



Print

alaska judicial council

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Alaska Judicial Council Trial Judge Questionnaire

2024 Candidates for Judicial Retention

Deadline: November 17, 2023

Bride Seifert

Name

Homer Superior Court

Court

1. Please estimate your workload during your present term.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| a) <u>55</u> % civil cases | b) <u>9</u> # of jury trials/year |
| <u>40</u> % criminal cases | <u>24</u> # of non-jury trials/year |
| <u>5</u> % court administrative work | <u>0</u> # of administrative appeals/year |
| 100 % Total | |

2. Please describe your participation on court/bar committees or other administrative activities during your current term of office.

Judicial Advisory Committee - eFiling (JACE)
District 13 Director, NAWJ

3. Please describe any judicial or legal education you have undertaken or provided during your current term in office.

Alaska Court System Annual Judicial Conference
Newer Judges Conference, 2020 - 2022
NAWJ Annual Conference, 2022, 2023
General Jurisdiction, NJC, 2021
CINA, ICWA training, CIP, 2021
Opioid, ACEs, Trauma training, NJC, 2020

4. Please describe any public outreach activities during your current term in office.

All Things Recovery, judge attendee
Kenai Peninsula Youth Court, speaker
Henu Therapeutic Court, alternate judge
Girl Scouts, democracy badge presenter

5. This question pertains to Superior Court judges only.

State law requires the Council to conduct an evaluation of judges standing for retention, and to provide information to the public about the judges. Under a provision added in 2013, the information the Council provides to the public "shall include the judge's consideration of victims when imposing sentence on persons convicted of felony offenses where the offenses involve victims" (see AS 22.10.150).

Please submit a short statement about how you consider victims when imposing sentences in felony offenses.

At the start of sentencing, I ensure that victim notification occurred, and continue the hearing if not. I also outline the hearing procedure, so all, including victims, know what to expect. When victims appear in court, I acknowledge them, share my appreciation that they are present, and listen respectfully to their comments.

Crime victims have a voice under Alaska law. I take my responsibility to consider the impact of crime on individual victims, their families and the community seriously. These considerations regularly affect sentences. It may mean a longer probation period, more time in isolation, the addition of mental health or substance abuse treatment probation conditions, or the requirement to attend a batterer's intervention program.

Many times, for many reasons, victims do not appear or share input during proceedings. This in no way lessens my obligation to consider victim impact when crafting an appropriate sentence.

6. Please assess, in one or two paragraphs, your judicial performance during your present term. Appropriate areas of comment could include: satisfaction with your judicial role, specific contributions to the judiciary or the field of law, increases in legal knowledge and judicial skills, or other measures of judicial abilities that you believe to be important.

I am honored to serve as a Superior Court Judge in Homer and the surrounding communities.

There is not enough space (or time) to describe what I have learned since taking the bench. This includes not just knowledge of the law, which has increased exponentially, but also time management, courtroom management, and maturing into the role of judge. I continue to seek and adopt efficiencies, whether it be making decisions on record, asking attorneys to submit draft orders, or streamlining the trial call process. With over 4600 motions filed in the Homer court since I've been on the bench, adopting time-saving measures is a critical aspect of managing the caseload.

A particularly rewarding position was sitting with Kenaitze Tribal Judges on the Henu Community Wellness Court. Serving as the State Court Judge after Judge Wells' retirement taught me great respect for the therapeutic court process. I try to incorporate those lessons into the Homer courtroom.

As the only judge in Homer, my role is more diverse than that of my colleagues sitting on larger courts. It is a pleasure and a challenge to develop the skills necessary to decide every civil dispute, domestic relations case, criminal matter, child-in-need of aid or probate issue. Evictions, name changes, adoptions, and even minor offense cases each have their own rules and nuances of law to learn. The learning curve is very steep. I hope to continue the journey and work diligently to improve my skills, contribute to the community and become a stronger judge.

7. During your most recent term as a judge, have you:
- a) had a tax lien filed or other collection procedure instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 - b) been involved in a non-judicial capacity in any legal proceeding whether as a party or otherwise? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 - c) engaged in the practice of law (other than as a judge)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 - d) held office in any political party? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 - e) held any other local, state or federal office? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 - f) had any complaints, charges or grievances filed against you with the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct, the Alaska Bar Association, the Alaska Court System, or any other agency that resulted in public proceedings or sanctions?
☐ Yes ☒ No
8. If your answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please give full details, including dates, facts, case numbers, and outcomes.

9. Please provide any other information which you believe would assist the Council in conducting its evaluations and in preparing its recommendations for the 2024 retention elections.

The longer I serve, the more I recognize the tremendous impact the court system has on litigants, their families and our community. I strive to be present, professional and well prepared for each case, and to treat each person who appears with courtesy and respect.

