiced law for 18½ years. He graduated from Northeastern University School of Law in 1998, and is currently a magistrate judge in Kenai.

Jason Gist: Mr. Gist has been an Alaska resident for 14 years, and has practiced law for 14 years. He graduated from the University of California Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, in 2004, and is currently an assistant district attorney in Anchorage.

Hatton Greer: Mr. Greer has been an Alaska resident for 42 years, and has practiced law for 14½ years. He graduated from Chicago-Kent School of Law in 2003, and is currently an assistant public defender in Kodiak.

Terrence P. Haas: Mr. Haas has been an Alaska resident for 10 years, and has practiced law for 11 years. He graduated from Roger Williams University School of Law in 2007, and is currently an assistant public defender in Bethel.

Bethany Harbison: Judge Harbison has been an Alaska resident for 25 years, and has practiced law for 24½ years. She graduated from Harvard Law School in 1993, and is currently a superior court judge in Fairbanks.

Angie Kemp: Ms. Kemp has been an Alaska resident for 37 years, and has practiced law for 10 years. She graduated from Seattle University School of Law in 2008, and is currently the district attorney in Juneau.

Scot H. Leaders: Mr. Leaders has been an Alaska resident for 26 years, and has practiced law for 20 years. He graduated from the University of Texas School of Law in 1997, and is currently the district attorney in Kenai.

Douglas Owen Moody: Mr. Moody has been an Alaska resident for 29 years, and has practiced law for 29 years. He graduated from University of California, King Hall Law School in 1989, and is currently the deputy public defender for the statewide appellate section in Anchorage.

Debra O’Gara: Judge O’Gara has been an Alaska resident for 11½ years, and has practiced law for 27½ years. She graduated from the University of Oregon School of Law in 1990, and is currently the Presiding Judge for the Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska in Juneau.

Philip Pallenberg: Judge Pallenberg has been an Alaska resident for 34½ years, and has practiced law for 34 years. He graduated from the University of Washington School of Law in 1983, and is currently a superior court judge in Juneau.

Eric Ringsmuth: Mr. Ringsmuth has been an Alaska resident for 18 years, and has practiced law for 18 years. He graduated from the University of California Davis School of Law in 2000, and is currently an assistant attorney general in the Office of Criminal Appeals in Anchorage.

David L. Roghair: Magistrate Judge Roghair has been an Alaska resident for 22½ years, and has practiced law for 11½ years. He graduated from Lewis & Clark Law School in 2006, and is currently a magistrate judge in Utqiagvik.

Daniel Schally: Judge Schally has been an Alaska resident for 21 years, and has practiced law for 21 years. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1997, and is currently the district court judge in Valdez.

Samuel D. Scott: Mr. Scott has been an Alaska resident for 15 years, and has practiced law for 11 years. He graduated from the University of Houston Law Center in 2000, and is currently an assistant district attorney in Kenai.

Michael R. Smith: Magistrate Judge Smith has been an Alaska resident for 6½ years, and has practiced law for 28½ years. He graduated from the University of Oregon School of Law in 1989, and is currently a magistrate judge in Anchorage.

Timothy W. Terrell: Mr. Terrell has been an Alaska resident for 47 years, and has practiced law for 27 years. He graduated from the University of Oregon School of Law in 1990, and is currently an assistant attorney general in the Office of Criminal Appeals in Anchorage.

Dianne Andrea Thoben: Ms. Thoben has been an Alaska resident for 13 years, and has practiced law for 12½ years. She graduated from State University of New York at Buffalo Law School in 2006, and is currently an assistant public defender in Palmer.

Shawn Traini: Mr. Traini has been an Alaska resident for 33 years, and has practiced law for 19 years. He graduated from the University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law, in 1999, and is currently an assistant district attorney in Palmer.

Julie Willoughby: Ms. Willoughby has been an Alaska resident for 33 years, and has practiced law for 20 years. She graduated from Stanford Law School in 1998, and is currently in private practice in Juneau.

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 SUSANNE DiPIETRO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL, 510 L STREET, SUITE 450, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-1295, (907) 279-2526.

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