



alaska judicial council

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Press Release

March 31, 2017

Anchorage Superior Court Vacancies Third Judicial District

The Alaska Judicial Council met on March 27-30, 2017, to interview applicants for two positions on the Anchorage Superior Court.

Following its meeting in Anchorage, the Alaska Judicial Council announced that **Josie Garton, Judge Jennifer Stuart Henderson, Brewster Jamieson, Yvonne Lamoureux, and Thomas A. Matthews** were nominated as the most qualified applicants to fill the two Anchorage Superior Court judicial vacancies, created by the retirements of Judge Patrick J. McKay and Judge Paul E. Olson. 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 every member of the Alaska Bar to evaluate the applicant, encourages the public to submit comments, and interviews the applicant.

Nominees for the Anchorage Superior Court are:

Josie Garton: Ms. Garton has been an Alaska resident for 16½ years and has practiced law for 16½ years. She graduated from Lewis and Clark Law School in 2000, and is currently an assistant public defender in Anchorage.

Judge Jennifer Stuart Henderson: Judge Henderson has been an Alaska resident for 13½ years and has practiced law for 13½ years. She graduated from Yale Law School in 2001, and is currently a district court judge in Anchorage.

Brewster Jamieson: Mr. Jamieson has been an Alaska resident for 39 years and has practiced law for 32½ years. He graduated from Willamette University College of Law in 1984, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

Yvonne Lamoureux: Ms. Lamoureux has been an Alaska resident for 12½ years and has practiced law for 14 years. She graduated from University of Virginia School of Law in 2003, and is currently an Assistant United States Attorney in Anchorage.

Thomas A. Matthews: Mr. Matthews has been an Alaska resident for 32 years and has practiced law for 31½ years. He graduated from Northwestern School of Law, of Lewis & Clark College in 1985, 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 SUSANNE DiPIETRO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL, 510 L STREET, SUITE 450, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-1295, (907) 279-2526.

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