# Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

Position(s) for which you wish to be considered: Sitka, Juneau, and Bethel Superior Court

Date: September 25, 2023

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

#### Personal

1. (a) State full name\* William Thomas Montgomery

Name as it should appear on bar survey: William T. Montgomery \* 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 names or pseudonyms? If so, please identify. No
- How long have you been a resident of the State of Alaska immediately preceding the date of this application?\*\*
   12 years
   6 months
   Total
   12 years
   6 months
- How long have you been engaged in the active practice of law immediately preceding the date of this application?\*\* <u>11</u> years <u>4</u> months
   Total <u>11</u> years <u>4</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.

University of St. Thomas, B.A. in Criminal Justice, 2003-2007.

Athough I did not receive any academic honors, I was a member of the nationally ranked baseball team. From 2003-2007 we won both the MIAC regular season and conference tournament. In 2005 and 2006 I was named Teammate of the Year. In 2007 I was named Pitcher of the Year, MIAC All-Tournament Team, and NCAA All-Region.

\*\* 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.

William Mitchell College of Law, J.D. 2007-2010

6. (a) Did you receive any honors in law school or belong to any honorary societies or groups?
 X Yes No If yes, please give details.

Recognized for achivement in volunteer public service by the Minnesota Justice Foundation.

(b) Have you taken any CLE (continuing legal education) courses during the past five years?

Please describe or list. Please do not attach individual certificates of attendance.

**Yes** No

I have attended the annual Judicial Conference, the Newer Judges' Conference (during my first three years on the bench), a two week general jurisdiction judicial training at the National Judicial College, a three day CINA CIP conference on reasonable efforts, and a number of specialized conferences focused on a variety of topics such as judicial ethics, CINA, and evidence. Prior to taking the bench I also attended a one week drug court conference as a member of the Bethel

Therapeutic Court.

#### Military

7.	Have you served	l in the armed	forces (reserves	or otherwise)?
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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.

During high school and college, I coached youths at baseball camps put on my by my high school and college teams. While in law school I also coached youths in baseball and softball at Blue Chip Baseball & Softball academy in Burnsville, MN.

Also while in high school and college, I worked as a landscaper. A typical job cite required removing/clearing/cleaning a portion of a homeowner's yard, filling in the cleared area with appropriate soils, planting a new garden, and finishing off the garden with decorative touches.

During the Minnesota State Fair, I worked as an Iceman for Gopher State Ice. My job duties included setting up ice chests for the various vendors, delivering ice to the vendors via a pull cart, and picking up the ice chests at the conclusion of the fair.

### 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: Alaska Court System

Supervisor of	r name of contact perso	n who can verify empl	oyment: Candice Dunca	an	
	ess of this person: 10				
City Fairban		StateAK	Zip_99701		
Dates and lo	cation of Employmen	t: From Aug 2018	To Present	City_Bethel	State_AK
Job title and	description:				
				over all criminal and stic relations matters	civil matters in in the Superior Court.
Previous	Employers: (In	chronological or	der, most recent fir	st)	
Employer:	office of Public Advo	ocacy			
		n who can verify empl	ovment: Rick Allen		
		5 E Dahlia Ave., Suite			
City Palmer		State AK	Zip 99645		
	ocation of Employme			City Bethel	State_AK
Job title and description:	Assistant Public matters at both t	Advocate. I repre he trial court and	esented clients in c appellate levels.	riminal, CINA, juve	nile, and probate
Reason for L	eaving: Appointed to	the Bethel District Co	ourt.		
Employer: A	laska Court System				
Supervisor of	or name of contact per	son who can verify er	nployment: Judge Mich	ael MacDonald	
-	ress of this person: 1	-	1 °		·
City Fairban		State AK	Zip 99701		
Dates and Lo	ocation of Employmen	t: From July 2012	To Feb 2013	City Fairbanks	State AK
Job title and description:	Law Clerk for Ju memorandums;	dge Michael Mad and prepared jur	Donald. Conduct y instructions.	ed legal research;	drafted bench
Reason for L	eaving: Hired by the	e Office of Public A	dvocacy as an Assis	stant Public Advocate	e in Bethel.

