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MAR 08 2012

ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL

## Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

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

Superior Court judge, Fourth Judicial

Date: March 1, 2012

District, Fairbanks, Alaska

### I. Public Information (Questions 1-24)

#### Personal

1. (a) State full name\* Jane F. Kauvar

Name as it should appear on bar survey: Jane F. Kauvar

\* 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.

Jane Kauvar Athens

2. How long have you been a resident of the State of Alaska immediately preceding the date of this application? \*\*

Total 38 years 8 months  
38 years 8 months

3. How long have you been engaged in the active practice of law immediately preceding the date of this application? \*\*

Total 38 years \_\_\_\_\_ months  
38 years \_\_\_\_\_ 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.

Scripps College (Claremont, CA), 1966-1968

University of Colorado, (Boulder, CO), 1968-1970, BA degree, Magna Cum Laude,  
Phi Beta Kappa

\*\* 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 California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall, 1970-1973, JD degree

University of Queensland (Brisbane, Australia), 2001-2002, LLM 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.

Staff editor, Ecology Law Quarterly

- (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.

National College on Judicial Conduct and Ethics (October 2008)

National Judicial College civil mediation course (June 2009)

Domestic Violence course (2010)

Alaska Judicial CLE programs for sitting judges (Spring and Fall of every year)

## 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.

Summer jobs as a camp counselor while attending high school and college 30 plus years ago.

## Legal Experience

9. Describe chronologically your legal employment since admission to law school. **Please provide dates and location of employment, name of employer, name AND CURRENT ADDRESS OF supervisor or person who can verify AND COMMENT ON YOUR employment, 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.** IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY A TRIAL COURT JUDGE, PLEASE LIST YOUR PRESIDING JUDGE. FOR PAST JUDGESHIPS, PLEASE LIST THE JUDGE WHO LAST PRESIDED DURING YOUR TIME ON THE BENCH.

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: Judge Doug Blankenship, presiding

Current address of this person: 101 Lacey Street

City Fairbanks State Alaska Zip 99701

Dates and location of Employment: From March 1981 To present City Fairbanks State Alaska

Description:

Appointment as District Court Judge in Fairbanks by Governor Hammond in 1981. I have continuously held this position since my appointment.

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

Employer: Alaska Public Defender Agency

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Ms. Jennifer Hite

Current address of this person: 529 5th Avenue, Suite 1

City Fairbanks State AK Zip 99701

Dates and Location of Employment: From Oct. 1976 To March 1981 City Fairbanks State AK

Description: Representation of defendants in misdemeanor and felony cases, guardian ad litem in children's cases, appeals.

Reason for Leaving: appointment to the bench in 1981

Employer: District Attorney's Office, Alaska Department of Law

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Mr. Harry Davis

Current address of this person: [see prior applications per instructions of Larry Cohn]

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and Location of Employment: From 1975 To 1976 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Description: Prosecution of individuals charged with misdemeanors and felonies.

Reason for Leaving: hired by Alaska Public Defender Agency

**Previous Employers (continued)**

Employer: Fairbanks North Star Borough, Borough Attorney's Office  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Mr. James Nordale (now deceased)  
Current address of this person: [see prior applications per instructions of Lary Cohn]  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From Aug. 1974 To Aug. 1975 City Fairbanks State AK  
Description: Advised assembly members on legal issues, assisted Borough Attorney.  
Reason for Leaving: hired by District Attorney's Office, Alaska Department of Law

Employer: Alaska Court System  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Justice Jay Rabinowitz (now deceased)  
Current address of this person: [see prior applications per instructions of Larry Cohn]  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From June 1973 To June 1974 City Fairbanks State AK  
Description: Alaska Supreme Court Law Clerk: legal research and writing.  
Reason for Leaving: one year position ended

Employer: Holland & Hart  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current address of this person: [see prior applications per instructions of Larry Cohn]  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From June 1972 To Aug. 1972 City Denver State CO  
Description: Summer law clerk position  
Reason for Leaving: return to law school

Employer: Colorado Rural Legal Services  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current address of this person: [see prior applications per instructions of Larry Cohn]  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From June 1971 To Aug. 1971 City Denver State CO  
Description: Assisted migrant workers with various legal problems.  
Reason for Leaving: return to law school

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current address of this person: \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Description:    
Reason for Leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

10. During your legal career, please indicate (approximately) the following:

(a) Percent of your practice that was:

