

DEC 09 2016

ALASKA JUDICIAL COUNCIL

# Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

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

Anchorage Superior Court

Date: December 9, 2016

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

### Personal

1. (a) State full name\* Jennifer Stuart Henderson

Name as it should appear on bar survey: Jennifer Stuart Henderson

\* 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.

Jennifer Erin Stuart

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

13 years 4 months  
Total 13 years 4 months

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

13 years 3 months  
Total 13 years 3 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.

Claremont McKenna College - B.A. in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics  
Dates of attendance: August 1994 - May 1998  
Honors: Graduated summa cum laude; Phi Beta Kappa; McKenna Achievement Award; 1998 Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Student-Athlete of the Year

\*\* 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.

Yale Law School  
Dates of attendance: September 1998 - May 2001  
Juris Doctor

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.

I served as Director of the Temporary Restraining Order Project, President of the Public Interest Initiative, Vice President of Student Funded Fellowships, editor of the Yale Journal of Law and Feminism, a member of Yale Law Women, and a Student Class Representative.

- (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.

During my time as a judge, I have attended courses/sessions through our annual Judicial Conferences, as well as the Alaska Bar Conferences. These sessions covered a wide variety of topics, including points of evidence, substantive civil and criminal issues, emerging family law and CINA issues, legal writing, ethics, and how to effectively address unrepresented litigants. Prior to becoming a judge, while in private practice, I attended numerous CLE courses related to ethics, substantive areas of tort law, identification of conflicts of interest, and trial practice.

## 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: N/A.

(b) Branch of service: N/A.

(c) Rank at time of discharge: N/A.

(d) Type of military discharge: N/A.

(e) Awards or citations:

N/A.

- (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.

N/A.

## 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.

My nonlegal working experience occurred prior to law school and involved volunteer work for the Domestic Violence Unit of the San Diego City Attorney's Office, as well as for a Children's Hospital in La Mesa, California. I also worked in a variety of retail and other sales-related positions during that time period, prior to attending law school.

## 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:** District Court Judge/Alaska Court System

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Presiding Judge William F. Morse

Current address of this person: Nesbett Courthouse, 825 W. 4th Avenue

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501

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

Description:

Presiding over all aspects of civil and criminal matters in the District Court. Participating in CRP Court and assisting with other specialty courts.

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

Employer: Farley & Graves, P.C.

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Laura L. Farley and Cheryl L. Graves

Current address of this person: 807 G Street, Ste. 250

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501

Dates and Location of Employment: From March 2007 To Dec. 2012 City Anchorage State AK

Description: Handled and defended a variety of civil cases, including personal injury, wrongful death, maritime, employment, and administrative claims.

Reason for Leaving: Appointed to current position on the District Court.

Employer: Anchorage District Attorney's Office

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Leonard Linton

Current address of this person: Criminal Division Central Office, 310 K Street, Ste. 403

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501

Dates and Location of Employment: From Oct. 2003 To March 2007 City Anchorage State AK

Description: Prepared, researched, negotiated, and tried cases in the misdemeanor, drug, and violent crimes units. Supervised misdemeanor unit.

Reason for Leaving: Interest in diversifying my legal experience.

**Previous Employers (continued)**

Employer: The Honorable Kim McLane Wardlaw, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: The Honorable Kim McLane Wardlaw  
Current address of this person: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Pasadena State CA Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From Aug. 2002 To Aug. 2003 City Pasadena State CA  
Description: Researched and wrote memoranda for cases involving wide array of federal issues. Drafted dispositions. Assisted with oral argument.  
Reason for Leaving: This was a one-year clerkship position.

Employer: Justice Warren Matthews, Supreme Court for the State of Alaska  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Justice Warren Matthews  
Current address of this person: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Anchorage State AK Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From Sept. 2001 To Aug. 2002 City Anchorage State AK  
Description: Researched and wrote bench memoranda for cases involving a variety of state civil law questions.  
Reason for Leaving: This was a one-year clerkship position.

Employer: Heller, Ehrman, White, & McAuliffe  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: This firm has disbanded.  
Current address of this person: Former address of Seattle office - 701 Fifth Avenue  
City Seattle State WA Zip 98104  
Dates and Location of Employment: From June 2000 To Aug. 2000 City Seattle State WA  
Description: Researched and prepared memoranda on issues of property, intellectual property, contracts, family, and environmental law.  
Reason for Leaving: This was a summer position prior to my third year of law school.