## Previous Employers (continued)

	System			
Supervisor or name of co	ontact person who can verify e	employment: Natalie Ale	xie	
Current address of this				
City Bethel	State AK	Zip_99559		
Dates and Location of Er	nployment: From April 2011	To_July 2012	City_Bethel	State_AK
description: memorar	< for Judge Marvin Ham ndums; and prepared jui	ry instructions. (con	tinued)	ted bench
Reason for Leaving: <u>Jud</u>	ge MacDonald hired me to be	e his law clerk in Fairbar	nks.	
Employer: Nichols Kaste				
	ontact person who can verify e		Fisher, Managing Partner	
Current address of this p	erson: 4700 IDS Center 80 S	outh Eighth Street		
City Minneapolis	State MN	Zip 55402		
Dates and Location of Er	mployment: From Aug. 2010	To March 2011	City Minneapolis	State MN
Job title and Documen description: provider,	t review for 30,000+ clas motion work, and legal re	s-action lawsuit aga esearch.	inst a major telecomm	nunications
Reason for Leaving: In	noved to Alaska to clerk for Ju	udge Hamilton.		
Employer: Legal Rights	Center			
Supervisor or name of co	ontact person who can verify	employment: Trudell Gu	Jerue	
Current address of this p	erson: 1062 Hall Ave.			
City West St. Paul	State MN	Zip_55118		
Dates and Location of Er	mployment: From Aug 2008	To Aug 2010	City Minneapolis	State MN
Job title and description:	Certified Attorney. Rep	presented indigent	defendants in crimi	nal proceedings.
description:	Certified Attorney. Rep ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP.	presented indigent	defendants in crimi	nal proceedings.
description:		presented indigent	defendants in crimi	nal proceedings.
Reason for Leaving: Hird			defendants in crimi	nal proceedings.
Reason for Leaving: Hird	ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP.		defendants in crimi	nal proceedings.
Reason for Leaving: <u>Hird</u> Employer: <u>Supervisor or name of co</u>	ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP.		defendants in crimi	nal proceedings.
Reason for Leaving: Hird Employer: Supervisor or name of co Current address of this p City	ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP. ontact person who can verify e	employment:Zip		
Reason for Leaving: Hird Employer: Supervisor or name of co Current address of this p City	ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP. ontact person who can verify e erson:State	employment:Zip		
description:         Reason for Leaving: Hird         Employer:         Supervisor or name of co         Current address of this p         City         Dates and Location of Er         Job title and         description:	ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP. ontact person who can verify e erson:State	employment: Zip To	City	
description:         Reason for Leaving:         Him         Employer:         Supervisor or name of co         Current address of this p         City         Dates and Location of En         Job title and         description:         Reason for Leaving:         Employer:	ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP.	employment: Zip To	City	State
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description:         Reason for Leaving:         Him         Employer:         Supervisor or name of co         Current address of this p         City         Dates and Location of En         Job title and         description:         Reason for Leaving:         Employer:         Supervisor or name of co         Current address of this p	ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP.	employment: Zip To employment:	City	State
description:	ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP.  ontact person who can verify e erson: State mployment: From ontact person who can verify person: State State	employment: Zip To employment: Zip	City	State
description:	ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP.	employment: Zip To employment: Zip	City	State
description:	ed by Nichols Kaster, PLLP.  ontact person who can verify e erson: State mployment: From ontact person who can verify person: State State	employment: Zip To employment: Zip	City	State

#### WILLIAM MONTGOMERY

#### PREVIOUS EMPLOYERS

#### Alaska Court System, Law Clerk for Judge Marvin Hamilton III

Judge Hamilton unexpectedly passed away while I was clerking for him. His bench remained vacant for over a year and during that time I clerked for several judges that were handling his case load. The judges I clerked for included: Judge Douglas Blankenship, Judge Jane Kauvar, Judge Ray Funk, Judge Natalie Finn, Judge Harold Brown, Judge Ethan Windahl, and Judge Dale Curda.

During my time as a law clerk in Bethel I received the Alaska Court System's Customer Service Award, first quarter 2012.

