

JAN 14 2008

ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

Position(s) for which you wish to be considered:
Alaska Court of Appeals

Date: January 11, 2008

I. Public Information (Questions 1-24)

Personal

1. (a) State full name* Joel Harold Bolger
 Name as it should appear on bar survey: Joel Bolger
 * Unless otherwise specified, this is how your name will appear on the bar survey.
- (b) Have you ever used or been known by any other name? If so, please identify.
No

2. How long have you been a resident of the State of Alaska immediately preceding the date of this application? **
18 years 4 months
 Total 27 years 4 months
 I lived in Seattle while my wife attended Seattle University, 1987-1989.
3. How long have you been engaged in the active practice of law immediately preceding the date of this application? **
29 years 4 months
 Total 29 years 4 months

Nonlegal Education

4. State names and dates of attendance of all colleges and professional schools (other than law schools) ever attended and degrees and dates conferred. List any honors.

University of Iowa
 September 1973-May 1976
 Bachelor of Science Degree with Honors in Economics

** See AS 22.10.090; see also 1984 Inf. Op. Atty. Gen. (July 19; 366- 624-84).

Legal Education

5. List all law schools, dates attended and degrees conferred. If you did not receive a degree from any law school, please indicate.

University of Iowa
June 1976-August 1978
Juris Doctor degree

6. (a) Did you receive any honors in law school or belong to any honorary societies or groups?
 Yes No If yes, please give details.

- (b) Have you taken any CLE (continuing legal education) courses during the past five years?
 Yes No

Please describe or list. Please do not attach individual certificates of attendance.

I attended National Judicial College courses on Judicial Writing, Advanced Evidence, Sex Offenses and Effective Presentations. I gave the opening address at the Leadership Institute in Judicial Education at the University of Memphis in 2004. I have also attended nearly all of the spring and fall state judicial conferences. I planned or presented programs on Workplace Professionalism, Settlement Ethics, Pretrial Incarceration & Release, Pro Se Litigation and Domestic Violence.

Military

7. Have you served in the armed forces (reserves or otherwise)? Yes No

If so, please provide the following information:

- (a) Dates of service: _____
(b) Branch of service: _____
(c) Rank at time of discharge: _____
(d) Type of military discharge: _____
(e) Awards or citations:

- (f) Have you ever been refused admission to or released from any of the armed services for reasons other than honorable discharge? Yes No If so, state the details.

Nonlegal Employment

8. Describe major nonlegal working experience. If you had a business or association that has been discontinued, please note whether there are unpaid debts or claims pending litigation.

During high school and college I drove tractors, baled hay, welded machinery, fixed small engines, loaded trucks and poured concrete.

During law school I worked in the University of Iowa Law School Library, attending the circulation desk and shelving books. I also did some editing and cite checking for a law professor's article on secured transactions.

Legal Experience

9. Describe chronologically your legal employment since admission to law school. **Please provide dates, name of employer, name of supervisor or person who can verify employment, addresses, the reason you left the position, and a brief description of type of practice (i.e., insurance defense, criminal, appellate, general, litigation, etc.) for each position listed below.**

The Council will ask for comments from your current and former employers about your employment and your judicial qualifications. You may choose to list other persons as character and professional references in response to Question 20 of this application.

If the supervisor or contact person asks (in writing) that the letter be shared with the governor, the Council will send designated letters for each nominee. The applicant should not request a copy of the letter from the reference. References or letters not solicited by the Council are considered public (with few exceptions) and will be sent to the governor for all nominees.

Current Employer: Alaska Court System

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Morgan Christen

Current address of this person: 825 West Fourth Ave.

City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99501

Dates of Employment: From September 2003 To present

Description: Superior Court Judge, Kodiak. Chair of Conference Planning Committee, Three-Judge Sentencing Alternate, Child Support Committee, Family Rules Committee, Magistrate Training Judge. I judge the civil and criminal cases in Kodiak and decide cases throughout the district as assigned.

Previous Employers: *(In chronological order, most recent first)*

Employer: Alaska Court System

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Dan Hensley

Current address of this person: 1036 West 22nd Ave.