Employer: Children's Law Center of Massachusetts  
Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Jay McManus  
Current address of this person: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Lynn State MA Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates and Location of Employment: From June 1999 To Aug. 1999 City Lynn State MA  
Description: Conducted research and assisted with investigation and intake as related to juvenile civil, criminal, and administrative matters.  
Reason for Leaving: This was a summer position prior to my second year of 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 40  
 Criminal 55  
 Other 5  
 = 100%

Comment: The "other" practice involved administrative cases/appeals.

(b) Percent: State 95  
 Federal 5  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 = 100%

Comment: I preside over both state and municipal cases in state court.

(c) Of practice in state courts, percent: Supreme Court 3  
 Court of Appeals 2  
 Superior Court 35  
 District Court 60  
 = 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 60      Non-Jury 40

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

(g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 10

Comment: These involved both state and federal court appeals.

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

Briefly describe type of matters heard:

Administrative hearings/appeals involving IDEA, HRC, and ERC claims.

(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 currently serve as one of the judges presiding over CRP (Coordinated Resources Project) court, perhaps better known as Mental Health Court. I also fill in as needed for other specialty courts, including Operating Without a License Court and PTR Dispositions. I helped to develop the District Court's mediation program for the damages portion of forcible entry and detainer cases, and continue to supervise certain aspects of that program. I also helped to facilitate Alaska Legal Services' placement of trained volunteer attorneys at the courthouse to assist unrepresented litigants during forcible entry and detainer possession hearings. I participate as a member of the Judicial Conference Planning Committee, which plans the CLE courses and/or presentations that will be put on for each Judicial Conference. I volunteer annually as a judge for the Alaska High School Mock Trial competition. I recently served as a panelist in the "Anchorage District Court: Off the Record" CLE, and will serve as a panelist for a CLE on civil litigation put on in May 2017 by the National Business Institute.

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.

State of Alaska - 2004; State of California - 2002; Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals - 2002; United States District Court for the District of Alaska - 2010

**Public Service**

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

Alaska Bar Association  
 Alaska Bar Examiners' Committee  
 California 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).

N/A.

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	9/14/11	N	N
Anchorage District Court	5/18/12	Y	Y

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.

N/A.

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.

Until recently, I have been heavily involved in the development and operation of the nonprofit organization, Girls on the Run Serving Southcentral Alaska. Girls on the Run is a mentoring program that uses running as a vehicle to build strength and self-confidence in elementary school-aged girls. As Co-Founder of this local chapter of Girls on the Run, I was involved in all aspects of bringing the program to our community. I also coached for the program, working with small groups of third- through fifth-grade girls in local elementary schools, using a curriculum that focused upon helping girls to learn about and appreciate themselves, to build healthy relationships with peers, and to participate productively in their community. I served for some time as director of the Girls on the Run 5k, held every spring and fall. I have recently put my work with Girls on the Run on hold, after having my second child, but I hope to resume this work soon.

I am active in my children's schools/daycares, and am also a member of the Anchorage Running Club and U.S.A. Triathlon.

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.

I was involved in a minor car accident on December 6, 2009, during which I accidentally slid on ice into the back of another vehicle. I was issued a ticket on that date, with a fine of \$60 and a \$10 surcharge, and I paid the ticket without appearing in court.

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.

N/A.

- (b) Have you ever been sued by a client?  Yes  No  
If so, give particulars, including case numbers.

N/A.

- (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).

I was one of many defendants in a case brought by Andrew Walker in United States Bankruptcy Court in the Eastern District of Missouri. The case name was Andrew Walker v. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company et al., Case No. 12-47852-399. Mr. Walker had previously been a plaintiff suing his landlords in Superior Court here in Anchorage, under various theories based on their failure to renew a lease agreement. While at Farley & Graves, P.C., I was one of the attorneys that defended Mr. Walker's landlords, and that case was dismissed on summary judgment. Shortly after that dismissal, and after I was appointed to the District Court, Mr. Walker filed the above-mentioned suit in the Bankruptcy Court. That bankruptcy matter was dismissed shortly after I was notified about it.

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.

N/A.

- (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.

N/A.

## 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: Sarah Josephson

Address: Jermain, Dunnagan, & Owens, P.C.; 3000 A Street, Ste. 300

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Sara Peterson

Address: Bristol Bay Native Corporation; 111 W. 16th Avenue, Ste. 400

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

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: Judge Catherine M. Easter

Address: Nesbett Courthouse; 825 W. 4th Avenue

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Judge Stephanie Rhoades

Address: Boney Courthouse; 303 K Street

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Judge J. Patrick Hanley

Address: Boney Courthouse; 303 K Street

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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:** Wesley Nakamoto

**Case Number:** 3AN-16-05460 CI

**v.** Margaret Peterson

**Judge Name:** Jennifer Stuart Henderson

#### Attorneys Involved:

Name: Brian Riekkola, Jones Law Group

Name: Defendant self-represented.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

