

Alaska Judicial Council Recommendation

Judge Trevor Stephens, Superior Court, Ketchikan

I. Judicial Council Evaluation. The Alaska Judicial Council, a non-partisan citizens commission established by the Alaska Constitution, finds Judge Stephens to be *Qualified* and recommends unanimously (6-0) that the public vote "YES" to retain him as a superior court judge.

II. Summary of Evaluation Information. A survey of 2,927 attorneys in Alaska rated Judge Stephens on sixteen categories that are summarized in the adjacent graph. Attorneys rated Judge Stephens 4.4 on a scale of 5 on overall judicial performance. He scored 4.4 or better in all sixteen categories.

	Attorney Survey	Peace Officer Survey	Juror Survey	Court Employee Survey
Legal Ability	4.4	---	---	---
Impartiality	4.5	4.8	4.8	4.9
Integrity	4.6	4.7	---	4.9
Temperament	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.9
Diligence	4.6	4.7	---	4.9
Special Skills	4.5	4.7	---	---
Overall	4.4	4.7	4.8	4.9

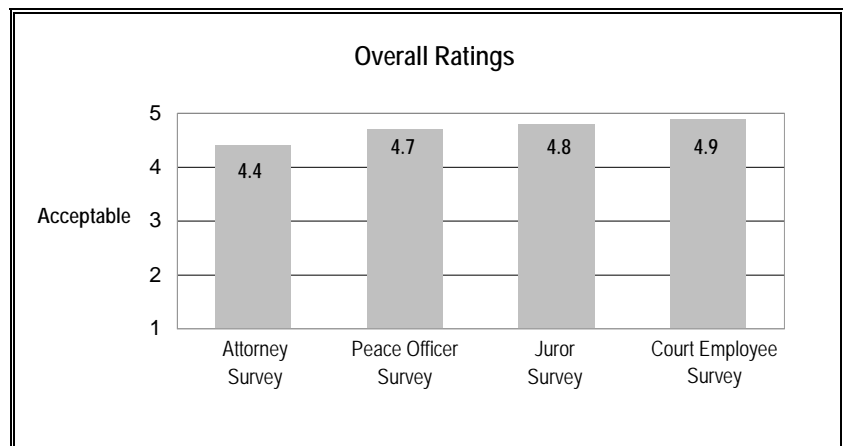
Ratings are based on a one to five scale. Five is the best rating and three is "acceptable."

Rating Scale
 5.0 = Excellent
 4.0 = Good
 3.0 = Acceptable
 2.0 = Deficient
 1.0 = Poor

A survey of 1,495 peace and probation officers in Alaska rated Judge Stephens on twelve categories that are summarized in the adjacent graph. Peace and probation officers rated Judge Stephens 4.7 on a scale of 5 on overall judicial performance. He scored 4.6 or better in all categories.

A survey of jurors appearing before Judge Stephens in 2002 and 2003 rated him 4.8 on a scale of 5 on overall performance. A survey of all court employees rated him 4.9 on a scale of 5 on overall performance.

The Council also completed a background investigation including a court records check, a disciplinary records check, a review of conflict of interest statements submitted to the court system and a review of financial disclosure statements submitted to the Alaska Public Offices Commission. Attorneys, peace officers, court employees and jurors were asked to submit written comments about the judge. The Council actively encouraged the public to comment, both in writing and in a statewide public hearing teleconference.



Recommendation: Vote "YES" to retain Judge Trevor Stephens

Contact the Judicial Council at 1029 W. 3rd, Suite 201, Anchorage, AK 99501 (telephone: (907) 279-2526) for more detailed information, or review the information on our Internet site at:

www.ajc.state.ak.us

November 2004



alaska judicial council

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Larry Cohn

Alaska Judicial Council Questionnaire

NON-ATTORNEY MEMBERS
Eleanor Andrews
Bill Gordon
Gigi Pilcher

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Trial Judge 2004 Candidates for Judicial Retention

ATTORNEY MEMBERS
Geoffrey G. Curraill
Robert B. Groseclose
Susan Orlansky

ALASKA
JUDICIAL COUNCIL

November 10, 2003

CHAIR, EX OFFICIO
Alexander O. Bryner
Chief Justice
Supreme Court

Trevor N. Stephens

Superior Court (Ketchikan)

Name

Court

1. Describe your workload during your present term.

- a) $\frac{60}{40}$ % Civil Cases b) $\frac{10-12}{2-3}$ # of trials/year
 % Criminal Cases # Administrative Appeals
 % Court Administrative
 100 % Total

The above are estimates. The trials include jury and non-jury trials. The Administrative Appeals include District Court appeals.