(a)	Percent of your practice that was:	Civil Criminal Other	$\frac{33}{67}$ = 100%		
	Comment: As an attorney my case lo	oad was a 50/50	= 100% O split between civil and criminal.		
(b)	Percent:	State Federal Other	$\frac{99}{1}$ = 100%		
	Comment: Federal experience while	working at Nich			
(c)	Of practice in state courts, percent:	Supreme Cou Court of App Superior Cou District Cour	peals <u>1</u> urt <u>49</u>		
	Comment: As an attorney my case loa	d was 75/25 Su	perior Court vs. District Court		
(d)	Frequency of appearance in court (s Regularly Occasiona Comment:	lly 🗌 Inf			
(e)	Number of trials (by court or jury) you conducted (select one): None 1-5 6-15 16-30 31 or more Comment: As an attorney I conducted more than 31 trials. As a judge I have presided over 35 jury trials.				
(f)	Percent of these trials which were: Jury <u>60</u> Non-Jury <u>40</u> Comment:				
(g)	Approximate number of appellate m Comment:				
(h)	Approximate number of arbitrations None 1-5 X6-1 Briefly describe type of matters hear	5 🗌 16	tive hearings (select one): -30 31 or more		
	Parole board hearings as an As	sistant Public	Advocate.		
(i)		o legal service	you have done and indicate whether the e provider (e.g. Alaska Legal Services, l Assault, etc.).		
	Not applicable due to my previo current role as a District Court J		n Assistant Public Advocate and		

10. During your legal career, please indicate (approximately) the following:

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, June 2012 U.S. District Court - District of Alaska, October 2012

#### Public Service

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

Alaska Bar Association. Jury Improvement Committee, Chair. Judicial Advisory Committe - eFile (JACE), Co-Chair. Judicial Conference Planning Committee. Alaska Criminal Justice Data Analysis Commission, District Court Judge Representative. Magistrate Training Judge

List publications, if any (give title, subject and date of publications). Please include online publications such as blogs or websites, and any publications you have co-authored and the name(s) of the co-author(s).

n/a

14. Have you ever applied for a judgeship? X 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)
Bethel Superior Court	2/2/2018	Ν	Ν
Bethel District Court	2/2/2018	Y	Y
Fairbanks Superior Court	12/30/2021	Y	Ν
Kenai Superior Court	10/14/2022	Y	Ν

## WILLIAM MONTGOMERY

## CONTINUATION OF PAGE 7

## PUBLIC SERVICE

# Continued List of Pervious Judicial Applications

Judgeship	Date	Nominated By Council (Y/N)	Appointed By Governor (Y/N)
Fairbanks Superior Court	2/2/2023	Y	N

15. Have you ever held public or political office, elective or appointive? XYes If so, state office, manner selected, and when and where held.

Bethel District Court, 2018 - present. \*Retained 2020

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.

No

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church - member

I coached youth baseball/softball in Bethel. However, the league fell apart due to lack of participation.

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?
- (b) failed to answer any summons or other legal process served upon you personally at any time? Yes
- (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.

Around Christmas of December 2005 or 2006 I drove home to my parents' house following baseball practice. I was pulled over for turning right at an intersection that had a "no turn on red" sign. I was unable to produce my driver's license for the officer because I left my wallet in my baseball locker on campus. I was also unable to produce proof of insurance because I drove my parents' car and was unable to find where they kept the insurance card. I was, however, able to produce the vehicle's registration. At the end of the day, I was cited for failure to provide a valid driver's license, proof of insurance, and a moving infraction for turning right on red. The citations for failure to provide a valid driver's license and proof of insurance were dismissed when I showed up to the courthouse the following day with both items in hand. I paid a fine for the moving violation, which was approximately \$75.

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).

Winter Montgomery v. United Services Automobile Association (USAA), 4BE-22-00435CI. This lawsuit involved an unpaid insurance claim due to severe water damage in December of 2019. The matter settled for full damages before the first hearing was held. (d) Has a court ever found you to have provided ineffective assistance of counsel?

_		If so, provide the particulars including petitioner and case number.
9.	State	the nature and disposition of any of the following actions which apply to you:
		<ul> <li>(a) Are there any unsatisfied judgments against you? ☐Yes ∑No</li> <li>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</li> <li>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 or which such claim was based.</li> <li>Has property owned by you been either judicially or non-judicially foreclosed? ☐Yes ∑No</li> <li>Please state the circumstances and outcome of any such unsatisfied or default judgment, or of any foreclosure.</li> </ul>
	(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\***

\* <u>Please Note</u>: 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 <u>two persons</u> whom the Judicial Council may contact who can discuss your <u>general character and background</u>.