City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99503

Dates of Employment: From September 1997 To September 2003

Description: District Judge & Administrative Judge for Valdez, Cordova and Glennallen. I handled superior & district court cases & administrative appeals.

Reason for Leaving: I left Valdez when I was appointed to the superior court.

Employer: Jamin Ebell Bolger & Gentry

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Matthew Jamin

Current address of this person: 323 Carolyn Street

City Kodiak State Alaska Zip 99615

Dates of Employment: From September 1982 To July 1997

Description: Managing Attorney 1990-96. Kodiak Island Borough Attorney. I litigated numerous civil and criminal trials and appeals, mediated disputes, counseled on family law matters, and negotiated business transactions.

Reason for Leaving: I left when I was appointed to the district court bench.

Previous Employers (continued)

Employer: Alaska Public Defender Agency
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Chief Justice Dana Fabe
Current address of this person: 303 K Street, 5th Floor
City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99501
Dates of Employment: From December 1981 To August 1982
Description: Assistant Public Defender in Barrow. Felony and misdemeanor trials and appeals.

Reason for Leaving: I left to enter private practice.

Employer: Alaska Legal Services Corporation, Kodiak
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Michael Sturm, Controller
Current address of this person: 1016 West 6th Ave., Suite 200
City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99501
Dates of Employment: From June 1980 To November 1981
Description: Supervising Attorney for a four-attorney legal aid/public defender office.

Reason for Leaving: I left for a higher paying state job.

Employer: Alaska Legal Services Corporation, Dillingham
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Michael Sturm, Controller
Current address of this person: 1016 West 6th Ave., Suite 200
City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99501
Dates of Employment: From September 1978 To May 1980
Description: VISTA Attorney. Native land claims, fishing permits & misdemeanor trials.

Reason for Leaving:

Employer:
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment:
Current address of this person:
City State Zip
Dates of Employment: From To
Description:

Reason for Leaving:

Employer:
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment:
Current address of this person:
City State Zip
Dates of Employment: From To
Description:

Reason for Leaving:

10. For the past five years, please indicate (approximately) the following:

(a)	Percent of your practice that was:	Civil	<u>25%</u>
		Criminal	<u>70%</u>
		Other	<u>5%</u>
			= 100%

Comment: _____

(b)	Percent:	State	<u>100%</u>
		Federal	<u> </u>
		Other	<u> </u>
			= 100%

Comment: _____

(c)	Of practice in state courts, percent:	Supreme Court	<u> </u>
		Court of Appeals	<u> </u>
		Superior Court	<u>90%</u>
		District Court	<u>10%</u>
			= 100%

Comment: _____

(d) Frequency of appearance in court:
 Regularly Occasionally Infrequently Not at All

Comment: _____

(e) Number of trials (by court or jury) you conducted in the past 5 years:
 None 1-5 6-15 16-30 31 or more

Comment: _____

(f) Percent of these trials which were: Jury 30% Non-Jury 70%

Comment: _____

(g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 45

Comment: Appeals from district court and administrative agencies.

(h) Approximate number of arbitrations or administrative hearings:
 None 1-5 6-15 16-30 31 or more

Briefly describe type of matters heard:

But I have conducted several settlement conferences in family matters and civil cases.

(i) Have you undertaken any *pro bono* work through a *pro bono* legal service provider (e.g. Alaska Legal Services, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, etc.) during this period? Yes No

Describe:

But I have volunteered as an instructor for Valdez Youth Court and Kodiak Teen Court.

11. List all the courts and administrative tribunals in the United States or elsewhere to which you are or have been admitted to practice, and the dates of admission.

State: Iowa (August 1978), Alaska (June 1979), Washington (June 1987).
 Federal: District of Alaska (July 1979), Ninth Circuit (August 1980),
 Western District of Washington (June 1987).

Public Service

12. List bar associations, and sections and committees of which you are or have been a member or officer.

Alaska Bar Association, Continuing Legal Education Committee
 American Bar Association, Rural Courts Subcommittee
 Washington State Bar Association, King County Bar Association
 Iowa State Bar Association

13. List legal publications, if any (give title, subject and date of publications). Please include publications you have co-authored and the name(s) of the co-author(s).