2. Please describe your participation on court/Bar committees or other administrative activities during your current term of office.

Nygren Committee (judicial member, Committee worked on identifying presently qualifying programs and developing standardized qualification and credit procedures), Mentoring Judges training, Committee that planned judicial CLE for 2003 Spring conference, Judicial coordinator for local Law Day activities

3. On a separate sheet of paper please assess, in one or two paragraphs, your judicial performance during your present term. Appropriate areas of comment could include: satisfaction with your judicial role, specific contributions to the judiciary or the field of law, increases in legal knowledge and judicial skills, or other measures of judicial abilities that you believe to be important.

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The pre-retention surveys reflect that my overall performance has been satisfactory to the groups surveyed. I believe that my judicial performance has steadily improved. When I started I understood the following. First, judges make decisions and generally at least one of the parties will not be pleased with any given decision. Second, the outcome of a case (civil and criminal) is of vital importance to the parties. Third, there were areas of the law in which I was relatively inexperienced (i.e. child and protective proceedings). Fourth, a judge has public obligations. As a result, my goals have been to strengthen my knowledge base, to make decisions in a manner that assures the parties that I have fully and fairly considered the matter, and to take steps to foster public respect for and understanding of the judicial system. To those ends I have worked hard to be well-prepared, thorough, consistent, fair, courteous, prompt, available, and to render decisions that are based on the facts in the record and applicable law and which plainly explain to the parties in detail what I decided and why.

The specific steps that I have taken include the following. Preparing extensive bench books and new protective proceeding, Omnibus Hearing and Pre-Trial Scheduling Conference forms. Preparing informational handouts for pro se litigants. Implementing a system for tracking the performance of third-party custodians. Efforts to increase juror understanding and convenience. Spending considerable time at arraignments and changes of plea explaining to defendant's their rights and options. Spending considerable time at sentencing explaining the sentence and the basis for the same. Participating in the planning and production of our local Law Day activities. Hosting groups of students at the court building. Speaking in the schools in Ketchikan and on Prince of Wales Island. Teaching the Ketchikan Youth Court class.

4. During your most recent term as a judge, have you:

- a) had a tax lien filed or other collection procedure instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Yes _____ No X.

- b) been involved in a nonjudicial capacity in any legal proceeding whether as a party or otherwise? Yes _____ No X.

- c) engaged in the practice of law (other than as a judge)? Yes _____ No X.

- d) held office in any political party? Yes _____ No X.

- e) held any other local state or federal office? Yes _____ No X.

If your answer to any of the questions above is "yes," please give full details, including dates, facts, case numbers and outcomes.

Please provide any other information which you believe would assist the Council in conducting its evaluations and in preparing its recommendations for the 2002 retention elections.

Criminal and children's cases arising in Metlakatla are
assigned to me. I have been to Metlakatla to meet with
elected officials and social services staff.
As something of a continuation of my response to #3, I have
found my judicial work to be very challenging and extremely
rewarding.

5. Please list the names and case numbers of the three most recent jury cases tried before you, identify the attorneys involved, and show their current addresses. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
1 <u>State v. Brock Charles</u>	<u>1KE-02-455 CR</u>

Attorneys Involved

Name: Daniel Schally (ADA)
Address: 415 Main St., Rm. 304
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: Darrel Gardner (OPA)
Address: 900 W. 5th Ave., Suite 525
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Name: Ray R. Brown
Address: Dillon & Findley
510 L St., Suite 603
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
2 <u>State v. Christopher Booth</u>	<u>1KE-02-1300 CR</u>

Attorneys Involved

Name: Stephen West (DA)
Address: 415 Main St., Rm. 304
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: David W. Rosendin
Address: 813-C, Water St.
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
3 <u>State v. Thomas Watson, Jr.</u>	<u>1KE-02-1864 CR</u>

