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MAY 5 2017

ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL

May 5, 2017

Alaska Judicial Council
510 L Street, Suite 450
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Judicial Council Members,

I am writing to express my interest in applying for the vacancy on the Anchorage District Court. In doing so, I am requesting that the application I submitted for the Anchorage Superior Court on December 9, 2017, be considered for this vacancy.

In support of my application for the District Court, I submit this cover letter, as well as the following amendments to my prior application for judicial appointment:

- (1) amended pages 1, 7, 14-15;
- (2) amended biographical statement (page 16)
- (3) new signature pages (pages 20-21); and a
- (4) new writing sample.

Thank you for considering this request. Please contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



Kari McCrea

Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

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

Anchorage District Court

Date: 5-1-17

I. Public Information (Questions 1-24)

Personal

1. (a) State full name* Kari Lyn McCrea

Name as it should appear on bar survey: Kari McCrea

* 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? **

Total	<u>10</u> years	<u>9</u> months
	_____ years	_____ months

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

Total	<u>15</u> years	<u>7</u> months
	_____ 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.

University of Minnesota, BA in History (1995-1998)

Hampton University (1994-1995)

Dispute Resolution Institute, University of Modena - Graduate School of Economics, Modena, Italy. Courses: International Business Transactions and Negotiating Across Boundaries (Summer 1999)

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

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.

Minnesota Supreme Court, admitted 2001 (inactive)
 Alaska Supreme Court, admitted 2007

Public Service

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

Alaska Bar Association, admitted 2007

Minnesota Bar Association, admitted 2001

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).

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)
Anchorage Superior Court	12-9-16	N	

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.

My legal training and life experiences qualify me to serve as an Alaska District Court Judge. My legal career began in 2001 as a public defender in St. Paul, Minnesota, where I worked as a trial attorney for 4 years in a busy metropolitan office.

In 2006, I moved to Alaska after accepting a position as a trial lawyer with the Alaska Public Defender Agency in Bethel, AK. I visited Bethel previously and knew I wanted to return. My daughter and I lived in Bethel for 9 years, participating in community activities and immersing ourselves in the culture of rural Alaska. While there, I worked for the PDA as a trial lawyer and ultimately a supervising attorney. In addition to managing a full criminal caseload, I handled CINA and delinquency cases as well as conflict appointments from other judicial districts. A significant portion of my work was also dedicated to training new lawyers and supervising trials. In the face of a high volume and serious caseload, I worked hard to develop collegial professional relationships and create greater efficiencies in an over-burdened court.

Additional Comments (Continued)

I believe my reputation among colleagues and judges attests to my professionalism and achievements as both a litigator and a supervising attorney.

Currently, I am a Magistrate/Standing Master in the Anchorage Superior Court. I have been in this position since 2015, presiding over litigation and contested hearings in a variety of civil and criminal matters in both the District and Superior courts including: wills and estates, adoptions, guardianships, CINA matters, domestic relations cases, mental health commitments, protective order proceedings, bail hearings, search warrant requests and minor offense trials. I have also had the opportunity to travel to Naknek, AK on several cases to handle civil and criminal matters and currently I am responsible for the misdemeanor calendar in Unalaska. My experience as a litigator has served me well in my current position as I juggle the demands of high volume calendars.

I enjoy working in the trial court. The work is both challenging and rewarding. I appreciate the complexities of the litigation as well as the diversity of the parties. I am in the unique position of fully appreciating the demands of the Anchorage District Court, and having the skills to meet them. I believe I would be an asset to the Anchorage District Court bench.



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 five photographs of yourself with your application.

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

Biographical Statement

Name Kari McCrea

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

Anchorage District Court

Please leave this area blank

Date: 5-4-17

My career began in 2001 as a public defender in Minnesota for 4 years in a busy metropolitan office. I moved to Alaska in 2006 to accept a position with the Bethel PDA. I lived in Bethel for 9 years, working for the PDA as a trial lawyer and supervising attorney. In addition to managing a felony caseload, I handled CINA and delinquency cases, trained new lawyers and supervised trials.

Currently, as a Standing Master in the Anchorage Superior Court, I preside over litigation in a variety of civil cases. My past experience has served me well as I juggle the demands of a high volume calendar. I appreciate the complexities of litigation in the trial court as well as the diversity of the parties. I believe I would be an asset to the District Court as I have the training and experience to meet the demands of the job.