Bench Guide for New Judges (Alaska Court System 2002). This guide contains outlines and scripts of routine court hearings, prepared especially for new judges. I prepared and compiled these materials as a project for the judicial mentoring subcommittee. I update the penalty checklist on an annual basis to keep judges and magistrates up to date on the sentencing statutes.

14. Have you ever applied for a judgeship? Yes No

Please list dates and judgeships applied for, as well as whether you were nominated by the Judicial Council and appointed.

Judgeship	Date	Nominated By Council (Y/N)	Appointed By Governor (Y/N)
Valdez (Palmer) Dist. Court	2/97	Y	Y (N)
Kodiak (Kenai) Superior Court	4/03	Y	Y (N)
Alaska Supreme Court	5/07	Y	N

15. Have you ever held public or political office, elective or appointive? Yes No

If so, state office, manner selected, and when and where held.

District Court Judge, Valdez, 1997-2003, appointed by Governor Knowles.
Superior Court Judge, Kodiak, 2003-present, appointed by Governor Murkowski.

16. Please provide the Council with information that you would like the Council to consider about other legal and nonlegal organizations and clubs of which you are a member, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social and fraternal organizations. Please indicate whether you participate in the organization's activities, or simply hold a membership. Your involvement in the community is one of the criteria the Council uses in its evaluations. The Council does not use affiliation with a particular group as a criterion except to the extent that it might raise questions of conflict of interest or would affect an applicant's ability to impartially apply the law.

Alaska Conference of Judges. I have been the president, vice president/treasurer and secretary of this organization for state trial judges.

Rotary Club, Kodiak & Valdez (1990-2006). I served as president-elect, board member and Paul Harris Fellow, and chaired board committees including community service, club service and international service. I received the Rotary District Service Award for the Beyond the Call of Duty Trust, a scholarship fund for the surviving children of the helicopter crewmembers who perished in a 1985 Coast Guard medevac flight.

St. James the Fisherman Episcopal Church. I serve as the worship pianist and read during services as a lector on a rotating basis. I have previously served as a deanery representative, Christian education director and as a vestry (board) member.

Kodiak Community Orchestra & Band. I have played the trumpet for special concerts and musicals since the early 1980's. This spring the orchestra will accompany a local production of the musical "Camelot".

Alaska Legal Services Corporation, Executive Committee, Board of Directors (1984-1987).

17. Indicate (Yes or No) whether you have ever:

- (a) been arrested, charged with, pled guilty or *nolo contendere* to, or been convicted of the violation of any law or ordinance, or been requested to appear before any prosecuting or investigative agency in connection with any matter in any jurisdiction, including all traffic offenses, unless the fine was less than \$50 and there were no other sanctions?

Yes No

- (b) failed to answer any summons or other legal process served upon you personally at any time? Yes No

- (c) as a member of any armed forces, been the subject of any charges which may have resulted in disciplinary action or court martial? Yes No

- (d) had any proceedings brought to have you declared a ward of any court or adjudged an incompetent? Yes No

If your answer is "yes" to any part of this question, state the facts in detail. Give the name and place of the court or agency, dates of the beginning and end of any action or proceeding, case numbers, and the judgment or other disposition.

18. (a) Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state or local authorities? Yes No

In particular, have you been the subject of any proceeding, criminal or civil, initiated against you by the Internal Revenue Service or a State Tax Office? Yes No
If so, give particulars, including case numbers.

- (b) Have you ever been sued by a client? Yes No

If so, give particulars, including case numbers.

- (c) Have you ever been a party in any other legal proceeding? Yes No

If so, give the particulars. Include all legal proceedings in which you were a party in interest, including petitioner or respondent in dissolution or divorce proceedings; a material witness; a named co-conspirator or correspondent; and subject or witness in any grand jury proceedings. Do not list proceedings in which you were sued only in a representative capacity (e.g. guardian ad litem, or as Commissioner of Natural Resources).