Attorneys Involved

Name: James Scott (ADA)
Address: 415 Main St., Rm. 304
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: Loren K. Stanton
Address: P.O. Box 5558
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

6. Please list the names and case numbers of the three most recent non-jury cases tried before you, identify the attorneys involved, and show their current addresses. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
1 <u>Strassburg v. Strassburg</u>	<u>1KE-02-557 CI</u>

Attorneys Involved

Name: H. Clay Keene
Address: Keene & Currall
540 Water St., #302
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: Michael P. Heiser
Address: 300 Mill St., Suite 20
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
2 <u>Brown v. Brown</u>	<u>1KE-03-35 CI</u>

Attorneys Involved

Name: Peter R. Ellis
Address: Ellis Law Offices Inc.
1285 Tongass Ave.
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: Mary E. Guss
Address: 320 Dock St., Rm. 200
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
3 <u>Nore v. Kenfield</u>	<u>1WR-03-11 CI</u>

Attorneys Involved

Name: Janelle T. Christian
Address: P.O. Box 1999
Wrangell, Alaska 99929

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: W. Clark Stump
Address: P.O. Box 7958
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

7. Please list the names and case numbers of the three most recent cases which did not go to trial, but on which you did significant work (such as settlement conference, hearings, motion work, etc.), identify the attorneys involved, and show their current addresses. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
1 <u>Northern Credit v. Lawson</u>	<u>1SI-02-98 CI</u>

Attorneys Involved

Name: R.W. "Dick" Shaffer
Address: 320 Bawden St. Suite 316
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
2 <u>City of Petersburg v. Curtis</u>	<u>1PE-02-53 CI</u>

Attorneys Involved

Name: Dennis C. Bailey
Address: Dillon & Findley
350 N. Franklin St.
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
3 <u>KTA v. TRP, LLC & SEACAL</u>	<u>1JU-03-202 CI</u>

Attorneys Involved

Name: Ronald W. Lorensen
Address: Simpson Tillinghast
Sorensen & Longenbaugh PC
One Sealaska Plaza Suite 300
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Name: Michael P. Heiser
Address: 300 Mill Street Suite 20
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____

8. If you deem it helpful to the Council, please list the name, case number and attorneys' names and current addresses of any other cases during your judicial career in which you believe your work was particularly noteworthy. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

	<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
1	ITMO E.M. (guardianship)	1KE-94-57 P/G

Attorneys Involved

Name: David W. Oesting
Address: Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
701 W. 8th Avenue, Suite 800
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3408
Name: BethAnn Boudah Chapman
Address: Faulkner Banfield PC
One Sealaska Plaza, Suite 202
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1245

Name: H. Clay Keene
Address: Keene & Currall
540 Water Street, #302
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
Name: Dennis McCarty
Address: 300 Mill Street, Suite 22
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

	<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
2	Pool & Higbee v. Miller	1KE-00-15 CI

Attorneys Involved

Name: Elizabeth Dronkert
Address: 151 Finch Pl. SW, Suite G
Bainbridge, Wash. 98110
Name: Kenneth Freidman
Address: 1126 Highland Avenue
Bremerton, Wash. 98337

Name: Andrew Torrance
Address: Schiffrin Olson Schlemlein &
Hopkins, P.L.L.C.
Westlake Center Office Tower
1601 5th Ave. Suite 2500
Name: Seattle, Wash. 98101
Address: William K. McInerny
4750 Wells Fargo Center
999 Third Avenue
Seattle, Wash. 98104

	<i>Name of Case</i>	<i>Case Number</i>
3	KIC v. KGB Bd. of Equalization	1KE-00-226 CI

Attorneys Involved

Name: Susan Wright Mason
Address: Dorsey & Whitney LLP
1031 W 4th Avenue, Suite 600
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Name: _____
Address: _____

Name: Scott A. Brandt-Erichsen
Address: Borough Attorney
344 Front Street
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901
Name: _____
Address: _____

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4. Bounds v. City of Skagway, 1JU-02-358 CI

