

# Alaska Judicial Council Recommendation

## Judge Sharon L. Gleason, Superior Court, Anchorage

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

**II. Summary of Evaluation Information.** A survey of 2,927 attorneys in Alaska rated Judge Gleason on sixteen categories that are summarized in the adjacent graph. Attorneys rated Judge Gleason 4.2 on a scale of 5 on overall judicial performance. She scored 4.1 or better in all sixteen categories.

	Attorney Survey	Peace Officer Survey	Juror Survey	Court Employee Survey	Alaska Judicial Observers
Legal Ability	4.1	---	---	---	---
Impartiality	4.2	4.3	4.9	4.6	---
Integrity	4.4	4.5	---	4.6	---
Temperament	4.4	4.3	4.9	4.6	---
Diligence	4.3	4.5	---	4.5	---
Special Skills	4.2	4.3	---	---	---
Overall	4.2	4.4	4.9	4.6	3.8

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

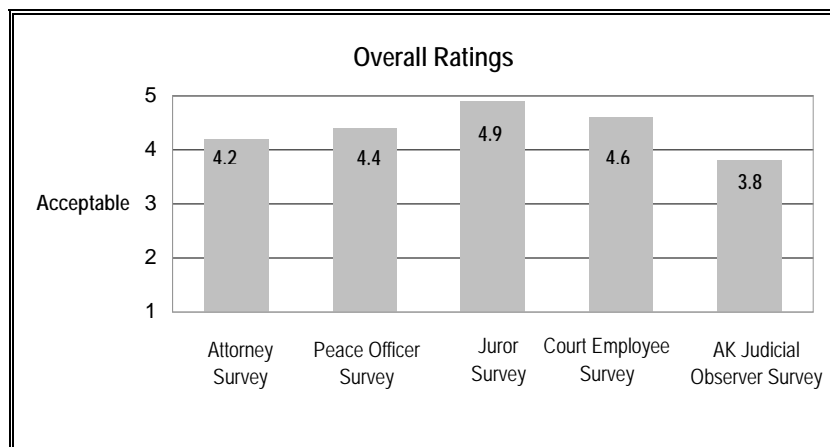
#### Rating Scale

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 Gleason on twelve categories that are summarized in the adjacent graph. Peace and probation officers rated Judge Gleason 4.4 on a scale of 5 on overall judicial performance. She scored 4.2 or better in all twelve categories.

A survey of jurors appearing before Judge Gleason in 2002 and 2003 rated her 4.9 on a scale of 5 on overall performance. A survey of all court employees rated her 4.6 on a scale of 5 on overall performance. The Alaska Judicial Observers, independent community-based volunteer court observers, gave Judge Gleason a 3.8 overall rating on a scale of 5.

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 Sharon L. Gleason**

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](http://www.ajc.state.ak.us)

November 2004



# alaska judicial council

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Larry Cohn

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ALASKA  
JUDICIAL COUNCIL

## Alaska Judicial Council Questionnaire

### Trial Judge 2004 Candidates for Judicial Retention

November 10, 2003

NON-ATTORNEY MEMBERS

Eleanor Andrews  
Bill Gordon  
Gigi Pilcher

ATTORNEY MEMBERS

Geoffrey G. Currell  
Robert B. Groseclose  
Susan Orlansky

CHAIR, EX OFFICIO

Alexander O. Bryner  
Chief Justice  
Supreme Court

Sharon L. Gleason  
Name

Anchorage Superior Court  
Court

*Please see attached for answers to all questions*

1. Describe your workload during your present term.

a) \_\_\_\_\_% Civil Cases  
\_\_\_\_\_% Criminal Cases  
\_\_\_\_\_% Court Administrative  
100 % Total

b) \_\_\_\_\_# of trials/year  
\_\_\_\_\_# Administrative Appeals

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

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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.

