

Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

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

Date: July 20, 2022

I. Public Information (Questions 1-24)

Personal

1. (a) State full name* Christina Adeline Rankin
Name as it should appear on bar survey: Christina Rankin
* 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. Christina Adeline Herouart
2. How long have you been a resident of the State of Alaska immediately preceding the date of this application? **

	<u>19</u> years	<u>11</u> months
Total	<u>19</u> years	<u>11</u> months
3. How long have you been engaged in the active practice of law immediately preceding the date of this application? **

	<u>19</u> years	<u>11</u> months
Total	<u>19</u> years	<u>11</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 Rochester, Rochester, New York
 Bachelor of Arts in Political Science
 August 1995-May 1999
 Honors: Dean's List

** 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.

Syracuse University College of Law, Syracuse, New York
Juris Doctor
August 1999-May 2002

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.

Graduated cum laude
Syracuse Law Review - Executive Editor
Dean's List
Dean's Scholarship

- (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.

DRI Women in the Law Conference; DRI Trial Tactics Seminar; DRI Construction Law Conference; DRI Insurance Law Institute; Ethics CLEs; and Alaska Bar Committee Meetings

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.

Throughout college I worked part-time at the campus Multi-Media Center, which exposed me to (what was then) cutting edge computer technology to assist students and faculty with art, music, and other projects. During high school and college, I also held a number of part-time jobs, mostly in the fast food and retail industries.

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: Guess & Rudd, P.C.

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: George Lyle

Current address of this person: 1029 West 3rd Avenue, Suite 400

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501

Dates and location of Employment: From 10/2003 To Present City Anchorage State AK

Job title and description:

Shareholder/President of Anchorage based law firm. Practice Areas: torts, insurance, construction, contracts, employment, and banking.

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

Employer: State of Alaska

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Hon. Dale Curda

Current address of this person: 1600 West 11th Avenue, #28

City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99501

Dates and Location of Employment: From 8/2002 To 8/2003 City Bethel State AK

Job title and description: **Researched and drafted memoranda and orders in connection with civil, criminal, and CINA cases. Assisted in all aspects of jury trials.**

Reason for Leaving: Clerkship ended

Employer: City of Syracuse Corporation Counsel - Externship

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Current Manager

Current address of this person: 333 East Washington Street, Room 300

City Syracuse State NY Zip 13202

Dates and Location of Employment: From 8/2001 To 5/2002 City Syracuse State NY

Job title and description: **Assisted city attorneys by researching case law and statutory law for litigation and drafting of city ordinances.**

Reason for Leaving: Externship ended

Previous Employers (continued)

Employer: Law Offices of Thomas C. Kingsley, Esq.

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Thomas C. Kingsley, Esq.

Current address of this person: 401 North Salina Street, Suite 301

City Syracuse State NY Zip 13203

Dates and Location of Employment: From 5/2001 To 8/2001 City Syracuse State NY

Job title and description:

<u>Assisted in all aspects of general civil litigation practice, including domestic relations, product liability, and personal injury.</u>
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Reason for Leaving: Returned to Law School

Employer: New York State Division of Human Rights Office of Sexual Harassment Issues

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Current Manager

Current address of this person: 333 East Washington Street, Room 401

City Syracuse State NY Zip 13203

Dates and Location of Employment: From 5/2000 To 8/2000 City Syracuse State NY

Job title and description:

<u>Assisted on discrimination and harassment cases, including interviewing witnesses, drafting reports, and conducting fact-finding conferences.</u>
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Reason for Leaving: Returned 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 _____

Job title and description:

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Reason for Leaving: _____

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 _____

Job title and description:

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Reason for Leaving: _____

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 _____

Job title and description:

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Reason for Leaving: _____

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 Courts, 2003
 United States District Court, 2005
 New York State Court, 2004

Public Service

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

Anchorage Bar Association, Alaska Bar Association. Member of Torts/Personal Injury and Employment Law Committees.

13. 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).

I have co-authored a number of sections on substantive Alaska law for DRI Compendiums including UM/UIIM, Rescission, and Duty to Defend. I have also contributed to Guess & Rudd's website, including its Alaska Law Summary.

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)
Palmer Superior Court	10/18	Y	N
Anchorage Superior Court	10/19	Y	N
Anchorage Superior Court	7/21	Y	N
Anchorage Superior Court	12/21	Y	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 am past Chair of the Board for AK Child & Family, a large nonprofit organization that provides crucial services to Alaskan youth and their families. I have been a member of the Board for over 10 years.

I have been a frequent speaker and supporter of the March of Dimes and Providence NICU Parent Advisory Committee.

I was a frequent volunteer at Aquarian Charter School, including as member of its Principal Hiring Committee and Parent Teacher Organization.

I am a member and past President of a local chapter of PEO, a multi-national womens organization that raises funds to provide scholarships and low-interest loans for women to attend post-secondary education.

I have been an active member at multiple local churches, including as an Elder, a Trustee, and President of a women's organization.

While I was in college, I was Vice President of Alpha Phi Omega, a co-ed community service fraternity. I also participated in Alternative Spring Break projects my junior year (working on a Habitat for Humanity house in South Carolina) and senior year (working in an orphanage in Manzanillo, Mexico).

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.

While in college and law school in New York, I received a few speeding tickets, to which I pleaded no contest and paid the fines.

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).

(d) Has a court ever found you to have provided ineffective assistance of counsel? Yes No

If so, provide the particulars including petitioner and case number.