Iowa Savings Bank v. Alan Bolger, District Court, Carroll County, Iowa (1985): The bank asked to foreclose on my mother's farm to collect a mortgage. I owned a small future interest. My brother paid the debt and the suit was dismissed.

Claire Grimm v. Carolyn Conner, District Court, Carroll County Iowa (late 1970's): My aunt brought a partition action for sale of farm land in which I held a small inherited interest.

19. State the nature and disposition of any of the following actions which apply to you:

- (a) Are there any unsatisfied judgments against you? Yes No
Have you ever defaulted in the performance of any court-imposed obligation, including payment of alimony or child support or compliance with another court order or decree?

Yes No

In each case, list the name and address of the creditor, the court which rendered the judgment, the case number, the date, the amount of the judgment, and the circumstances on which such claim was based.

Has property owned by you been either judicially or non-judicially foreclosed?

Yes No

Please state the circumstances and outcome of any such unsatisfied or default judgment, or of any foreclosure.

See 18(c) above regarding a foreclosure action that was settled before trial.

- (b) Have you ever made an assignment for the benefit of creditors? Yes No

Have you ever filed any petition in bankruptcy?

Yes No

If so, state the circumstances, case number, and the outcome.

References and Counsel Questionnaires*

- * **Please Note:** Letters of reference from these persons are confidential and will not be given to the applicant. If the reference asks (in writing) that the letter be shared with the governor, the Council will send designated letters and counsel questionnaires for each nominee. The applicant should not request a copy of the letter from the reference. (You **should not** list the Chief Justice of the Alaska Supreme Court.)

References or letters not solicited by the Council are considered public (with few exceptions) and will be sent to the governor for all nominees.

20. (a) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes**, and **phone numbers** of two persons whom the Judicial Council may contact who can discuss your **general character and background**.

Name: Fred Torrasi
Address: PO Box 909
City/State/Zip: Dillingham, AK 99576 Phone: 907-842-5215

Name: Matthew Jamin
Address: 323 Carolyn Street
City/State/Zip: Kodiak, AK 99615 Phone: 907-486-6024

- (b) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes**, and **phone numbers** of three other persons whom the Judicial Council may contact who can discuss your **professional competence and qualifications** for a judicial position.

Name: Walter Carpeneti
Address: PO Box 114100
City/State/Zip: Juneau, AK 99811 Phone: 907-463-4771

Name: Susan McLean
Address: 310 K St., Suite 403
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 907-269-6379

Name: Dan Hensley
Address: 1036 West 22nd Ave.
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99503 Phone: 907-360-3177

-----Original Message-----

From: Joel H. Bolger [mailto:jbolger@courts.state.ak.us]

Sent: Friday, January 18, 2008 11:01 AM

To: Larry Cohn

Subject: Court of Appeals application

Mr. Cohn,

As we discussed, a problem has arisen with one of the cases listed in my application for the Alaska Court of Appeals. On page 13, I listed the case of Muhlenbruch v. Dept. of Health & Soc. Serv., No 3AN-06-12098 CI. But the state recently filed a petition for rehearing in that case, so it may remain pending for an undetermined period. I was unaware of the petition when I filed the application.

Please substitute the following case: Russel Gundersen v. Patricia Conley, No. 3KO-07-45 CI. The attorneys involved are Matthew St. John, 323 Carolyn Street, Kodiak, AK 99615 and Dorne Hawxhurst, 1326 West 10th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501.

I'm sorry for the inconvenience. Thank you for your assistance.

Joel Bolger

1/18/2008

References and Counsel Questionnaires (continued)

(c) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes, and suite numbers where applicable**, and phone numbers of each attorney involved in your three most recent cases that have gone to trial. Please do not list cases pending in the trial courts. (Applicants who are currently judges should list the three most recent trials they presided over.) List only those cases that have gone to trial within the past three years. Please include the judge's name and case names and numbers. (*Attach additional pages if necessary.*)

Case Number 1

Case Name: In the Matter of J.L. **Case Number:** 3KO-06-22 PR
v. (contested adoption) **Judge Name:** Bolger

