

Alaska Judicial Council Application for Judicial Appointment

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

Homer Superior Court, Palmer District Court,

Date: July 5, 2019

I. Public Information (Questions 1-24)

Personal

1. (a) State full name* Bride Seifert

Name as it should appear on bar survey: Bride Seifert

* 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.

Bride Sweeney

2. How long have you been a resident of the State of Alaska immediately preceding the date of this application? ** 8 years 0 months

Total _____ years _____ months

3. How long have you been engaged in the active practice of law immediately preceding the date of this application? ** 9 years 8 months

Total _____ years _____ 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.

Ohio State University, B.A., Psychology, 1994

** 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, magna cum laude

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.

CALI Awards for Excellence- Property I, Property II, Professional Responsibility
William Mitchell Academic Scholarship
MN Justice Foundation, Achievement in Public Service Award
Dean's List

- (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.

Advanced Evidence, Judicial Writing, Probate Matters, Taking the Bench, Civil Mediation, Effective Use of Interpreters, Diversity and Discrimination, Issues in Drunk Driving, Dealmaker's Commandments, Trials of the Century, HIPAA training, AK Appellate and Supreme Court Review, Legal Writing, Overdose Death Investigations, DNA 101, Ethics Issues of Pre-trial Expert Interviews, Y-STR Testing, Forensic Expert Testimony, Ethics and the Recanting Victim, Sex Assault Kits, Vocational Rehab, CINA Training, Negotiation Ethics, Thinking Through Jury Selection, Art of Cross-Exam, Demonstratives, Human Memory, MetaData, Civility in the Bar, Taking the Fear Out of Character Evidence, Challenges of Aging, Gender and Race, Sex Assault on Campus, Implicit Bias, Labor Trafficking, Dispute Resolution Skills, Bar to Bench, ALJ Ethics

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.

Owner/operator, Clean Green Homes, MN, 2006 - 2010. No unpaid debts or claims.

Senior Operations Specialist, Raytheon Polar Services, South Pole Station, Antarctica, and CO, 2002 - 2005.

Helicopter Operations Manager/Carpenter Helper, VECO Polar Services, Toolik Field Station, AK, and Summit Station, Greenland, 2005 - 2006.

Program Manager, Community Development, City of Cleveland, 1999 - 2003.

Assistant Manager, Retail and Customer Relations, Eldora Mountain Resort, CO, 1994 - 1998.

Office Manager/Dispatcher, Wrangell Mountain Air, McCarthy, AK, 1996 - 1997.

Summer Intern, Cuyahoga County Probate Court, OH, 1986 - 1989.

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, Department of Law, Criminal Division

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: John Earthman

Current address of this person: P.O. Box 160

City Bethel/Kotzebue State AK Zip 99762

Dates and location of Employment: From Feb. 2018 To current City Bethel/Kotzebue State AK

Description:

Assistant District Attorney, handle all aspects of criminal prosecution in jurisdiction with highest caseload per ADA, including post-conviction relief

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

Employer: State of Alaska, Office of Administrative Hearings

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Kathleen Frederick

Current address of this person: 550 W. Seventh Ave., Suite 1940

City Anchorage State AK Zip 99501

Dates and Location of Employment: From Dec. 2013 To Feb. 2018 City Juneau State AK

Description: **Administrative Law Judge, conduct hearings and issue decisions in over 32 types of administrative appeals, and serve as mediator.**

Reason for Leaving: Accepted prosecutor position.

Employer: State of Alaska, Office of Attorney General

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Stacie Kraly

Current address of this person: Dept. of Law, Human Services Division, PO Box 110300

City Juneau State AK Zip 99811-0300

Dates and Location of Employment: From Aug. 2012 To Dec. 2013 City Juneau State AK

Description: **Assistant Attorney General, provide counsel and advocacy to the Department of Health and Social Services.**

Reason for Leaving: Accepted Administrative Law Judge position.

Previous Employers (continued)

Employer: Alaska Court System

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Honorable Louis J. Menendez, retired

Current address of this person: 628 6th St.

City Juneau State AK Zip 99801

Dates and Location of Employment: From Aug. 2011 To Aug. 2012 City Juneau State AK

Description: Judicial clerkship, also acted as special master for non-adversarial proceedings. Assisted with implementation of Juneau's Early Resolution Program.

Reason for Leaving: Clerkship fulfilled.

Employer: Minnesota Chamber of Commerce

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Bill Blazar, retired

Current address of this person: 5036 Bryant Ave. South

City Minneapolis State MN Zip 55419

Dates and Location of Employment: From 2010 To July 2011 City St. Paul State MN

Description: Energy policy manager, represented Chamber and business interests in utility rate cases and at the legislature.

Reason for Leaving: Moved to Alaska.

Employer: Volunteer Lawyers Network

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Tom Walsh

Current address of this person: 600 Nicollet Mall #390A

City Minneapolis State MN Zip 55402

Dates and Location of Employment: From 2010 To 2010 City Minneapolis State MN

Description: Bankruptcy clinic coordinator, work study.

Reason for Leaving: Completed work study.

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: _____

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	15
Criminal	35
Other	50
	<hr/>
	= 100%

Comment: _____

(b) Percent:

State	100
Federal	_____
Other	_____
	<hr/>
	= 100%

Comment: _____

(c) Of practice in state courts, percent:

Supreme Court	0
Court of Appeals	0
Superior Court	60
District Court	40
	<hr/>
	= 100%

Comment: _____

(d) Frequency of appearance in court (select one):
 Regularly Occasionally Infrequently Not at All

Comment: _____

(e) Number of trials (by court or jury) you conducted (select one):
 None 1-5 6-15 16-30 31 or more

Comment: _____

(f) Percent of these trials which were: Jury 2 Non-Jury _____

Comment: _____

(g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 0

Comment: _____

(h) Approximate number of arbitrations or administrative hearings (select one):

None 1-5 6-15 16-30 31 or more

Briefly describe type of matters heard:

30+ case types- abuse and neglect, PERs, SEC, Medicaid, licensing, utility rate regulation

(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.).