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 \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- b) been involved in a nonjudicial capacity in any legal proceeding whether as a party or otherwise? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- c) engaged in the practice of law (other than as a judge)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- d) held office in any political party? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- e) held any other local state or federal office? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_.

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

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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.

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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.)

1

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

2

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

3

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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.)

1.

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

2.

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

3.

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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.)

**1**

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

\_\_\_\_\_

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

**2**

\_\_\_\_\_

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

**3**

\_\_\_\_\_

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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.)

**1**

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

**2**

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

*Name of Case*

*Case Number*

**3**

*Attorneys Involved*

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_

## Alaska Judicial Council Questionnaire

Sharon L. Gleason, Anchorage Superior Court Judge

1. *Describe your workload during your present term.*

- |                                |                                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a) <u>90%</u> Civil Cases      | b) <u>50</u> # of trials/year *   |
| <u>5%</u> Criminal Cases       | <u>2</u> # Administrative Appeals |
| <u>5%</u> Court Administrative |                                   |
| 100 % Total                    |                                   |

\* 5 Civil jury trials, 10 Children's trials, and 35 Domestic trials.

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

Chair, Family Rules Committee  
Chair, Family Law Self Help Center Advisory Committee  
Member, Civil Rules Committee  
Speaker for various CLE's and court system educational programs

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.*

The past two and one-half years that I have been on the bench have been a remarkably challenging and immensely rewarding professional experience for me. I try to be ever mindful of the importance that the judicial process has in the lives of each of the litigants that appear in court, and strive to do my best to insure that each litigant believes that he or she has been fairly heard before I render any decision. I particularly try to say a few remarks to each of the litigants in custody disputes at the conclusion of court proceedings in the hope that I may help them to be better parents for their children in the years that lie ahead for them.

I believe that I have been able to contribute to the Alaska bench with my expertise in the family law area, as I am regularly the recipient of e-mails and phone calls from other judges throughout the state seeking my input in this important area. Likewise, I have found other judges to be very



supportive and readily available to provide input regarding my concerns, particularly in those areas of law where I have considerably less expertise.

I have been a regular speaker at CLEs in Anchorage, speaking on topics such as court procedures, alternate dispute resolution, children in need of aid proceedings, and Bench/ Bar Off the Record exchanges. I have been a speaker at local schools, the Anchorage Youth Court, the Inns of Court, and the Tort and Family Law Sections of the Alaska Bar Association. I spoke on domestic violence at the Judge's Conference in October 2002, and have been the presenter at several educational sessions for employees of the Alaska Court System. When I traveled to Unalaska to preside at a criminal trial in October 2002, I arranged to speak at the local school there regarding our court system.

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? No

b) been involved in a nonjudicial capacity in any legal proceeding whether as a party or otherwise? No

c) engaged in the practice of law (other than as a judge)? No

d) held office in any political party? No

e) held any other local state or federal office? No

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.*

1. Pedro Disla v. Tanya Rice, Case No. 3AN-02-10536 Civil

Attorneys involved:

For Plaintiff: Michaela Canterbury-Kelley, Esq.  
821 N Street, Suite 206  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For Defendant: Laura Eakes, Esq.  
360 K Street, Suite 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 995801

2. Cindilee Dupuis v. Laura Bedard, Case No. 3AN-01-7369 Civil

For Plaintiff: James Powell, Esq.  
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1100  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For Defendant: Phillip Eide, Esq.  
425 G Street, Suite 930  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

3. Cliff Burglin v. The Lundgren Group, Case No. 3AN-02-6273 Civil

For Plaintiff: Joseph Sheehan, Esq.  
607 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Box 70906  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

For Defendant: Peter Aschenbrenner, Esq.  
Box 73998  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

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.*

1. In Re: B.T.M., Case No. 3AN-00-545 CP

Vinnie Nemecek, Esq.  
Attorney General's Office  
1031 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Linda Beecher, Esq.  
Public Defender Agency  
900 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Randall Cavanaugh, Esq.  
711 H Street, Suite 450  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Daniel Bair, Esq.  
814 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Ms. Lola Tobuk  
Eklutna Child Advocacy Center  
201 Barrow Street, Suite 102B  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