Name: Judge Nathaniel Peters		
Address: PO Box 130		
City/State/Zip: Bethel, AK 99559	Phone: (907) 543-1105	
Name: Judge Daniel Doty		
Address: 415 Main Street, Rm 400		
City/State/Zip: Ketchikan, AK 99901	Phone: (907) 225-3141	

(b) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes**, and **phone numbers** of <u>three other persons</u> whom the Judicial Council may contact who can discuss your <u>professional competence and</u> <u>qualifications</u> for a judicial position.

Name: Lori Bodwell		
Address: PO Box 633		
City/State/Zip: Clemmons, NC 27012	Phone: (907) 378-1007	
Name: Bailey Woolfstead Address: PO Box 110300		
City/State/Zip: Juneau, AK 99811-0300	Phone: (907) 465-3924	
Name: Justice Jude Pate Address: PO Box 114100		

City/State/Zip: Juneau, AK 99811-4100 Phone: (907) 463-4770

#### **References and Counsel Questionnaires (continued)**

(c) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes**, and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in your three most recent cases that have gone to trial. Please do not list cases with any pending issues in the trial or appellate 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. If you have no cases that have gone to trial within the past three years, you may include cases that went to trial before that date, or may provide up to six cases in response to the next subsection, 20(d). Please include the judge's name and case names and numbers. (*Attach additional pages if necessary.*)

Case Name:	State of Alaska	Case Number:	4BE-22-00132CR
ν.	Carl Pavilla	Judge Name:	William T. Montgomery
		Attorneys Involved:	
Name:	Jackson Willard (907) 543-2055		Richard Rodriguez (907) 334-4466
Address:	PO Box 170	Address:	900 W 5th Ave., Suite 200
City, State, Zip:	Bethel, AK 99559	City, State, Zip:	Anchorage, AK 99501
Name:		Name:	Abigail Cazel (907) 543-2488
Address		Address:	PO Box 10
City, State, Zip:			Bethel, AK 99559
		Case Number 2	
Case Name:	State of Alaska		4BE-21-00039CR
ν.	Justin Guy		William T. Montgomery
		Attorneys Involved:	
Name:	Jackson Willard (907) 543-2055	Name:	Abigail Cazel (907) 543-2488
Address:	PO Box 170	Address:	PO Box 10
City, State, Zip:	Bethel, AK 99559	City, State, Zip:	Bethel, AK 99559
Name:		Name:	
Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
		Case Number 3	
Case Name:	State of Alask	Case Number:	4SM-21-00033CR
v.	John Wilde	Judge Name:	William T. Montgomery
		Attorneys Involved:	
Name	Jason Conrad (907) 543-2055	Name:	Courtney McKeen (850) 209-1084
Address	PO Box 170	Address:	125 S Clark Street
City, State, Zip:	Bethel, AK 99559		Chicago, IL 60603
Name		Name:	Dan Mizinov (907) 543-2488
Address:		Address:	PO Box 10
City, State, Zip:		City, State, Zip:	Bethel, AK 99559

#### **Case Number 1**

### **References and Counsel Questionnaires (continued)**

(d) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes**, and suite numbers where applicable, 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 with any pending issues in the trial or appellate 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*.)

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		Case Number 1	
Case Name:	State of Alaska	Case Number:	4BE-19-01137CR
ν.	Mateo Gonzalo	Judge Name:	William T. Montgomery
		Attorneys Involved:	
Name	Timothy J. Davenport (907) 283-3131		Leigh Ann Bauer (907) 770-7007
Address	120 Trading Bay Road, Suite 200	Address:	821 N Street, Suite 202
City, State, Zip:	Kenai, AK 99611-6925	City, State, Zip:	Anchorage, AK 99501
Name:		Name:	
Address:		Address:	1
City, State, Zip:			
		Case Number 2	
Case Name:	State of Alaska	Case Number:	4BE-20-00670CR
<i>v</i> .	Archelaus Turrentine, Jr.	Judge Name:	William T. Montgomery
		Attorneys Involved:	
Name:	Izaak Bruce (830) 703-2025	Name:	Nathaniel Hainje (907) 543-2488
Address:	111 East Broadway, Room A306	Address:	PO Box 10
City, State, Zip:	Del Rio, Texas 78840	City, State, Zip:	Bethel, AK 99559
Name:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Name:	
Address:		Address:	
City, State, Zip:		City, State, Zip:	
		Case Number 3	
Case Name:	State of Alask	Case Number:	4BE-20-00775CR
<i>v</i> .	Norman Echuck	Judge Name:	William T. Montgomery
		Attorneys Involved:	
Name:	Victoria Sarant (vsarant@rensco.com)*	Name:	Colleen Maney (907) 334-4400
Address	80 2nd Street	Address:	900 W 5th Ave., Suite 200
City, State, Zip:	Troy, NY 12180	City, State, Zip:	Anchorage, AK 99501
Name	Jackson Willard (907) 543-2055	Name:	<u></u>
Address:	PO Box 170		
City, State, Zip:	Bethel, AK 99559	City, State, Zip:	