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: Barbara Simpson Kraft

Address: 188 West Northern Lights Boulevard, Suite 1100

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99503 Phone: 907-257-5300

Name: Anne Dennis-Choi

Address: 4600 Abbott Road

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99507 Phone: 907-346-2101

- (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: Honorable Jonathan Woodman

Address: 435 South Denali Street

City/State/Zip: Palmer, AK 99645 Phone: 907-746-8189

Name: Gary Zipkin, Esq.

Address: 1029 West 3rd Avenue, Suite 400

City/State/Zip: 1029 West 3rd Avenue, Suite 400 Phone: 907-793-2200

Name: Neil O'Donnell, Esq.

Address: 4141 B Street, Suite 205

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99503 Phone: 907-242-5800

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 Number 1

Case Name: Sandra Newman **Case Number:** 3AN-19-05116 CI
v. Jason Bockenstedt **Judge Name:** Honorable Pamela Washington

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Sandra Newman (pro se)</u>	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99503-5774</u>	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: Eagle Investments of Alaska, Inc. **Case Number:** 3PA-19-02420 CI
v. Ruth Guardo **Judge Name:** Honorable Kari Kristiansen

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Jed L. VanLoan</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>205 E. Benson Boulevard, Ste. 220</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99503</u>	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: _____ **Case Number:** _____
v. _____ **Judge Name:** _____

Attorneys Involved:

Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____
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**, 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.)*

Case Number 1

Case Name: State of Alaska **Case Number:** 3AN-18-10023 CI

v. Mckesson Corporation, et al. **Judge Name:** Honorable Dani Crosby

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>David Karl Gross</u>	Name: <u>Margaret Paton-Walsh</u>
Address: <u>510 L Street, Suite 700</u>	Address: <u>1031 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 200</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>

Name: <u>Michael J. Pendell</u>	Name: <u>See attached</u>
Address: <u>20 Church St., 17th Flr</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Hartford, CT 06103</u>	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: Jennifer & Tyson Reagan **Case Number:** 3AN-20-06235 CI

v. Allstate Insurance Company, et al. **Judge Name:** Honorable Josie Garton

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Daniel W. Hickey</u>	Name: <u>Michael J. Hanson, Esq.</u>
Address: <u>1029 W. 3rd Ave., Suite 510</u>	Address: <u>500 L Street, Suite 200</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage AK 99501</u>

Name: <u>Rebecca J. Hozubin</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>711 M Street, Suite 2</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: Barbara Reed **Case Number:** 4FA-18-02810CI

v. Kenneth Robertson, et al. **Judge Name:** Honorable Paul R. Lyle

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Barbara Reed (pro se)</u>	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Fairbanks, AK 99701</u>	City, State, Zip: _____

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

Question 20(d) Addendum

Chris Eppich
Covington & Burling LLP
1999 Avenue of the Stars
Los Angeles, CA 90067-4643

Megan M. McLaughlin
Covington & Burling LLP
Salesforce Tower, 415 Mission Street, Suite 5400
San Francisco, CA 94105-2533

Michelle Higuchi
Alaska Court System
125 Trading Bay Road
Kenai, AK 99611

Joshua D. Tully
Williams & Connolly LLP
680 Maine Avenue S.W.
Washington, DC 20024

Brewster Jamieson
Lane Powell
1600 A Street, Suite 304
Anchorage, AK 99501-5148

Elizabeth Brandon
Reed Smith LLP
2850 N. Harwood Street, Suite 1500
Dallas, TX 75201

Michael C. Geraghty
Holland & Hart LLP
1029 W. Third Avenue, Suite 550,
Anchorage, AK 99501

Allen Clendaniel
Sedor Wendlandt Evans Filippi
500 L Street, Suite 500
Anchorage, AK 99501

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, (d) samples from open cases including cases on appeal.

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.

My position as a law clerk in Bethel introduced me to a fast-paced court, assisting with every type of case that came through the door -- including criminal, civil, administrative appeals, CINA, delinquency, and domestic relations. I was fortunate to be able to spend a lot of time in the courtroom, observing trials, arraignments and everything in between. The Bethel Court also serves a very diverse population. I believe this experience makes me highly qualified to be a Superior Court Judge in Anchorage.

Additional Comments (Continued)

My practice at Guess & Rudd P.C. has focused primarily on civil litigation. However, many of my colleagues have given me exposure to their specialties, including oil & gas, mining, commercial, Alaska Native, and criminal law. My caseload has included a wide variety of cases, from a property damage claim filed in Small Claims Court, to a class action bad faith case. This range in the value of the cases I have handled has taught me what I think is one of the most important lessons to being a good lawyer -- every client deserves your best effort. If appointed, I will bring this attitude to the bench and pledge to give my best effort to every case and every party that appears before me.

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 two photographs of yourself with your application.

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

Biographical Statement

Name Christina Rankin

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

Anchorage Superior Court

Please leave this area blank

Date: July 19, 2022

In 2002, I moved with my husband to Bethel for what was intended to be a one-year adventure as a Superior Court Clerk. Like so many, we fell in love with Alaska and could not imagine living anywhere else. After moving to Anchorage, I joined Guess & Rudd P.C. I am now a shareholder at the firm, and have been lucky to work with and against some of Alaska's best civil practitioners.

I live with my husband, our daughter, and my mother. In the summer, you can find us exploring Alaska in our cozy camper and kayaking its many lakes. During the winter, you can find us snowshoeing, or cheering for our daughter from the Challenge Alaska Lodge as she skis down the slopes. I also spend my free time volunteering with a number of local and national organizations, including AK Child & Family and the March of Dimes.