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Thom Janidlo</u>	Name: <u>J. Michael Gray</u>
Address: <u>1107 West 7th Ave.</u>	Address: <u>455 3rd Ave., Suite 150</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>
Name: <u>Jill Wittenbrader</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>3501 Glenn Don Circle #2</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99504</u>	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: State of Alaska **Case Number:** 3DI-06-47 CR
v. Edward Byron Lamb **Judge Name:** Bolger

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Roger Rom</u>	Name: <u>Brent Cole</u>
Address: <u>1031 West 4th Ave., Suite 105</u>	Address: <u>745 West 4th Ave., Suite 502</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: Shawna Baldwin **Case Number:** 3KO-07-88 CI
v. Jay Baldwin **Judge Name:** Bolger

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Dorothea Aquero</u>	Name: <u>Stephanie Pawlowski</u>
Address: <u>711 H St., Suite 400</u>	Address: <u>121 W. Fireweed Ln., Ste. 208</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99503</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

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Please substitute the following case: Russel Gundersen v. Patricia Conley, No. 3KO-07-45 CI. The attorneys involved are Matthew St. John, 323 Carolyn Street, Kodiak, AK 99615 and Dorne Hawxhurst, 1326 West 10th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501.

I'm sorry for the inconvenience. Thank you for your assistance.

Joel Bolger

1/18/2008

References and Counsel Questionnaires (continued)

(d) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes, and suite numbers where applicable**, and phone numbers of each attorney involved in your three most recent cases that did not go to trial but in which you did significant work. Please do not list cases pending in the trial courts. (Applicants who are currently judges should list the three most recent cases they presided over that did not go to trial but in which they did significant work.) Please include the judge's name and case names and numbers. (*Attach additional pages if necessary.*)

Case Number 1

Case Name: State of Alaska **Case Number:** 3VA-06-215 CR
v. Matthew Kompkoff **Judge Name:** Bolger

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>W. Michael Perry</u>	Name: <u>Bruce Brown</u>
Address: <u>11921 Palmer-Wasilla Hwy. #100</u>	Address: <u>268 E. Fireweed Ave. Ste. 102</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Palmer, AK 99645</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Palmer, AK 99645</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: David Faulk **Case Number:** 3AN-06-9431 CI
v. Municipality of Anchorage **Judge Name:** Bolger

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Karen Bretz</u>	Name: <u>Dean Gates</u>
Address: <u>610 C St., Suite 2B, Box 91457</u>	Address: <u>632 W. 6th Ave., Suite 730</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99509</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99519</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: Elita Muhlenbruch **Case Number:** 3AN-06-12098 CI
v. Dept. of Health & Soc. Serv. **Judge Name:** Bolger

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>John Pharr</u>	Name: <u>Rebecca Polizzotto</u>
Address: <u>733 West 4th Ave., Suite 308</u>	Address: <u>PO Box 110300</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Juneau, AK 99811-0300</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Writing Sample

21. Attach one example of a brief, memorandum of law, or legal opinion or similar example of legal writing (10-20 pages in length; 15-25 pages for appellate positions) prepared solely by you within the last five years. Please choose a sample that reflects your ability to do legal research and analysis. If you do not have a good sample of this length, include an excerpt from a longer writing. Make sure the sample contains sufficient facts to make it understandable. (Some reply briefs may not meet these requirements.)

Please do not submit: (a) coauthored writing samples, (b) samples with confidential information unless redacted to remove such information, (c) longer writing samples.

22. Has any **public** sanction been imposed against you in response to a complaint, charge or grievance brought against you as an attorney or a judge? Yes No
- Have formal grievance procedures been brought against you? Yes No
- See Bar Rule 22(b) & (e) concerning public grievance procedures against attorneys, and AS 22.30.011(b) and .060(b)(3) concerning public grievance procedures against judges.
- Have you ever been held in contempt of court? Yes No
- In each case, state in detail the circumstances and the outcome.

Additional Comments (Non-Confidential)

23. Please make any additional comments that you wish to bring to the Council's attention about your experience and suitability for this judgeship.

Criminal law has always been an important part of my career. I am prepared for this position, because I have tried many criminal cases, written numerous appeals and educated many different groups in the justice system.