### Case Number 2

**Case Name:** Municipality of Anchorage

**Case Number:** 3AN-16-03510 CR

**v.** Alexie Lewis Nose

**Judge Name:** Jennifer Stuart Henderson

#### Attorneys Involved:

Name: Michael Schaffer, MOA

Name: Matthew A. Michalski

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

### Case Number 3

**Case Name:** Justin E. Watts

**Case Number:** 3AN-13-08729 CI

**v.** Mark J. Hall

**Judge Name:** Jennifer Stuart Henderson

#### Attorneys Involved:

Name: Robert Jurasek

Name: Wayne Watson

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 310 K Street, Ste. 306

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

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:** Municipality of Anchorage

**Case Number:** 3AN-15-05567 CR

**v.** Mark Besgrove

**Judge Name:** Jennifer Stuart Henderson

#### Attorneys Involved:

Name: Erin McCrum, MOA

Name: Michael Logue, DLG

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

### Case Number 2

**Case Name:** State of Alaska

**Case Number:** 3AN-14-02815 CR (sent./PTR)

**v.** Keagen E. Carlton

**Judge Name:** Jennifer Stuart Henderson

#### Attorneys Involved:

Name: Rebecca Lipson, DAO (for sent.)

Name: DAO Intern Tinajero (for PTR)

Address: 310 K Street

Address: 310 K Street

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

Name: Natasha Norris (for sent.)

Name: Ron Offret (for PTR)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK

### Case Number 3

**Case Name:** Quantum Management Services

**Case Number:** 3AN-16-05370CI

**v.** Daniel Diamond et al.

**Judge Name:** Jennifer Stuart Henderson

#### Attorneys Involved:

Name: Brian Riekkola, Jones Law Group

Name: Daniel C. Coons

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 1016 W. 6th Avenue, Ste. 200

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

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.

I have not been sanctioned; however, prior to becoming a judge, during 2012, I represented a client who was sanctioned \$200.00 in relation to responses to requests for admission that were set forth in good faith, but deemed insufficient by the Court.

### 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 have had the privilege of serving as a District Court Judge for almost four years, following several years of practice in both civil and criminal law. As a District Court Judge, I have presided over all aspects of countless criminal, civil, and small claims matters. Part of my job as a judge is to continuously and efficiently educate myself about the law and to fairly apply the law to the facts before me. That ongoing process of learning, analyzing, and applying the law to a variety of cases has prepared me well for meeting the demands of the Superior Court.

Perhaps more importantly, though, I believe my time on the District Court has allowed me to develop an especially effective manner for approaching and addressing litigants, maintaining necessary control over my courtroom, and enhancing litigants' trust in and understanding of the court processes they are involved in. Throughout my time as a judge, I have focused on creating an environment in which the parties and lawyers understand and can rely upon the rules of the Court.

## Additional Comments (Continued)

Whether in the context of a trial, a bail hearing, a change of plea, a contentious eviction hearing, a small claims trial with self-represented litigants, or a hearing in CRP court, I always address litigants with respect. If parties are new to the process or new to me, I explain the rules and why they are important for me to be able to make a fair decision. I explain how and when everyone will be heard. I explain what information is important to my decision and why. When I reach a decision, I explain how I have come to the decision and what that decision means. Adhering to this general framework allows me to diffuse tension quickly and to effectively correct or control violations of court rules or protocol when they arise. While I certainly cannot expect that all parties coming before me agree with the ultimate decisions I make, it is important to me that parties understand both what is happening in court and how I reach the decisions that I do regarding their claims or defenses.

I bring to my current work, and would bring to the position of Superior Court Judge, a deep respect for the rule of law, an ability to efficiently learn, analyze, and apply the law to a variety of cases, and a true commitment to helping litigants in our courtrooms to understand and ultimately trust in the law as well.

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 Jennifer Stuart Henderson

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

Anchorage Superior Court

*Please leave this area blank*

Date: December 9, 2016

I grew up in San Diego, California, and attended Claremont McKenna College, where I received my Bachelor's degree in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics. I then attended Yale Law School, where I combined my legal studies with a deep commitment to public service.

Following law school, I moved to Alaska to clerk for Justice Warren Matthews. After leaving Alaska for one year to clerk for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, I returned and worked as an Assistant District Attorney at the Anchorage DA's Office. I then transitioned into civil practice at Farley & Graves, P.C., defending clients against a wide variety of civil claims.

Four years ago, I was appointed to the Anchorage District Court, and I have presided over numerous criminal and civil matters in that time.

I am married and have two children.