Early Resolution Project and Martin Luther King, Jr. Day legal volunteer, Alaska Legal Services.

Clinic Coordinator, trained and scheduled attorneys for limited representation for victims of sexual violence, MN Women Lawyers, Community Action Committee.

"Street Law" volunteer teacher, taught legal principles to at-risk youth, MN Justice Foundation.

"Homeless Connect" legal clinic volunteer.

Mental health court volunteer, Ramsey County, MN.

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.

MN, 2010
AK, 2011

Public Service

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

American Bar Association - Criminal Law, Administrative Law Judiciary
Alaska Bar Association - Arctic Law, Administrative Law, Alaska Native Law, Environmental and Natural Resources, mediation committee
Juneau Bar Association
National Association of Women Judges

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)
Superior Court, multiple locations	2016	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.

Kobuk 440 volunteer

St. Francis Church, lay minister

Friends of the Alaska State Library, Archives, and Museum, lifetime member, former board member

Juneau Mountain Rescue, non-active member, former board member.

Juneau Adult Hockey Association, 2016 - 2017, player.

National Ski Patrol volunteer, 2007 - 2017.

Juneau Homeless Shelter volunteer, 2011- 2017.

Family promise volunteer, 2017.

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).

1JU-13-00241PR, Personal Representative for a friend's estate.

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: Honorable Patricia Collins (retired)
Address: PO Box 24014
City/State/Zip: Douglas, AK 99824 Phone: 907-209-9608

Name: Honorable Louis Menendez (retired)
Address: 618 6th St.
City/State/Zip: Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: 907-723-7007

- (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: Chris Kennedy
Address: 550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1940
City/State/Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501 Phone: 907-269-8170

Name: Stacie Kraly
Address: PO Box 110300
City/State/Zip: Juneau, AK, 99811 Phone: 907-465-4164

Name: Dara Gibson
Address: 6490 N. Douglas Hwy.
City/State/Zip: Juneau, AK 99801 Phone: 907-465-4049

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 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: State of Alaska **Case Number:** 2KB-18-00016CR
v. Ernest Hyatt **Judge Name:** Magistrate David Roghair

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Ernest Hyatt, pro-se</u>	Name: _____
Address: <u>PO Box 1291</u>	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: <u>Kotzebue, AK 99752</u>	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: State of Alaska **Case Number:** 4BE-18-00350CR
v. James Jacobs **Judge Name:** John McConaughy III, Acting District Court Judge

Attorneys Involved:

Name: <u>Nathaniel Hainje</u>	Name: <u>Victor Lin, former Bethel PD intern</u>
Address: <u>PO Box 10</u>	Address: <u>5335 S. Harper Ave., #2</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Bethel, AK 99559</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Chicago, IL 60615</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: N/A **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 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: PCR: Harry Morena **Case Number:** 2KB-15-00200CI
v. State of Alaska **Judge Name:** Judge Paul Roetman

Attorneys Involved:

Name: David Seid	Name: _____
Address: PO Box 110216	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: Juneau, AK 99801	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: State of Alaska **Case Number:** 4EM-16-00030CR
v. Joseph Peters **Judge Name:** John McConaughy III, Acting District Court Judge

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Simon Wiener, former Bethel PD intern	Name: _____
Address: civil rights corps., 910 17th St. N.W.	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: Washington, D.C. 20006	City, State, Zip: _____
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: In re: David Wilson **Case Number:** OAH 16-1009POC
v. _____ **Judge Name:** Bride Seifert, ALJ

Attorneys Involved:

Name: John Novak	Name: Mark Choate
Address: 310 K. St. #520	Address: 424 N. Franklin St.
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip: Juneau, AK 99801
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, (d) samples from open cases.

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.

When people enter the courtroom, it is usually not with a smile on their face or a skip in their step. I understand that legal processes can be difficult, time-consuming, and confusing. My upbringing and experience has taught me to treat all with respect, listen closely, and speak clearly. I engage in careful, yet efficient decision-making, whether as a prosecutor, administrative law judge, or search and rescue volunteer. I appreciate, understand, and honor the law.

I would like to bring these attributes to the bench and continue to serve the people of Alaska.

Additional Comments (Continued)

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 twelve photographs of yourself with your application.

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

Biographical Statement

Name Bride Seifert

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

Homer Superior Court, Palmer District Court

Please leave this area blank

Date: 7/5/19

Whether picking berries in the tundra, rafting rivers in Southeast or exploring glaciers in Wrangell - St. Elias, there is no better place to live, work, and practice law than Alaska.

Life before law school included managing a back country air service, leading community development programs, owning and operating a micro-business, and supporting science in Greenland, Antarctica, and Alaska.

I first practiced energy law, focusing on utility rate work on behalf of business. Next came an Alaska Superior Court clerkship, followed by civil law practice as an Assistant Attorney General. For five years, I served as an Administrative Law Judge, adjudicating and mediating a wide variety of case types. Rural Alaska called, and I moved to Bethel, then Kotzebue, as a prosecutor, holding offenders accountable and making safer communities.

It would be an honor to continue serving the people of Alaska as a judge.