1. Criminal Trial Experience. Before I became a judge, I was continuously contracted or employed by the Alaska Public Defender Agency or the Office of Public Advocacy to defend indigent clients in Kodiak, Barrow, Bristol Bay and the Aleutian Chain. I also maintained a substantial private criminal practice. By the time I took the bench in 1997, I had defended hundreds of criminal cases involving everything from traffic infractions to first degree murder.

After I was appointed to the bench, I covered the superior and district court cases in Valdez, Cordova, Glennallen and then Kodiak. During the past ten years, I have judged hundreds of cases involving every class of offense.

Additional Comments (Continued)

2. Appeals. I began to write appeals early and continued throughout my trial career. The Alaska Case Law Service lists 28 appeals that I wrote or defended, including 20 in criminal cases. These appeals involved a variety of serious issues. For example, see *State v. Dutch Harbor Seafoods*, 965 P.2d 738 (Alaska 1998) (right to jury trial) and *State v. Rastopsoff*, 659 P.2d 630 (Alaska App. 1983) (presumptive sentencing).

After I took the bench I decided appeals to the superior court from the district court and administrative agencies. I have written 75-80 appeal decisions on a wide variety of topics ranging from professional license revocations to worker's compensation benefits. I have developed an organized approach to research and writing that would be just as effective for cases considered by the court of appeals.

3. System Development. I have helped to plan numerous judicial education conferences as a member of the Judicial Education Committee and chair of the Conference Planning Committee. I personally facilitated conferences on Domestic Violence, Pro Se Litigation and Pretrial Incarceration and Release. I helped to establish and administer a judicial mentoring system, and prepared a bench guide containing outlines and scripts for new judges. I update the criminal penalty checklist on an annual basis to keep the judges and magistrates current on the sentencing statutes.

As a Magistrate Training Judge, I have trained and supervised several magistrates and deputy magistrates and presented several programs at statewide conferences, including Jury Trial Techniques, the Underage Drinking Law, Judicial Ethics and Evidence. I have also served as a regular instructor for Kodiak Teen Court and Valdez Youth Court.

The Alaska Court of Appeals is a critical component of this system I have been working in for almost thirty years. I'm ready to continue my contributions in this new role.

24. Please indicate whether you prefer to be interviewed in public session or in private session. Your choice of a public or private interview has no bearing on the Council's determination of your qualifications or on the questions the Council may ask. You may change your request in writing at any time before the interview starts.

Public Interview

Private Interview

25. Please prepare a brief biographical statement (**limited to 150 words**) about your background, legal education, and legal experience. Please do not list personal information about minor children. Your picture and a copy of this statement will be scanned and posted on the Council's website after the application deadline. In its Bar survey, the Council will invite attorneys to review the information if they wish to become more familiar with your background and experience. Use the form on the following page for your biographical statement. Please leave the box at the top empty. The Council will use this space for your scanned picture. **To be fair to all applicants, the Council will strictly enforce the 150 word limit.**

If you object to the posting of your picture on the Council's website, please indicate your objection below. If you object, we will not post your picture, although you still must submit twelve photographs of yourself with your application.

If you check this box we will not post your picture on the website.

Biographical Statement

Name Joel H. Bolger

Position(s) for which you wish to be considered:

Alaska Court of Appeals

Date: January 11, 2008

I was raised on an Iowa farm. I attended college and law school at the University of Iowa.

After law school I worked in public interest positions for four years. I volunteered for VISTA in Dillingham, supervised the legal aid office in Kodiak, and defended indigent clients in Barrow.

In 1982 I joined a private practice in Kodiak. Over the next fifteen years I litigated numerous civil and criminal trials and appeals, mediated family disputes, and negotiated business and property transactions. I served as the Kodiak Island Borough Attorney for fourteen years.

Eventually my public service ambitions landed me on the district court in Valdez and the superior court in Kodiak. Since I took the bench, I have trained dozens of judges, magistrates and youth court attorneys.

My wife works for the Coast Guard, and my children are in college. I enjoy backcountry skiing, golf and music.