2. Jayne Fortson v. Blanton Fortson, Case No. 3AN-02-9193 Civil

For Plaintiff: Bruce Bookman, Esq.  
810 N Street, Suite 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For Defendant: Karla Huntington, Esq.  
634 K Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

3. Jan-Ake Schultz v. Elizabeth Ciccone, Case No. 3AN-02-13290 CI

For Plaintiff: Gary Eschbacher, Esq.  
201 Barrow Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For Defendant: Jennifer Wagner, Esq.  
421 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Suite 250  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

7. *Please list the names and case numbers of the three most recent case 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.*

1. Kyong Kim v. Hyon Morrissette, Case No. 3AN-03-8130 Civil

For the Plaintiff: Allen Bailey, Esq.  
310 K Street, Suite 100  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For the Defendant: Daniel O'Phelan, Esq.  
2230 Cara Loop  
Anchorage, Alaska 99515

2. Jamie Hough v. SOA, Case No. 3A02-5963 Civil

For the Plaintiff: Elizabeth Smith, Esq.  
510 S. Alaska Street  
Palmer, Alaska 99645

For the Defendant: Stephanie Galbraith-Moore, Esq.  
Attorney General's Office  
1031 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

3. Deborah Swallow v. Charles Swallow, Case No. 3AN-03-8613 Civil

For the Plaintiff: Peggy Roston, Esq.  
3380 C Street, Suite 202  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

For the Defendant: Herbert Viergutz, Esq.  
1029 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Suite 280  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

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.*

1. Friends of Animals v. SOA, Case No. 3AN-03-13489 Civil

For the Plaintiff: James Reeves, Esq.  
1031 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 600  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For the Defendant: Kevin Saxby, Esq.  
Attorney Generals Office  
1031 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

2. Alaska Inter-tribal Council v. SOA, Case No. 3DI-99-00113 Civil

For the Plaintiff: Lawrence Aschenbrenner, Esq.  
420 L Street, Suite 505  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For the Defendant: James Baldwin, Esq.  
Attorney Generals Office  
1031 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 200  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

3. Ben Darling, et. al. v. Trident Seafoods, Case No. 3AN-99-12326 Civil

For the Plaintiffs: Richard Vollertsen, Esq.  
420 L Street, Suite 500  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For the Defendants: Michael Barcott, Esq.  
999 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Suite 2600  
Seattle, WA 98104-4001

## E. SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE SHARON L. GLEASON

### 1. ALASKA BAR ASSOCIATION

#### *Demographic Description of all Alaska Bar Association Respondents (N=420)*

a. <u>Type of Practice:</u>	Private, solo	23.6%
	Private, office of 2-5 attorneys	23.6%
	Private, office of 6 or more attorneys	19.0%
	Private corporate employee	1.4%
	State judge or judicial officer	7.4%
	Government	16.9%
	Public service agency or organization	2.1%
	Other	0.7%
	No Answer	5.2%
b. <u>Years of Experience:</u>	5 Years or fewer	8.6%
	6-10 Years	12.1%
	11-15 Years	12.4%
	16-20 Years	21.2%
	21 Years or more	40.7%
	No Answer	5.0%
c. <u>Gender:</u>	Male	62.9%
	Female	32.6%
	No Answer	4.5%
d. <u>Cases Handled:</u>	Prosecution	2.9%
	Mainly criminal	3.1%
	Mixed criminal and civil	19.5%
	Mainly civil	66.9%
	Other	2.4%
	No Answer	5.2%
e. <u>Location of Practice:</u>	First District	2.4%
	Second District	0.7%
	Third District	87.9%
	Fourth District	1.9%
	Outside Alaska	2.1%
	No Answer	5.0%