Civil	25
Criminal	70
Other	5
	<hr/>
	= 100%

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Percent:

State	100
Federal	_____
Other	_____
	<hr/>
	= 100%

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

(c) Of practice in state courts, percent:

Supreme Court	_____
Court of Appeals	_____
Superior Court	30
District Court	70
	<hr/>
	= 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:  
 None       1-5       6-15       16-30       31 or more  
Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

(f) Percent of these trials which were: Jury 80      Non-Jury 20  
Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

(g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 3  
Comment: On occasion I am called upon to review a magistrate's decision

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

Briefly describe type of matters heard:  

Settlement conferences (assuming these are considered arbitrations)
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(i) Please briefly summarize any *pro bono* work that you have done and indicate whether the work was done through a *pro bono* legal service provider (e.g. Alaska Legal Services, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, etc.).

[as a sitting judge, I am not allowed to do pro bono work]
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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.

All state courts of Alaska, through admission to Alaska Bar Association, Dec. 1973  
 U.S. District Court, District of Alaska, 1974

**Public Service**

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

Alaska Bar Association  
 Tanana Valley 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).

None

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)
Please see attached table			

<b>Judgeship</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Nominated By Council (Y/N)</b>	<b>Appointed By Governor (Y/N)</b>
District Court	1980	Y	N
District Court	1981	Y	Y
Superior Court	1984	N	—
Superior Court	1988	N	—
Superior Court	1992	Y	N
Superior Court	1997	N	—
Superior Court	2006	Y	N
Superior Court	2007	Y	N
Superior Court	2009	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, appointed by Governor Hammond in 1981. I have served as a judge continuously from the time of appointment until present.

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.

I have done extensive volunteer work in the community over the years.

1. I have served as a judge for the We the People (high school debate program of constitutional and government issues) for many years. My service as a judge has been at the local, state, and national levels.
2. I have served as a member of the Judicial Conduct Commission.
3. I now serve on the Criminal Pattern Jury Instructions Committee.
4. I am currently a Magistrate Training Judge for the Fourth Judicial District.
5. I have served as a PTA member and officer at schools my children attended in Fairbanks when they were growing up.
6. I was a volunteer swim official for children's and high school swim meets (which involved countless hours) from 1991 through 2004.
7. I coached, and assisted my son's soccer coach, in the 1990s. I have helped with local running events, including the Murphy Dome Roam and the Northern Area Triathlon.
8. I have frequently been a speaker at Drug Awareness Panels, health classes, and other public forums. I enjoy having school classes come to my courtroom and participate in mock trials that I have created. Each spring I judge Project Citizen for middle school students.
9. I served a number of years on a committee established by Justice Rabinowitz to review the Code of Judicial Conduct.
10. For a number of years I was a Big Sister in that program.

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.

Traffic Citation 4FA-04-Ti255648. I was cited on September 6, 2004, by a UAF police officer for speeding. I pled no contest to nine mph over the speed limit, paid the fine and surcharge, attended Defensive Driving classes, and the case was dismissed.

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).

About 31 years ago, I was plaintiff in a negligence suit for damages arising out of a traffic accident. The claimed damages were less than \$1,000, and the matter was quickly settled out of court.

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.

- (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: Joan Braddock  
Address: P.O. Box 81847  
City/State/Zip: Fairbanks, AK 99708 Phone: (907) 978-5148; 474-2776

Name: Kathleen Wright  
Address: 1991 Saint Bernard Dr.  
City/State/Zip: Fairbanks, AK 99709 Phone: (907) 479-0194

- (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: Judge (ret.) Beverly Cutler  
Address: 435 South Denali  
City/State/Zip: Palmer, AK 99645 Phone: (907) 746-8188

Name: Judge Ralph Beistline  
Address: 222 W. 7th Ave., #49  
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99513 Phone: (907) 677-6257

Name: Judge (ret.) Winston Burbank  
Address: P.O. Box 71109  
City/State/Zip: Fairbanks, AK 99707 Phone: (907) 378-5281

**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:** State **Case Number:** 4FA-10-5234 Cr  
**v.** Pieniazak **Judge Name:** Kauvar

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Andrew Baldock</u>	Name: <u>Steven Hanson</u>
Address: <u>455 3rd Ave., Suite 150</u>	Address: <u>529 5th Ave., Suite 1</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 2**

