Alaska Judicial Council

Judicial Applicant Biographical Statement



Name: Erika S. Kahill

Position(s): Alaska Public Defender

Date: October 27, 2026

I entered a career of public service in 2000 as a Peace Corps volunteer in Burkina Faso. After completing my tour of duty, I attended law school in my home state, Maine, followed by moving to Alaska to take a job at the Public Defender Agency. When I started at the PDA in 2006, I found a community of inspiring lawyers doing important work and was mentored by incredible colleagues who cared deeply about the mission - providing quality defense services to indigent Alaskans.

I have remained with the Public Defender Agency for almost 20 years and have held numerous positions, including 6+ years in the criminal division and 13+ years in civil, now as a supervisor.

I am a dedicated mother, spouse, and outdoors person. I feel lucky to be able to do meaningful work that strengthens our community and to have planted roots in such an amazing place.