#### **Summary of Findings:**

Judge Sharon L. Gleason was evaluated by 355 Alaska Bar Association members who reported having direct professional experience with this judge. Of these 355 respondents, 162 (45.6%) had substantial and recent experience, 77 (21.7%) had moderate experience, 76 (21.4%) had limited experience, and 40 (11.3%) did not indicate level of experience. The mean score on the overall evaluation item was 4.2. The highest mean scores were obtained on *conduct free from impropriety or appearance of impropriety* (4.4) and *courtesy, freedom from arrogance* (4.4). The lowest mean scores were obtained on *legal and factual analysis* (4.1), *knowledge of substantive law* (4.1), and *settlement skills* (4.1). Details are presented in the two tables that follow.

**Evaluation of Superior Court Judge Sharon L. Gleason:  
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>	
<b>Legal Ability</b>											
Legal and factual analysis	7	2.0	22	6.3	48	13.8	118	33.9	153	44.0	4.1
Knowledge of substantive law	7	2.1	12	3.6	58	17.5	118	35.5	137	41.3	4.1
Knowledge of evidence and procedure	6	1.9	12	3.7	46	14.2	120	37.2	139	43.0	4.2
<b>Impartiality</b>											
Equal treatment of all parties	10	2.9	25	7.3	38	11.0	97	28.2	174	50.6	4.2
Sense of basic fairness and justice	7	2.1	24	7.2	34	10.1	104	31.0	166	49.6	4.2
<b>Integrity</b>											
Conduct free from impropriety or appearance of impropriety	7	2.1	4	1.2	43	12.8	84	25.1	197	58.8	4.4
Makes decisions without regard to possible public criticism	7	2.3	14	4.5	37	12.0	81	26.3	169	54.9	4.3
<b>Judicial Temperament</b>											
Courtesy, freedom from arrogance	7	2.0	10	2.9	35	10.1	75	21.7	218	63.2	4.4
Human understanding and compassion	6	1.8	15	4.5	35	10.4	88	26.2	192	57.1	4.3
<b>Diligence</b>											
Reasonable promptness in making decisions	7	2.1	10	3.0	51	15.3	119	35.6	147	44.0	4.2
Willingness to work diligently; preparation for hearings	7	2.1	5	1.5	42	12.9	97	29.8	175	53.7	4.3
<b>Special Skills</b>											
Ability to control courtroom	4	1.3	10	3.4	42	14.1	108	36.2	134	45.0	4.2
Settlement skills	5	2.2	9	4.0	46	20.4	71	31.4	95	42.0	4.1
Consideration of all relevant factors in sentencing	4	3.4	5	4.3	17	14.7	31	26.7	59	50.9	4.2
Talent and ability for cases involving children and families	6	3.0	6	3.0	28	13.9	48	23.9	113	56.2	4.3
<b>Overall Evaluation</b>											
Overall evaluation of judge	6	1.8	16	4.7	45	13.2	103	30.1	172	50.3	4.2

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 Sharon L. Gleason:  
Alaska Bar Association Members**