**Case Name:** State **Case Number:** 4FA-10-1247 Cr  
**v.** Kendall **Judge Name:** Kauvar

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Andrew Baldock</u>	Name: <u>Jason Gazewood</u>
Address: <u>455 3rd Ave., Suite 150</u>	Address: <u>1008 16th Ave.</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** State **Case Number:** 4FA-10-3618 Cr  
**v.** Brad Baker **Judge Name:** Kauvar

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Romano Di Benedetto</u>	Name: <u>Stephen Merrill</u>
Address: <u>455 3rd Ave., Suite 150</u>	Address: <u>201 Barrow St., Suite 102c</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**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 **Case Number:** 4FA-10-4939 Cr  
**v.** Fuzzard **Judge Name:** Kauvar

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Risa Leonard</u>	Name: <u>Brent Bennett</u>
Address: <u>455 3rd Ave., Suite 150</u>	Address: <u>529 5th Ave., Suite 1</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 2**

**Case Name:** Kolp **Case Number:** 4FA-2879 CI  
**v.** MAC Federal Credit Union **Judge Name:** Kauvar (settlement)

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Cory Borgeson</u>	Name: <u>Foster Wallace</u>
Address: <u>100 Cushman St., Suite 311</u>	Address: <u>711 Baffney, Suite 202</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** Will **Case Number:** 4FA-08-1675 CI  
**v.** Gravelle **Judge Name:** Kauvar (settlement)

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Allen Cheek</u>	Name: <u>Wayne Watson</u>
Address: <u>1300 21st Ave., Suite 204</u>	Address: <u>310 K Street, Suite 306</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</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 bar grievance procedures against attorneys, and AS 22.30.011(b) and .060(b)(3) concerning public disciplinary grievance procedures against judges.  
Have you ever been held in contempt of court?  Yes  No  
Have you ever been fined or otherwise sanctioned by a judge?  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.

I believe my legal education and experience, as well as the other information set forth in this application, qualify me to be a Superior Court judge. Although I have served enough years as a District Court judge that I could now retire, I want to continue to work as a judge. Service as a judge is rewarding for me, and I feel I still have more to offer as a judge. With my three children now grown and successful in their careers, I have fewer obligations at home. I have the time and the desire to take on the additional responsibilities of a Superior Court judge, and I look forward to that challenge.

My years of experience as a District Court judge will benefit both the Court System and the community. Not only do I have years of experience as a District Court judge, but for many years I have had extensive experience as an acting superior court judge on a wide variety of superior court matters. If appointed, I can immediately begin work and handle all of the types of cases that come before the Superior Court. Additionally, I have extensive experience as a judge (district and

### Additional Comments (Continued)

superior court matters) in bush Alaska, particularly Bethel and the surrounding villages. The Court System has seen a large number of judges retire state-wide, including in the Fourth Judicial District. While I enjoy and appreciate working with the new appointees, I also believe that having my experience is valuable. Recently, I was able to help in the initial meetings to establish the first PACE project, a pilot program designed to provide for more supervision for domestic violence offenders.

Additionally, for over a year now I have served as the Pro Tem Superior Court Judge responsible for the Fairbanks Juvenile Treatment Court. I feel that I have been able to make a real beneficial difference in the lives of juveniles, and their families, that have come before me. I have also been handling children's superior court proceedings while helping out the Superior Court in Bethel. This has fueled my interest in wanting to continue to handle children's and juvenile cases on a regular basis as a Superior Court judge.

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 Jane F. Kauvar

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

Superior Court Judge  
Fairbanks, Alaska

*Please leave this area blank*

Date: August 26, 2012

I received a Juris Doctor degree in 1973 from the University of California, and a Masters of Laws in 2002 from the University of Queensland.

After law school, I clerked for Justice Rabinowitz. I served as a prosecutor and defense attorney, before my appointment to the District Court. I have regularly volunteered to handle Superior Court cases, and have presided over all classes of felonies, family law cases, children's and delinquency matters, and personal injury cases. As a settlement judge, I have helped many parties satisfactorily resolve their cases.

I am currently a pro tem Superior Court Judge in Kenai, Alaska. I have also traveled to Bethel and other bush areas to cover District and Superior Court matters. I served on the Judicial Conduct Commission. I am now Deputy District Court Presiding Judge, Magistrate Training Judge, and pro tem Superior Court Judge for the Fairbanks Juvenile Treatment Court.