Ronald F. Black
Davis Black LLC
201 H Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Robert Blasco
Robertson Monagle & Estaugh, PC
P.O. Box 21211
Juneau, Alaska 99802

5. KEC v. City of Ketchikan et al., 1KE-00-486 CI

Ted Wellman
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
701 W. 8th Avenue, Suite 800
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3408

Steven Schweppe
City Attorney
City of Ketchikan
334 Front Street
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Frances E. Francis
Spiegel & McDiarmid
1350 New York Avenue NW, Suite 1100
Washington D.C. 20005-4798

Frank Langfitt III
Kirk Gibson
Ater Wynne LLP
222 SW Columbia, Suite 1800
Portland, Oregon 97201-6618

Brian D. Bjorkquist, Assistant Attorney General
1031 W. 4th Ave., Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

A. SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE TREVOR STEPHENS

1. ALASKA BAR ASSOCIATION

Demographic Description of all Alaska Bar Association Respondents (N=105)

a. <u>Type of Practice:</u>	Private, solo	17.1%
	Private, office of 2-5 attorneys	9.5%
	Private, office of 6 or more attorneys	21.0%
	Private corporate employee	0.0%
	State judge or judicial officer	15.2%
	Government	24.8%
	Public service agency or organization	2.9%
	Other	1.9%
	No Answer	7.6%
b. <u>Years of Experience:</u>	5 Years or fewer	9.5%
	6-10 Years	11.4%
	11-15 Years	7.6%
	16-20 Years	17.1%
	21 Years or more	47.6%
	No Answer	6.7%
c. <u>Gender:</u>	Male	61.9%
	Female	31.4%
	No Answer	6.7%
d. <u>Cases Handled:</u>	Prosecution	7.6%
	Mainly criminal	6.7%
	Mixed criminal and civil	29.5%
	Mainly civil	47.6%
	Other	1.9%
	No Answer	6.7%
e. <u>Location of Practice:</u>	First District	52.4%
	Second District	2.9%
	Third District	34.3%
	Fourth District	2.9%
	Outside Alaska	0.0%
	No Answer	7.6%

Summary of Findings:

Judge Trevor Stephens was evaluated by 87 Alaska Bar Association members who reported having direct professional experience with this judge. Of these 87 respondents, 43 (49.4%) had substantial and recent experience, 20 (23.0%) had moderate experience, 21 (24.1%) had limited experience, and 3 (3.5%) did not indicate level of experience. The mean score on the overall evaluation item was 4.4. The highest mean scores were obtained on *conduct free from impropriety or appearance of impropriety* (4.6) and *willingness to work diligently; preparation for hearings* (4.6). The lowest mean scores were obtained on *legal and factual analysis* (4.4), *knowledge of evidence and procedure* (4.4), *equal treatment of all parties* (4.4), *human understanding and compassion* (4.4), and *ability to control courtroom* (4.4). Details are presented in the two tables that follow.

**Evaluation of Superior Court Judge Trevor Stephens:
Alaska Bar Association Members**

	<i>Poor</i>		<i>Deficient</i>		<i>Acceptable</i>		<i>Good</i>		<i>Excellent</i>		<i>Mean</i>
	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	
Legal Ability											
Legal and factual analysis	-	-	3	3.6	7	8.3	25	29.8	49	58.3	4.4
Knowledge of substantive law	-	-	-	-	8	10.3	26	33.3	44	56.4	4.5
Knowledge of evidence and procedure	-	-	1	1.3	9	11.8	25	32.9	41	53.9	4.4
Impartiality											
Equal treatment of all parties	1	1.2	3	3.6	5	6.0	26	31.3	48	57.8	4.4
Sense of basic fairness and justice	1	1.3	1	1.3	4	5.1	27	34.6	45	57.7	4.5
Integrity											
Conduct free from impropriety or appearance of impropriety	1	1.2	1	1.2	4	4.8	19	22.9	58	69.9	4.6
Makes decisions without regard to possible public criticism	-	-	1	1.3	4	5.3	27	36.0	43	57.3	4.5
Judicial Temperament											
Courtesy, freedom from arrogance	-	-	4	4.8	6	7.2	17	20.5	56	67.5	4.5
Human understanding and compassion	-	-	1	1.3	8	10.5	25	32.9	42	55.3	4.4
Diligence											
Reasonable promptness in making decisions	-	-	1	1.3	5	6.5	29	37.7	42	54.5	4.5
Willingness to work diligently; preparation for hearings	-	-	-	-	5	6.8	22	29.7	47	63.5	4.6
Special Skills											
Ability to control courtroom	1	1.5	-	-	6	9.1	21	31.8	38	57.6	4.4
Settlement skills	-	-	-	-	4	10.0	14	35.0	22	55.0	4.5
Consideration of all relevant factors in sentencing	-	-	-	-	3	7.1	13	31.0	26	61.9	4.5
Talent and ability for cases involving children and families	-	-	1	2.4	3	7.1	15	35.7	23	54.8	4.4
Overall Evaluation											
Overall evaluation of judge	1	1.2	2	2.4	4	4.8	29	34.5	48	57.1	4.4