	<b>Total</b>		<b>Poor</b>	<b>Deficient</b>	<b>Acceptable</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>n</i>	<i>Mean</i>	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Basis for Evaluation</b>							
No Answer	18	4.6	-	-	-	44.4	55.6
<b>Direct Professional Experience</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>50.3</b>
Professional Reputation	53	4.0	-	1.9	26.4	39.6	32.1
Social Contacts	6	3.8	-	-	50.0	16.7	33.3
<b>Type of Practice</b>							
No Answer	18	3.7	11.1	-	27.8	33.3	27.8
Solo	85	4.1	-	4.7	22.4	31.8	41.2
2 – 5 Attorneys	80	4.2	3.8	6.3	11.3	28.8	50.0
6+ Attorneys	68	4.2	-	5.9	14.7	32.4	47.1
Corporate	2	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Judge or Judicial Officer	27	4.6	3.7	-	3.7	14.8	77.8
Government	54	4.4	-	5.6	1.9	35.2	57.4
Public Service	6	4.7	-	-	-	33.3	66.7
Other	2	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
<b>Years of Experience</b>							
No Answer	15	3.5	13.3	-	26.7	40.0	20.0
5 Years or fewer	29	4.5	-	-	6.9	37.9	55.2
6 – 10 Years	42	4.3	2.4	-	19.0	23.8	54.8
11 – 15 Years	45	4.2	2.2	4.4	11.1	31.1	51.1
16 – 20 Years	74	4.2	1.4	6.8	12.2	27.0	52.7
21 Years or more	137	4.2	0.7	6.6	12.4	30.7	49.6
<b>Gender</b>							
No Answer	15	3.5	13.3	-	26.7	40.0	20.0
Male	222	4.3	0.9	3.6	13.5	32.4	49.5
Female	105	4.2	1.9	7.6	10.5	23.8	56.2
<b>Cases Handled</b>							
No Answer	17	3.6	11.8	-	23.5	41.2	23.5
Prosecution	9	4.0	-	22.2	-	33.3	44.4
Criminal	11	4.3	-	-	27.3	18.2	54.5
Criminal and Civil	71	4.2	4.2	2.8	12.7	26.8	53.5
Civil	224	4.3	0.4	5.4	12.1	31.3	50.9
Other	10	4.4	-	-	20.0	20.0	60.0
<b>Location of Practice</b>							
No Answer	17	3.5	11.8	-	29.4	41.2	17.6
First District	6	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Second District	2	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Third District	306	4.2	1.3	4.6	13.1	30.1	51.0
Fourth District	5	4.2	-	20.0	-	20.0	60.0
Outside Alaska	6	4.0	-	16.7	-	50.0	33.3
<b>Amount of Experience</b>							
No Answer	37	4.1	5.4	2.7	13.5	37.8	40.5
Substantial	159	4.4	1.9	5.0	11.3	19.5	62.3
Moderate	73	4.2	-	5.5	17.8	32.9	43.8
Limited	73	4.1	1.4	4.1	12.3	46.6	35.6



**E. SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE SHARON L. GLEASON**

**2. PEACE AND PROBATION OFFICERS**

***Demographic Description of all Peace and Probation Officer Respondents (N=15)***

a. <u>Type of Work:</u>	State Law Enforcement Officer	53.3%
	Municipal/Borough Law Enforcement Officer	20.0%
	Village Public Safety Officer	6.7%
	Probation-Patrol Officer	13.3%
	Other	6.7%
	No Answer	0.0%
b. <u>Years of Experience:</u>	5 Years or fewer	20.0%
	6-10 Years	26.7%
	11-15 Years	20.0%
	16-20 Years	6.7%
	21 Years or more	26.7%
	No Answer	0.0%
c. <u>Gender:</u>	Male	80.0%
	Female	20.0%
	No Answer	0.0%
d. <u>Location of Work:</u>	First District	0.0%
	Second District	0.0%
	Third District	93.3%
	Fourth District	6.7%
	Outside Alaska	0.0%
	No Answer	0.0%
e. <u>Community Population:</u>	Under 2,000	6.7%
	Between 2,000 and 35,000	26.7%
	35,000 or over	66.7%
	No Answer	0.0%

**Summary of Findings:**

Judge Sharon L. Gleason was evaluated by 13 Peace and Probation Officers who reported having direct professional experience with this judge. Of these 13 respondents, 2 (15.4%) had substantial and recent experience, 2 (15.4%) had moderate experience, 8 (61.5%) had limited experience, and 1 (7.8%) 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* (4.5), *makes decisions without regard to possible public criticism* (4.5), *willingness to work diligently; preparation for hearings* (4.5), and *ability to control courtroom* (4.5). The lowest mean scores were obtained on *human understanding and compassion* (4.2) and *consideration of all relevant factors in sentencing* (4.2). Details are presented in the two tables that follow.

