



alaska judicial council

510 L Street, Suite 450, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-1295 (907) 279-2526 FAX (907) 276-5046
<http://www.ajc.state.ak.us> E-Mail: postmaster@ajc.state.ak.us

Press Release

February 5, 2018

Announcing Applicants

**Bethel Superior Court
Bethel District Court
Fairbanks Superior Court
Juneau Superior Court
Kenai Superior Court**

Seven attorneys have applied to the Alaska Judicial Council for a position on the Bethel Superior Court, eight attorneys have applied for a position on the Bethel District Court, ten attorneys have applied for a position on the Fairbanks Superior Court, ten attorneys have applied for a position on the Juneau Superior Court, and eight attorneys have applied for a position on the Kenai Superior Court.

Applicants for the judgeships will be evaluated by the Council's seven members (the chief justice, three public members 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 May and June, 2018. The Council will select two or more nominees for each position to send to the governor. The governor will have 45 days to make appointments from the Council's lists.

Summary of Judgeship Applications:

Bethel Superior Court 6/18	Bethel District Court 6/18	Fairbanks Superior Court 5/18	Juneau Superior Court 5/18	Kenai Superior Court 5/18
Terrence P. Haas Melony P. Lockwood Tara Logsdon Michael Sean McLaughlin Will Montgomery John O. Putikka David L. Roghair	Terrence P. Haas Melony P. Lockwood Tara Logsdon Michael Sean McLaughlin Will Montgomery Heather O'Brien John O. Putikka David L. Roghair	Andrew Patrick Baldock Brent Bennett Melony P. Lockwood Earl Adrian Peterson Kirk Schwalm Franklin E. Spaulding Gary L. Stapp Amy J. Tallerico Thomas I. Temple John Foster Wallace	Lael Harrison Kevin Andrew Higgins Margaret McWilliams Amy Gurton Mead Debra O'Gara Hanna Sebold Franklin E. Spaulding Gary L. Stapp William W. Taylor Julie Willoughby	Martin C. Fallon Lance Joanis Scot H. Leaders Tara Logsdon Daniel Schally Gary L. Stapp William W. Taylor Thomas I. Temple

Andrew Patrick Baldock: Mr. Baldock has been an Alaska resident for 10 years, and has practiced law for 15 years. He graduated from the George Washington University School of Law in 2002, and is currently a supervisor in the Fairbanks District Attorney’s Office.

Brent Bennett: Mr. Bennett has been an Alaska resident for 11½ years, and has practiced law for 11½ years. He graduated from the University of Cincinnati, College of Law in 2006, and is currently the supervising attorney in the Office of Public Advocacy, Fairbanks Defense Section.

Martin C. Fallon: Magistrate Judge Fallon has been an Alaska resident for 10 years, and has practiced law for 18 years. He graduated from Northeastern University School of Law in 1998, and is currently a magistrate judge in Kenai.

Terrence P. Haas: Mr. Haas has been an Alaska resident for 9½ years, and has practiced law for 10½ years. He graduated from Roger Williams University School of Law in 2007, and is currently the supervisor of the Bethel and Dillingham Public Defender Offices.

Lael Harrison: Ms. Harrison has been an Alaska resident for 36 years, and has practiced law for 8½ years. She graduated from the University of Washington, School of Law in 2008, and is currently in private practice in Juneau.

Kevin Andrew Higgins: Mr. Higgins has been an Alaska resident for 10½ years, and has practiced law for 10½ years. He graduated from Lewis & Clark College, Northwestern School of Law in 2007, and is currently in private practice in Juneau.

Lance Joanis: Mr. Joanis has been an Alaska resident for 13½ years, and has practiced law for 13½ years. He graduated from the University of Idaho, College of Law in 2004, and is currently an assistant attorney general in Kenai.

Scot H. Leaders: Mr. Leaders has been an Alaska resident for 25½ years, and has practiced law for 19½ years. He graduated from the University of Texas, School of Law in 1997, and is currently the district attorney in Kenai.