NOTE: Results are based on respondents who reported having direct professional experience with this judge.

**Ratings on the “Overall Evaluation” Item for Superior Court Judge Trevor Stephens:
Alaska Bar Association Members**

<i>Demographics</i>	Total		Poor	Deficient	Acceptable	Good	Excellent
	<i>n</i>	<i>Mean</i>	%	%	%	%	%
Basis for Evaluation							
No Answer	3	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Direct Professional Experience	84	4.4	1.2	2.4	4.8	34.5	57.1
Professional Reputation	13	4.2	-	-	7.7	69.2	23.1
Social Contacts	1	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Type of Practice							
No Answer	8	4.4	-	-	12.5	37.5	50.0
Solo	15	4.5	-	6.7	-	33.3	60.0
2 – 5 Attorneys	8	4.4	-	12.5	12.5	-	75.0
6+ Attorneys	16	4.3	6.3	-	12.5	25.0	56.3
Corporate	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Judge or Judicial Officer	14	4.7	-	-	-	28.6	71.4
Government	20	4.5	-	-	-	55.0	45.0
Public Service	1	4.0	-	-	-	100.0	-
Other	2	4.5	-	-	-	50.0	50.0
Years of Experience							
No Answer	7	4.3	-	-	14.3	42.9	42.9
5 Years or fewer	10	4.4	-	-	10.0	40.0	50.0
6 – 10 Years	10	4.2	-	10.0	10.0	30.0	50.0
11 – 15 Years	6	4.7	-	-	-	33.3	66.7
16 – 20 Years	11	4.4	-	9.1	-	36.4	54.5
21 Years or more	40	4.5	2.5	-	2.5	32.5	62.5
Gender							
No Answer	7	4.3	-	-	14.3	42.9	42.9
Male	55	4.4	1.8	1.8	5.5	32.7	58.2
Female	22	4.5	-	4.5	-	36.4	59.1
Cases Handled							
No Answer	7	4.3	-	-	14.3	42.9	42.9
Prosecution	5	4.4	-	-	-	60.0	40.0
Criminal	6	4.5	-	-	-	50.0	50.0
Criminal and Civil	26	4.6	-	7.7	-	19.2	73.1
Civil	39	4.4	2.6	-	7.7	35.9	53.8
Other	1	4.0	-	-	-	100.0	-
Location of Practice							
No Answer	8	4.1	-	-	25.0	37.5	37.5
First District	48	4.6	-	4.2	2.1	22.9	70.8
Second District	2	4.5	-	-	-	50.0	50.0
Third District	23	4.3	4.3	-	4.3	47.8	43.5
Fourth District	3	4.0	-	-	-	100.0	-
Outside Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amount of Experience							
No Answer	3	4.3	-	-	33.3	-	66.7
Substantial	43	4.7	-	2.3	2.3	18.6	76.7
Moderate	20	4.3	5.0	-	5.0	45.0	45.0
Limited	18	4.1	-	5.6	5.6	66.7	22.2

A. SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE TREVOR STEPHENS

2. PEACE AND PROBATION OFFICERS

Demographic Description of all Peace and Probation Officer Respondents (N=42)

a. <u>Type of Work:</u>	State Law Enforcement Officer	35.7%
	Municipal/Borough Law Enforcement Officer	35.7%
	Village Public Safety Officer	2.4%
	Probation-Patrol Officer	21.4%
	Other	4.8%
	No Answer	0.0%
b. <u>Years of Experience:</u>	5 Years or fewer	35.7%
	6-10 Years	33.3%
	11-15 Years	16.7%
	16-20 Years	14.3%
	21 Years or more	0.0%
	No Answer	0.0%
c. <u>Gender:</u>	Male	76.2%
	Female	23.8%
	No Answer	0.0%
d. <u>Location of Work:</u>	First District	69.0%
	Second District	2.4%
	Third District	21.4%
	Fourth District	7.1%
	Outside Alaska	0.0%
	No Answer	0.0%
e. <u>Community Population:</u>	Under 2,000	14.3%
	Between 2,000 and 35,000	71.4%
	35,000 or over	11.9%
	No Answer	2.4%

Summary of Findings:

Judge Trevor Stephens was evaluated by 37 Peace and Probation Officers who reported having direct professional experience with this judge. Of these 37 respondents, 13 (35.1%) had substantial and recent experience, 15 (40.5%) had moderate experience, 9 (40.5%) had limited experience, and 0 (0.0%) did not indicate level of experience. The mean score on the overall evaluation item was 4.7. The highest mean score was obtained on *sense of basic fairness and justice* (4.8). The lowest mean scores were obtained on *courtesy, freedom from arrogance* (4.6), *reasonable promptness in making decisions* (4.6), and *ability to control courtroom* (4.6). Details are presented in the two tables that follow.

**Evaluation of Superior Court Judge Trevor Stephens:
Peace and Probation Officers**

	<i>Poor</i>		<i>Deficient</i>		<i>Acceptable</i>		<i>Good</i>		<i>Excellent</i>		<i>Mean</i>
	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	
Impartiality											
Equal treatment of all parties	-	-	-	-	1	2.8	8	22.2	27	75.0	4.7
Sense of basic fairness and justice	-	-	-	-	1	3.1	6	18.8	25	78.1	4.8
Integrity											
Conduct free from impropriety or appearance of impropriety	-	-	-	-	1	2.8	8	22.2	27	75.0	4.7
Makes decisions without regard to possible public criticism	-	-	-	-	2	6.3	6	18.8	24	75.0	4.7
Judicial Temperament											
Courtesy, freedom from arrogance	-	-	-	-	1	2.8	12	33.3	23	63.9	4.6
Human understanding and compassion	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	27.3	24	72.7	4.7
Diligence											
Reasonable promptness in making decisions	-	-	-	-	1	2.9	12	35.3	21	61.8	4.6
Willingness to work diligently; preparation for hearings	-	-	-	-	1	3.2	8	25.8	22	71.0	4.7
Special Skills											
Ability to control courtroom	-	-	-	-	1	2.9	10	29.4	23	67.6	4.6
Consideration of all relevant factors in sentencing	-	-	-	-	1	3.2	7	22.6	23	74.2	4.7
Talent and ability for cases involving children and families	-	-	-	-	1	3.6	6	21.4	21	75.0	4.7
Overall Evaluation											
Overall evaluation of judge	-	-	-	-	1	2.8	9	25.0	26	72.2	4.7

NOTE: Results are based on respondents who reported having direct professional experience with this judge.