**Evaluation of Superior Court Judge Sharon L. Gleason:  
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>	
<b>Impartiality</b>											
Equal treatment of all parties	-	-	1	7.7	2	15.4	2	15.4	8	61.5	4.3
Sense of basic fairness and justice	-	-	1	7.7	1	7.7	3	23.1	8	61.5	4.4
<b>Integrity</b>											
Conduct free from impropriety or appearance of impropriety	-	-	-	-	1	8.3	4	33.3	7	58.3	4.5
Makes decisions without regard to possible public criticism	-	-	1	9.1	1	9.1	1	9.1	8	72.7	4.5
<b>Judicial Temperament</b>											
Courtesy, freedom from arrogance	-	-	1	7.7	2	15.4	2	15.4	8	61.5	4.3
Human understanding and compassion	1	8.3	-	-	2	16.7	2	16.7	7	58.3	4.2
<b>Diligence</b>											
Reasonable promptness in making decisions	-	-	-	-	3	25.0	1	8.3	8	66.7	4.4
Willingness to work diligently; preparation for hearings	-	-	-	-	2	16.7	2	16.7	8	66.7	4.5
<b>Special Skills</b>											
Ability to control courtroom	-	-	-	-	2	18.2	2	18.2	7	63.6	4.5
Consideration of all relevant factors in sentencing	1	9.1	-	-	2	18.2	1	9.1	7	63.6	4.2
Talent and ability for cases involving children and families	-	-	1	9.1	2	18.2	1	9.1	7	63.6	4.3
<b>Overall Evaluation</b>											
Overall evaluation of judge	-	-	-	-	3	23.1	2	15.4	8	61.5	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 Sharon L. Gleason:  
Peace and Probation Officers**

	<b>Total</b>		<b>Poor</b>	<b>Deficient</b>	<b>Acceptable</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
<i>Demographics</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
<b>Basis for Evaluation</b>							
No Answer	5	3.4	-	-	60.0	40.0	-
<b>Direct Professional Experience</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>61.5</b>
Professional Reputation	2	4.5	-	-	-	50.0	50.0
Social Contacts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Type of Work</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State Officer	7	4.6	-	-	14.3	14.3	71.4
Municipal/Borough	3	4.0	-	-	33.3	33.3	33.3
Village Public Safety Officer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Probation/Parole Officer	2	4.0	-	-	50.0	-	50.0
Other	1	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
<b>Years of Experience</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Years or fewer	2	4.0	-	-	50.0	-	50.0
6 – 10 Years	3	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
11 – 15 Years	3	4.7	-	-	-	33.3	66.7
16 – 20 Years	1	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
21 Years or more	4	3.8	-	-	50.0	25.0	25.0
<b>Gender</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Male	11	4.5	-	-	18.2	18.2	63.6
Female	2	4.0	-	-	50.0	-	50.0
<b>Location of Work</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
First District	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Second District	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Third District	12	4.5	-	-	16.7	16.7	66.7
Fourth District	1	3.0	-	-	100.0	-	-
Outside Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Population in Community</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,000-35,000	4	4.3	-	-	25.0	25.0	50.0
Over 35,000	9	4.4	-	-	22.2	11.1	66.7
<b>Amount of Experience</b>							
No Answer	1	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Substantial	2	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Moderate	2	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Limited	8	4.0	-	-	37.5	25.0	37.5