Melony P. Lockwood: Magistrate Judge Lockwood has been an Alaska resident for 7 years, and has practiced law for 7 years. She graduated from the University of Alabama, School of Law in 2007, and is currently a magistrate judge in Fairbanks.

Tara Logsdon: Magistrate Judge Logsdon has been an Alaska resident for 21½ years, and has practiced law for 21 years. She graduated from Regent University School of Law in 1996, and is currently a magistrate judge in Palmer.

Michael Sean McLaughlin: Mr. McLaughlin has been an Alaska resident for 65 years, any has practiced law for 36½ years. He graduated from the University of California, Hastings College of Law in 1980, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

Margaret McWilliams: Ms. McWilliams has been an Alaska resident for 10 years, and has practiced law for 17½ years. She graduated from Harvard Law School in 1999, and is currently an assistant public advocate, GAL, and supervisor at the Office of Public Advocacy in Juneau.

Amy Gurton Mead: Ms. Mead has been an Alaska resident for 21½ years, and has practiced law for 21½ years. She graduated from Tulane University Law School in 1996, and is currently the municipal attorney for the City and Borough of Juneau.

Will Montgomery: Mr. Montgomery has been an Alaska resident for 7 years, and has practiced law for 5½ years. He graduated from William Mitchell College of Law in 2010, and is currently an assistant public advocate in Bethel.

Heather O'Brien: Ms. O'Brien has been an Alaska resident for 6 years, and has practiced law for 25 years. She graduated from Tulane Law School in 1993, and is currently in private practice in Anchorage.

Debra O'Gara: Judge O'Gara has been an Alaska resident for 10 years, and has practiced law for 26 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 in Juneau.

Earl Adrian Peterson: Magistrate Judge Peterson has been an Alaska resident for 7½ years, and has practiced law for 22 years. He graduated from Chicago Kent College of Law in 1995, and is currently a magistrate judge in Fairbanks.

John O. Putikka: Mr. Putikka has been an Alaska resident for 5 years, and has practiced law for 23½ years. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1994, and is currently an assistant public defender in Bethel.

David L. Roghair: Magistrate Judge Roghair has been an Alaska resident for 22 years, and has practiced law for 11 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 20½ years, and has practiced law for 20½ years. He graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1997, and is currently the district court judge in Valdez.

Kirk Schwalm: Mr. Schwalm has been an Alaska resident for 41½ years, and has practiced law for 7 years. He graduated from Lewis and Clark Law School in 2010, and is currently in private practice in Fairbanks.

Hanna Sebold: Ms. Sebold has been an Alaska resident for 14½ years, and has practiced law for 18½ years. She graduated from California Western School of Law in 1998, and is currently an assistant attorney general in Juneau.

Franklin E. Spaulding: Mr. Spaulding has been an Alaska resident for 45 years, and has practiced law for 19½ years. He graduated from Seattle University School of Law in 1998, and is currently in private practice in Fairbanks.

Gary L. Stapp: Mr. Stapp has been an Alaska resident for 29 years, and has practiced law for 31½ years. He graduated from Washburn University, School of Law in 1987, and is currently in private practice in Fairbanks.

Amy J. Tallerico: Ms. Tallerico has been an Alaska resident for 38 years, and has practiced law for 9½ years. She graduated from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in 2007, and is currently in private practice in Fairbanks.

William W. Taylor: Mr. Taylor has been an Alaska resident for 10½ years, and has practiced law for 22½ years. He graduated from Ohio Northern University, Claude W. Pettit College of Law in 1995, and is currently an assistant public defender in Kenai.

Thomas I. Temple: Mr. Temple has been an Alaska resident for 16½ years, and has practiced law for 16½ years. He graduated from George Mason University, School of Law in 2001, and is currently in private practice in Fairbanks.

John Foster Wallace: Mr. Wallace has been an Alaska resident for 36½ years, and has practiced law for 22½ years. He graduated from Northeastern University School of Law in 1991, and is currently in private practice in Fairbanks.

Julie Willoughby: Ms. Willoughby has been an Alaska resident for 32 years, and has practiced law for 19½ 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.

* * * * *