**Ratings on the “Overall Evaluation” Item for Superior Court Judge Trevor Stephens:
Peace and Probation Officers**

	<i>Total</i>		<i>Poor</i>	<i>Deficient</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>Excellent</i>
	<i>n</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
Demographics							
Basis for Evaluation							
No Answer	6	4.5	-	-	16.7	16.7	66.7
Direct Professional Experience	36	4.7	-	-	2.8	25.0	72.2
Professional Reputation	4	4.0	-	-	25.0	50.0	25.0
Social Contacts	1	3.0	-	-	100.0	-	-
Type of Work							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State Officer	11	4.8	-	-	-	18.2	81.8
Municipal/Borough	15	4.7	-	-	-	33.3	66.7
Village Public Safety Officer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Probation/Parole Officer	8	4.5	-	-	12.5	25.0	62.5
Other	2	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Years of Experience							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Years or fewer	14	4.8	-	-	-	21.4	78.6
6 – 10 Years	11	4.6	-	-	9.1	18.2	72.7
11 – 15 Years	6	4.5	-	-	-	50.0	50.0
16 – 20 Years	5	4.8	-	-	-	20.0	80.0
21 Years or more	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gender							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Male	27	4.7	-	-	-	29.6	70.4
Female	9	4.7	-	-	11.1	11.1	77.8
Location of Work							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
First District	27	4.7	-	-	3.7	22.2	74.1
Second District	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Third District	7	4.6	-	-	-	42.9	57.1
Fourth District	2	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Outside Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Population in Community							
No Answer	1	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Under 2,000	5	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
2,000-35,000	26	4.7	-	-	3.8	26.9	69.2
Over 35,000	4	4.5	-	-	-	50.0	50.0
Amount of Experience							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Substantial	13	4.8	-	-	7.7	7.7	84.6
Moderate	14	4.6	-	-	-	42.9	57.1
Limited	9	4.8	-	-	-	22.2	77.8

A. SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE TREVOR STEPHENS

3. SOCIAL WORKERS/GUARDIANS AD LITEM/CASA VOLUNTEERS

Demographic Description of all Social Workers/GAL/CASA Respondents (N=6)

a.	<u>Type of Work:</u>	Social Worker	83.3%
		Guardian ad Litem	16.7%
		CASA Volunteer	0.0%
		Other	0.0%
		No Answer	0.0%
b.	<u>Years of Experience:</u>	5 Years or fewer	16.7%
		6-10 Years	33.3%
		11-15 Years	50.0%
		16-20 Years	0.0%
		21 Years or more	0.0%
		No Answer	0.0%
c.	<u>Gender:</u>	Male	33.3%
		Female	66.7%
		No Answer	0.0%
d.	<u>Location of Work:</u>	First District	100%
		Second District	0.0%
		Third District	0.0%
		Fourth District	0.0%
		Outside Alaska	0.0%
		No Answer	0.0%
e.	<u>Community Population:</u>	Under 2,000	0.0%
		Between 2,000 and 35,000	83.3%
		35,000 or over	16.7%
		No Answer	0.0%

Summary of Findings:

Judge Trevor Stephens was evaluated by a total of 5 Social Workers, Guardians ad Litem, and CASA volunteers who reported having direct professional experience with this judge. Of these 5 respondents, 3 (60.0%) had substantial and recent experience, 1 (20.0%) had moderate experience, 1 (20.0%) had limited experience, and 0 (0.0%) did not indicate level of experience. The mean score on the overall evaluation item was 4.8. The highest mean score was 4.8 and was obtained on all categories except *talent and ability for cases involving children and families*, in which he obtained a score of 4.6. Details are presented in the two tables that follow.

***Evaluation of Superior Court Judge Trevor Stephens:
Social Workers/Guardians ad Litem/CASA Volunteers***

	<i>Poor</i>		<i>Deficient</i>		<i>Acceptable</i>		<i>Good</i>		<i>Excellent</i>		
	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Num</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Mean</i>
Impartiality											
Equal treatment of all parties	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4	80.0	4.8
Sense of basic fairness and justice	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4	80.0	4.8
Integrity											
Conduct free from impropriety or appearance of impropriety	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4	80.0	4.8
Judicial Temperament											
Courtesy, freedom from arrogance	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4	80.0	4.8
Human understanding and compassion	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4	80.0	4.8
Diligence											
Reasonable promptness in making decisions	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4	80.0	4.8
Willingness to work diligently; preparation for hearings	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4	80.0	4.8
Special Skills											
Ability to control courtroom	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4	80.0	4.8
Settlement skills	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4	80.0	4.8
Talent and ability for cases involving children and families	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	40.0	3	60.0	4.6
Overall Evaluation											
Overall evaluation of judge	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	20.0	4	80.0	4.8

NOTE: Results are based on respondents who reported having direct professional experience with this judge.