**E. SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE SHARON L. GLEASON**

**3. SOCIAL WORKERS/GUARDIANS AD LITEM/CASA VOLUNTEERS**

***Demographic Description of all Social Workers/GAL/CASA Respondents (N=12)***

a.	<u>Type of Work:</u>	Social Worker	50.0%
		Guardian ad Litem	16.7%
		CASA Volunteer	33.3%
		Other	0.0%
		No Answer	0.0%
b.	<u>Years of Experience:</u>	5 Years or fewer	66.6%
		6-10 Years	8.3%
		11-15 Years	8.3%
		16-20 Years	16.7%
		21 Years or more	0.0%
		No Answer	0.0%
c.	<u>Gender:</u>	Male	0.0%
		Female	100.0%
		No Answer	0.0%
d.	<u>Location of Work:</u>	First District	0.0%
		Second District	0.0%
		Third District	100.0%
		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	0.0%
		35,000 or over	100.0%
		No Answer	0.0%

**Summary of Findings:**

Judge Sharon L. Gleason was evaluated by a total of 10 Social Workers, Guardians ad Litem, and CASA volunteers who reported having direct professional experience with this judge. Of these 10 respondents, 4 (40.0%) had substantial and recent experience, 5 (50.0%) had moderate experience, 1 (10.0%) had limited experience, and 0 (0.0%) did not indicate level of experience. The mean score on the overall evaluation item was 4.6. The highest mean scores were obtained on *sense of basic fairness and justice* (4.7) and *courtesy, freedom from arrogance* (4.7). The lowest mean scores were obtained on *settlement skills* (4.3) and *talent and ability for cases involving children and families* (4.3). Details are presented in the two tables that follow.

***Evaluation of Superior Court Judge Sharon L. Gleason:  
Social Workers/Guardians ad Litem/CASA Volunteers***

	<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>	
<b>Impartiality</b>											
Equal treatment of all parties	-	-	-	-	1	10.0	3	30.0	6	60.0	4.5
Sense of basic fairness and justice	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	33.3	6	66.7	4.7
<b>Integrity</b>											
Conduct free from impropriety or appearance of impropriety	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	44.4	5	55.6	4.6
<b>Judicial Temperament</b>											
Courtesy, freedom from arrogance	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	33.3	6	66.7	4.7
Human understanding and compassion	-	-	-	-	1	11.1	2	22.2	6	66.7	4.6
<b>Diligence</b>											
Reasonable promptness in making decisions	-	-	-	-	2	20.0	2	20.0	6	60.0	4.4
Willingness to work diligently; preparation for hearings	-	-	-	-	1	12.5	3	37.5	4	50.0	4.4
<b>Special Skills</b>											
Ability to control courtroom	-	-	-	-	1	11.1	3	33.3	5	55.6	4.4
Settlement skills	-	-	-	-	3	37.5	-	-	5	62.5	4.3
Talent and ability for cases involving children and families	-	-	-	-	2	22.2	2	22.2	5	55.6	4.3
<b>Overall Evaluation</b>											
Overall evaluation of judge	-	-	-	-	1	11.1	2	22.2	6	66.7	4.6

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

**Ratings on the “Overall Evaluation” Item for Superior Court Judge Sharon L. Gleason:  
Social Workers/Guardians ad Litem/CASA Volunteers**

<i>Demographics</i>	<b>Total</b>		<b>Poor</b>	<b>Deficient</b>	<b>Acceptable</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<i>n</i>	<i>Mean</i>	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Basis for Evaluation</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Direct Professional Experience</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4.6</b>	-	-	<b>11.1</b>	<b>22.2</b>	<b>66.7</b>
Professional Reputation	2	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0
Social Contacts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Type of Work</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social Worker	5	4.8	-	-	-	20.0	80.0
Guardian ad Litem	2	4.0	-	-	50.0	-	50.0
CASA Volunteer	2	4.5	-	-	-	50.0	50.0
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Years of Experience</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 Years or fewer	5	4.8	-	-	-	20.0	80.0
6 – 10 Years	1	4	-	-	-	100.0	-
11 – 15 Years	1	5	-	-	-	-	100.0
16 – 20 Years	2	4	-	-	50.0	-	50.0
21 Years or more	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Gender</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Female	9	4.6	-	-	11.1	22.2	66.7
<b>Location of Work</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
First District	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Second District	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Third District	9	4.6	-	-	11.1	22.2	66.7
Fourth District	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Outside Alaska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Population of Community</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,000-35,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 35,000	9	4.6	-	-	11.1	22.2	66.7
<b>Amount of Experience</b>							
No Answer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Substantial	4	4.3	-	-	25.0	25.0	50.0
Moderate	4	4.8	-	-	-	25.0	75.0
Limited	1	5.0	-	-	-	-	100.0