#### WILLIAM MONTGOMERY

# REFERENCES AND COUNSEL QUESTIONNAIRES (CONTINUED)

## Case Number 3: SOA v. Norman Echuck, 4BE-20-00775CR

Ms. Sarant is no longer an attorney with the Bethel District Attorney's Office and no longer lives in Alaska. The only contact information provided for her on the Alaska Bar Association is her email address. That email address is associated with Rensselaer County in New York. The mailing address that I listed for Ms. Sarant is for the Rensselaer County District Attorney's Office. However, I do not know if she works for the Rensselaer County District Attorney's Office or a different government agency within Rensselaer County.

### Writing Sample

Attach one example of a brief, memorandum of law, or legal opinion or similar example of legal 21. 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, (d) samples from open cases including cases on appeal.

22. Has any **public** sanction been imposed against you in response to a c ge or grievance

brought against you as an attorney or a judge?

Have formal grievance procedures been brought against you?

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	Х	No
Yes	$\times$	No

Have you ever been fined or otherwise sanctioned by a judge? 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.

I currently handle a busy and varied case load because I sit as both a District Court Judge and a Superior Court Judge, pro tempore. As a District Court Judge, I preside over all criminal and civil matters in the District Court. As a Superior Court Judge, pro tempore, I handle all C felonies in the YK-Delta, most B felonies, and by appointment on A and Unclassified felonies. In addition, I sit as a Superior Court J lations matters. I am also in ch and jury returns at the end of eac

sit as a Superior Court Judge, pro tempore, on CINA, juvenile, probate, and domestic relations matters. I am also in charge of swearing-in the grand jury each month and taking the grand ju returns at the end of each day's session.
During my time on the bench I have presided over 37 jury trials. Of those jury trials, five were felony jury trials, four were in the village of Emmonak, and seven were done under the Court

coi	mplaint	, char
	Yes	No
	Yes	No

#### **Additional Comments (Continued)**

Prior to taking the bench I was an Assistant Public Advocate and ran the Bethel OPA Office. My caseload consisted of criminal (mostly Unclassified, A, and B felonies), CINA, juvenile, and probate matters. I also took on appellate work, arguing before both the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court.

I recognize that Bethel, Sitka, and to some extent Juneau are small and isolated communities. Having lived in Bethel for over 12 years, and being a judge in Bethel for over 5 years, I fully understand the challenges and logistics that come with living in a small and isolated community - both as a citizen and as a judge.

Given my personal and professional background, I believe I have all the tools necessary to hit the ground running.

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 (select one).

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 a photograph of yourself with your application.

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

# **Biographical Statement**

Name William T. Montgomery

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

Sitka, Juneau, and Bethel Superior Court

Please leave this area blank

Date: September 25, 2023

I was born and raised in the Twin Cities. I played baseball at the University of St. Thomas and went to law school at William Mitchell College of Law.

After law school I moved to Alaska to clerk for Judge Hamilton in Bethel and then clerked for Judge MacDonald in Fairbanks. I returned to Bethel as an attorney for the Office of Public Advocacy.

In 2018, I was appointed to the Bethel District Court where I also sit as a Superior Court Judge, pro tempore. I preside over all criminal and civil matters in the District Court, as well as criminal, CINA, probate, and domestic relations matters in the Superior Court. I am the training judge for all of the magistrates in the YK-Delta and a mentor judge for newly appointed judges.

My wife is a JAG in the Air Force and we have two children.