**Ratings on the “Overall Evaluation” Item for Superior Court Judge Trevor Stephens:
Social Workers/Guardians ad Litem/CASA Volunteers**

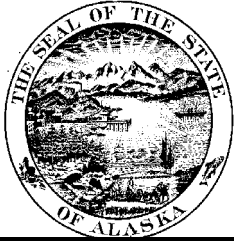
<i>Demographics</i>	Total		Poor	Deficient	Acceptable	Good	Excellent
	<i>n</i>	<i>Mean</i>	%	%	%	%	%
Basis for Evaluation							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Direct Professional Experience	5	4.8	-	-	-	20.0	80.0
Professional Reputation	1	4.0	-	-	-	100.0	-
Social Contacts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Type of Work							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social Worker	4	4.8	-	-	-	25.0	75.0
Guardian ad Litem	1	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
CASA Volunteer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Years of Experience							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Years or fewer	1	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
6 – 10 Years	2	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
11 – 15 Years	2	4.5	-	-	-	50.0	50.0
16 – 20 Years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21 Years or more	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gender							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Male	1	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Female	4	4.8	-	-	-	25.0	75.0
Location of Work							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
First District	5	4.8	-	-	-	20.0	80.0
Second District	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Third District	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fourth District	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Outside Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Population of Community							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,000-35,000	5	4.8	-	-	-	20.0	80.0
Over 35,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amount of Experience							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Substantial	3	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Moderate	1	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Limited	1	4.0	-	-	-	100.0	-

**Table 13:
Juror Survey Results for Trevor Stephens
2004 Alaska Judicial Council Retention Juror Survey**

Question	Excellent % (n)	Good % (n)	Acceptable % (n)	Deficient % (n)	Unacceptable % (n)	Mean	Total returned = 60
Was the judge fair and impartial to all sides in the case?	83% 50	15% 9	2% 1	0% 0	0% 0	4.8	60
Was the judge respectful and courteous?	85% 51	13% 8	2% 1	0% 0	0% 0	4.8	60
Was the judge attentive during proceedings?	77% 46	18% 11	3% 2	2% 1	0% 0	4.7	60
Did the judge exercise appropriate control over the proceedings?	75% 44	24% 14	2% 1	0% 0	0% 0	4.7	59
How would you evaluate the judge's intelligence and skill as a judge?	81% 48	15% 9	3% 2	0% 0	0% 0	4.8	59
How would you evaluate the judge overall?	83% 49	17% 10	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.8	59

**Table 12: Court Employee Survey Results for Trevor Stephens
2004 Alaska Judicial Council Retention Court Employee Survey**

Question	Excellent % (n)	Good % (n)	Acceptable % (n)	Deficient % (n)	Poor % (n)	Mean	Total returned = 33
Does this judge treat court staff with respect?	94% 30	6% 2	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.9	32
Does this judge treat other people with respect?	97% 30	3% 1	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.97	31
Does this judge manage the caseload and staff capably and effectively?	92% 23	8% 2	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.9	25
Does this judge work diligently and act promptly on matters that need attention?	93% 25	7% 2	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.9	27
Does this judge act with integrity?	97% 31	3% 1	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.97	32
Does this judge act with fairness and impartiality?	97% 31	3% 1	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.97	32
Does this judge have the ability to control the courtroom?	96% 25	4% 1	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.96	26
Overall evaluation of the judge's performance.	91% 29	9% 3	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.9	32



alaska judicial council

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Judicial Council Members
FROM: Staff
DATE: April 22, 2004
RE: Comparison of Previous Survey Results - Trevor Stephens

Judge Stephens is standing for retention in 2004. The table on the following page compares retention survey scores for Judge Stephens.

This is Judge Stephens' first time to stand for retention. He was evaluated with the other non-retention judges in 2002.

Judge Stephens applied for and was appointed to the Ketchikan Superior Court in 2000.

Judge Trevor Stephens Appointed to Ketchikan Superior Court 7/31/00				
	2004 Retention		2002 Retention Preview	
	Bar	PPO	Bar	PPO
Legal Ability	4.4	—	4.5	—
Impartiality	4.5	4.8	4.3	4.8
Integrity	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.8
Judicial Temperament	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.8
Diligence	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.9
Special Skills	4.5	4.7	—	—
Overall Performance	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.9