**Table 7:  
Juror Survey Results for Sharon L. Gleason  
2004 Alaska Judicial Council Retention Juror Survey**

<b>Question</b>	<b>Excellent % (n)</b>	<b>Good % (n)</b>	<b>Acceptable % (n)</b>	<b>Deficient % (n)</b>	<b>Unacceptable % (n)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Total returned = 65</b>
Was the judge fair and impartial to all sides in the case?	89% 58	11% 7	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.9	65
Was the judge respectful and courteous?	99% 64	2% 1	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.98	65
Was the judge attentive during proceedings?	88% 57	9% 6	3% 2	0% 0	0% 0	4.9	65
Did the judge exercise appropriate control over the proceedings?	86% 56	9% 6	5% 3	0% 0	0% 0	4.8	65
How would you evaluate the judge's intelligence and skill as a judge?	88% 57	11% 7	2% 1	0% 0	0% 0	4.9	65
How would you evaluate the judge overall?	92% 59	8% 5	0% 0	0% 0	0% 0	4.9	64

**Table 6: Court Employee Survey Results for Sharon Gleason  
 2004 Alaska Judicial Council Retention Court Employee Survey**

<b>Question</b>	<b>Excellent % (n)</b>	<b>Good % (n)</b>	<b>Acceptable % (n)</b>	<b>Deficient % (n)</b>	<b>Poor % (n)</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Total returned = 65</b>
Does this judge treat court staff with respect?	67% 42	22% 14	10% 6	0% 0	2% 1	4.5	63
Does this judge treat other people with respect?	71% 40	20% 11	7% 4	0% 0	2% 1	4.6	56
Does this judge manage the caseload and staff capably and effectively?	65% 32	20% 10	12% 6	2% 1	0% 0	4.5	49
Does this judge work diligently and act promptly on matters that need attention?	69% 36	19% 10	10% 5	0% 0	2% 1	4.5	52
Does this judge act with integrity?	76% 40	15% 8	6% 3	4% 2	0% 0	4.6	53
Does this judge act with fairness and impartiality?	73% 38	17% 9	6% 3	4% 2	0% 0	4.6	52
Does this judge have the ability to control the courtroom?	76% 35	15% 7	7% 3	0% 0	2% 1	4.6	46
Overall evaluation of the judge's performance.	71% 40	21% 12	5% 3	0% 0	2% 1	4.6	56





# alaska judicial council

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Judicial Council Members  
**FROM:** Staff  
**DATE:** April 22, 2004  
**RE:** Comparison of Previous Survey Results - Sharon L. Gleason

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

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

Judge Gleason applied for and was appointed to the Anchorage Superior Court in 2001.

<b>Judge Sharon L. Gleason</b> Appointed to Anchorage Superior Court 2/19/01				
	<b>2004 Retention</b>		<b>2002 Retention Preview</b>	
	<b>Bar</b>	<b>PPO</b>	<b>Bar</b>	<b>PPO</b>
<b>Legal Ability</b>	4.1	—	4.2	—
<b>Impartiality</b>	4.2	4.3	4.3	3.8
<b>Integrity</b>	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.0
<b>Judicial Temperament</b>	4.4	4.3	4.3	3.8
<b>Diligence</b>	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.0
<b>Special Skills</b>	4.2	4.3	—	—
<b>Overall Performance</b>	4.2	4.4	4.3	3.8