

# Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

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

Anchorage Superior Court

Date: 2/9/18

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

### Personal

1. (a) State full name\* Una Sonia Gandbhir  
Name as it should appear on bar survey: Una Sonia Gandbhir  
\* 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.

2. How long have you been a resident of the State of Alaska immediately preceding the date of this application? \*\*
- |       |                 |                 |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
|       | <u>24</u> years | <u>8</u> months |
| Total | <u>24</u> years | <u>8</u> months |
3. How long have you been engaged in the active practice of law immediately preceding the date of this application? \*\*
- |       |                 |                 |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
|       | <u>23</u> years | <u>8</u> months |
| Total | <u>23</u> years | <u>8</u> 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.

Bryn Mawr College September 1984-May 1988, BA cum laude

\*\* 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.

Northeastern University School of Law September 1990 - May 1993 J.D.

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.

• Consortium on Race and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts (St. Louis, MO) 5/17; National Judicial Council "Fundamentals of Evidence" web-based course 4/24-6/9/17; Magistrate Judge Conference 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017; Historian's Luncheon: Ethics and Injustice 11/29/16; Diversity: Stories Affecting Our Lives (Speaker) 11/22/16; A Conversation With U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor 8/17/16; Nat'l Judicial College Domestic Violence 7/21-24/13; Probate Mediation and Litigation 2/1/13

**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.

I have not held non-legal employment since law school.

I worked at a movie theater in high school and at a toy store through college. Between college and law school, I worked various temporary entry-level jobs through an employment agency.

## 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:** State of Alaska, Anchorage Superior Court

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Hon. William Morse

Current address of this person: 825 West 4th Ave

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501

Dates and location of Employment: From June 2013 To present City Anchorage State AK

Description:

Magistrate Judge 24: caseload includes probate, mental health commitments, domestic violence, dissolutions, traffic, some criminal issues

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

Employer: Self

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Self

Current address of this person: \_\_\_\_\_

City Anchorage State AK Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and Location of Employment: From March 1998 To June 2013 City Anchorage State AK

Description: Private practice focusing on estate planning and probate with emphasis on elder and disability issues

Reason for Leaving: Took employment as a magistrate judge with Anchorage court

Employer: Law Office of Richard S. Thwaites, Jr.

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Richard S. Thwaites, Jr.

Current address of this person: \_\_\_\_\_

City Anchorage State AK Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Dates and Location of Employment: From June 1993 To March 1998 City Anchorage State AK

Description: Private practice focusing on estate planning and probate with emphasis on elder and disability issues

Reason for Leaving: Closure of law practice by owner

**Previous Employers (continued)**

Employer: Alaska Legal Services Corporation  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Greg Peters (retired)  
Current address of this person: 1016 West 6th Ave, Suite 200  
City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501  
Dates and Location of Employment: From Feb 1993 To May 1993 City Anchorage State AK  
Description: Legal intern assisting with public benefits, housing and other issues for indigent clients  
Reason for Leaving: Graduate law school

Employer: Alston, Hunt, Floyd and Ing  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Paul Alston  
Current address of this person: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Honolulu State HI Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From Sept 1992 To Dec 1992 City Honolulu State HI  
Description: Legal intern doing research and writing for law firm representing a variety of individual and corporate clients  
Reason for Leaving: Return to law school

Employer: Shilepsky, Messing & Rudavsky  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Dahlia Rudavksky  
Current address of this person: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Boston State MA Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From March 1991 To May 1991 City Boston State MA  
Description: Legal intern for small firm focusing on employment law  
Reason for Leaving: Return to law school

Employer: Center For Law & Education  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Kathleen Bundy  
Current address of this person: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Boston State MA Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From Sept 1991 To Dec 1991 City Boston State MA  
Description: Legal intern for national support center assisting Legal Services Corp with education issues such as access, discrimination and fair hearings  
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 100  
Criminal \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  
= 100%

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

(b) Percent: State 100  
Federal \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_  
= 100%

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

(c) Of practice in state courts, percent: Supreme Court \_\_\_\_\_  
Court of Appeals \_\_\_\_\_  
Superior Court 100  
District Court \_\_\_\_\_  
= 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: see below

(f) Percent of these trials which were: Jury \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Jury 100  
Comment: probate, estate and guardianship matters

(g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 0  
Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Social Security and Medicaid administrative hearings

(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.).

I have done extensive pro bono work both privately and through Alaska Legal Services, including preparation of documents such as irrevocable income trusts for indigent Medicaid recipients, Wills, powers of attorney, and advance health care directives. I have represented pro bono clients in guardianship and financial abuse cases. I have also worked with the Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska providing pro bono work to their clients.

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.

Alaska State Court June 1994  
 United States District Court June 1994

**Public Service**

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

Alaska Bar Association - Elder Law Section (member and chairperson), Probate and Estate Planning Section (member); National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys; Alaska State Association for Guardianship And Advocacy; currently on Elder Task Force and Fairness, Diversity and Equality Committee

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).

(Empty box for legal publications)

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)
Alaska Superior Court	12/16	N	N
Alaska Superior Court	8/17	N	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.

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 was a member of the Zonta Club of Anchorage for several years. Zonta is a global service organization of executives in business and the professions working together to advance the status of women. I served as President as well as working within the organization in other capacities to further education, literacy and other issues affecting women both locally and globally.

I was a founding member of ASAGA, the Alaska State Association for Guardianship and Advocacy. I served as President and helped obtain a grant to fund the production of the first educational video on guardianship, which is now required viewing for court-appointed guardians.

I have volunteered for the Color of Justice MentorJet program and am doing so again this year.