For questions 10 - 13, please do not list any cases that have pending issues in your court.

10. Please list your three most recent jury trials during your current term in office including case names and numbers. Please list the names and current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these trials. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Case Number 1

Case Name: State of Alaska

Case Number: 3HO-21-00529CR

v. Kimberly Cooper

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Tim Davenport

Name: Deborah Duggin

Address: Kenai DA, 120 Trading Bay Rd. #200

Address: Kenai PD, 130 Trading Bay Rd. #390

City, State, Zip: Kenai, AK 99611

City, State, Zip: Kenai, AK 99611

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: State of Alaska

Case Number: 3HO-22-00238CR

v. Clara Cordes-Walker

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Tim Davenport

Name: Deborah Duggin

Address: Kenai DA, 120 Trading Bay Rd. #200

Address: Kenai PD, 130 Trading Bay Rd. #390

City, State, Zip: Kenai, AK 99611

City, State, Zip: Kenai, AK 99611

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: State of Alaska

Case Number: 3HO-21-00529CR

v. Kimberly Cooper

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Tim Davenport

Name: Deborah Duggin

Address: Kenai DA, 120 Trading Bay Rd. #200

Address: Kenai PD, 130 Trading Bay Rd. #390

City, State, Zip: Kenai, AK 99611

City, State, Zip: Kenai, AK 99611

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

11. Please list your three most recent non-jury trials during your current term in office including case names and numbers. Please list the names and current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these trials. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Case Number 1

Case Name: Ashley Gregoire

Case Number: 3HO-19-00320CI

v. Richard Gregoire

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Michelle Minor

Name: Christina Alfonso

Address: 1120 E. Huffman Rd. #664

Address: 1577 C St. #209

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99515

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

Name:

Name:

Address:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

City, State, Zip:

Case Number 2

Case Name: ITMO: CC; ZC

Case Number: 3HO-21-00007CN/08CN

v.

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Gwen Neal

Name: John Loranger

Address: Gwen Neal Law, PO Box 3368

Address: Kenai PD 130, Trading Bay Rd. #390

City, State, Zip: Homer, AK 99603

City, State, Zip: Kenai, AK 99611

Name: Nick Torres

Name:

Address: Child Protection, 110 Trading Bay Rd. #110

Address:

City, State, Zip: Kenai, AK 99611

City, State, Zip:

Case Number 3

Case Name: Anna Gernundson

Case Number: 3HO-22-0001CI

v. Irene Sexton

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Kris Jensen

Name: John Sherman

Address: Turnagain Law, 1029 W. 3rd Ave. #100

Address: Sherman Law, 737 W. 5th Ave. #203

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

Name:

Name:

Address:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

City, State, Zip:

12. Please list your three most recent cases during your current term in office, including case names and numbers, which did not go to trial, but on which you did significant work (such as settlement conference, hearings, motion work, etc.). Please list the names and current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these cases. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Case Number 1

Case Name: State of Alaska Case Number: 3HO-21-00131CR
 v. Clifton Holmquist

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Kelly Lawson</u>	Name: <u>Joy Hobart</u>
Address: <u>125 Trading Bay Dr. #100</u>	Address: <u>Kenai PD, 130 Trading Bay Rd. #390</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Kenai, AK 99611</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Kenai, AK 99611</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: Michelle Hoyt Case Number: 3HO-20-00094CI
 v. BKO Health LLC

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Andy Pevehouse</u>	Name: <u>Darryl Thompson</u>
Address: <u>Kenai Law Group, Kenai Spur Hwy. #112</u>	Address: <u>Thompson Law Group, 880 N St. #101</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Kenai, AK 99611</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: ITMO: HH; AW Case Number: 3HO-21-0004CN/05CN
 v. _____

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Gwen Neal</u>	Name: <u>John Loranger</u>
Address: <u>Gwen Neal Law, PO Box 3368</u>	Address: <u>Kenai PD, 130 Trading Bay Rd. #390</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Homer, AK 99603</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Kenai, AK 99611</u>
Name: <u>Nick Torres</u>	Name: <u>Liz Leduc</u>
Address: <u>Child Protection, 110 Trading Bay Rd. #110</u>	Address: <u>Dept. of Law, 1031 W. 4th Ave. #200</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Kenai, AK 99611</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>

13. *Optional:* If you deem it helpful to the Council, please list up to three other cases during your current term in which you believe your work was particularly noteworthy. Please list the names and current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these cases. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Case Number 1

Case Name: _____ Case Number: _____
v. _____

Attorneys Involved:

Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: _____ Case Number: _____
v. _____

Attorneys Involved:

Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: _____ Case Number: _____
v. _____

Attorneys Involved:

Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____