I have volunteered for my child's school both in class and on field trips.

I currently serve by appointment on both the Elder Task Force and the Fairness, Diversity and Equality Committee.

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).

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: Cynthia Strout  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Trudi Kunishima  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: Honolulu, HI Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- (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: Superior Court Judge Greg Miller  
Address: 825 West 4th Avenue  
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Superior Court Judge Frank Pfiffner  
Address: 825 West 4th Avenue  
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Superior Court Judge Sen Tan (retired)  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Una S. Gandbhir**  
11959 Wilderness Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99516  
(907) 350-1965  
philunaak@gmail.com

RECEIVED

MAY 31 2018

ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL

May 31, 2018

**VIA E-MAIL**

Susanne DiPietro, Executive Director  
Alaska Judicial Council  
510 L Street, Suite 450  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Re: Supplemental information for application

Dear Ms. DiPietro:

I am writing to submit some additional information for the Council. Last week I covered two misdemeanor jury trials in Unalaska for Judge Walker with consent to a trial by magistrate from all involved counsel. I would like to provide the names of the attorneys who appeared before me in case the Council wanted their feedback regarding my performance on the bench.

The two cases and respective attorneys were:

**3UN-17-61CR, State of Alaska v. Michael Wayne Purvis**  
J. Christopher Darnall, Assistant D.A.:  
Jaffer Khimani, Assistant Public Advocate:

**3UN-16-30CR, State of Alaska v. Austin Klein Davidson**  
J. Christopher Darnall, Assistant D.A.:  
Benjamin Muse, Assistant Public Defender:

I understand interviews are right around the corner and schedules are tight; however, I felt the Council members might be interested in having this new information prior to my interview on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know if you need anything further.

Sincerely,



Una S. Gandbhir

**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 re: Protective Proceedings **Case Number:** 3AN-12-2696PR  
**v.** for S.B. **Judge Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Elizabeth Russo</u>	Name: <u>Jennifer Hohnstein</u>
Address: <u>900 West 5th Ave Ste 525</u>	Address: <u>900 West 5th Ave Ste 525</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 2**

**Case Name:** In Re: Protective Proceedings **Case Number:** 3AN-17-235PR  
**v.** for S.G. **Judge Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Rachel Van Strayhorn, AAG</u>	Name: <u>Beth Goldstein</u>
Address: <u>1031 West 4th Ave, Suite 200</u>	Address: <u>900 West 5th Avenue, Ste 525</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
Name: <u>Jennifer Hohnstein</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>900 West 5th Ave Ste 525</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** In re: Commitment of R.B. **Case Number:** 3AN-17-1977PR  
**v.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Judge Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Steven Bookman</u>	Name: <u>Marie Scheperle</u>
Address: <u>1031 West 4th Ave, Suite 200</u>	Address: <u>900 West 5th Ave, Suite 200</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: _____

**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:** In re: Protective Proceedings **Case Number:** 3AN-16-750PR  
**v. for O.G.** **Judge Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Tonja Woelber</u>	Name: <u>Leonard Anderson</u>
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 2**

**Case Name:** In re: Protective Proceedings **Case Number:** 3AN-14-2165PR  
**v. for D.G.** **Judge Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Eric Land</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>900 West 5th Ave Ste 525</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** In Re: K.A. (adoption) **Case Number:** 3AN-14-320PR  
**v. (confidential)** **Judge Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Lisa Nelson</u>	Name: <u>Carmen Spiropoulos</u>
Address: <u>745 West 4th Ave, Ste 200</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Palmer, AK</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.

Having served as a magistrate judge in Anchorage for over four years, I have relevant knowledge and experience of Superior Court work. I've rapidly learned new areas of the law while handling a large, fast-paced, rigorous caseload. Every day, I preside over hearings involving a mixture of attorneys and self-represented litigants unfamiliar with the court system. In all cases, I strive to listen well, treat everyone fairly, and make sound, thoughtful decisions. I've also covered a variety of cases in Naknek, including some criminal proceedings. I appreciate being able to serve the public daily, and the challenges I've faced on the bench have been both humbling and deeply rewarding. I love what I do and believe I'm well-suited for Superior Court in both ability and temperament.

## Additional Comments (Continued)

Prior to my current position, my practice in probate, guardianship and elder/disability law issues allowed me to be involved with clients - primarily vulnerable members of our community - as people, not just as legal cases. Fifteen years of self-employment also taught me to balance work with the rest of life while having a positive impact in the lives of my clients.

Going from a sole practice to a large state employer, I feel equally at ease working independently and with staff and colleagues. I'm fortunate to have a close-knit family and a supportive circle of friends to keep me grounded and motivate me to aim higher every day. As the oldest child of immigrants, I understand firsthand many of the struggles of our diverse community. Above all, I'm strongly committed to improving justice and fairness for all people, starting right here in Alaska.

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 Una Sonia Gandbhir

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

Anchorage Superior Court

*Please leave this area blank*

Date: 9/25/17

I'm the oldest child of immigrant parents and was raised in an extended Indian family in suburban Boston. I graduated from Bryn Mawr College, where I studied English and Anthropology. After two years working freelance in Baltimore, I attended Northeastern University School of Law for its focus on public interest. My final internship with Alaska Legal Services in Anchorage led to a job with a private attorney. After that office closed, I opened my own practice focused on elder and disability law. For fifteen years, I represented some of our community's most vulnerable people. Working as a magistrate judge with the Anchorage court has allowed me to continue to serve the public in a meaningful way. I've been a proud Alaskan for nearly twenty-five years. In my spare time, I enjoy hiking, reading, traveling, and family time with my husband and teenage son exploring all this state has to offer.