



Print Questionnaire

# alaska judicial council

510 L Street, Suite 450, Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
http://www.ajc.state.ak.us

(907) 279-2526

FAX (907) 276-5046  
E-mail: postmaster@ajc.state.ak.us

## Alaska Judicial Council Trial Judge Questionnaire

### 2020 Candidates for Judicial Retention

November 2019

Leslie Dickson  
Name

Anchorage District Court  
Court

1. Please estimate your workload during your present term.

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| a) <u>20</u> % civil cases           | b) <u>10</u> # of jury trials/year        |
| <u>75</u> % criminal cases           | <u>8</u> # of non-jury trials/year        |
| <u>5</u> % court administrative work | <u>0</u> # of administrative appeals/year |
| 100 % Total                          |   |

Small claims trials are not included here, as the court system does not track them. I would estimate I do approximately 25 of those every year.

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

Anchorage Association of Women Lawyers  
Anchorage Bar Association  
Magistrate Training Judge (trained three magistrates since 2016)  
Mentor Judge  
Juror Welcomes

3. Please describe any judicial or legal education you have undertaken or provided during your current term in office.

Judicial Conferences; 2016-2019  
National Judicial College, Domestic Violence training; 4/1-4/4/2019  
National Judicial College, Drugs in America Today - What Every Judge Needs to Know; 5/17-5/19/2017  
NHTSA Impaired Driving Assessment Screening Tools Webcast; 4/18/2017  
A Conversation with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sotomayor; 8/22/2016  
Taught trial course for Seattle University School of Law; 2017  
Barriers to the Bench panel with three other female judges moderated by Justice Fabe; 2018

4. Please describe any public outreach activities.

Success Inside and Out, Hiland Mountain Correctional Center; 2017-2019  
MLK Day volunteer; 2016  
AAWL new lawyers presentation; 2018  
Alaska Summer Trial Volunteer, Summer Trial Institute  
Alaska Youth Court judge; 2016  
Middle school Goldie Locks mock trial; 2017  
School tours of courthouse as requested; supervised a high school student at jail court getting civics credits.  
Juror Welcomes

5. 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.

A more experienced judge told me it takes three to five years to feel comfortable in the job. He was right. Seven years later, I have adjusted to my role on the bench and really enjoy it. The Anchorage District Court is a high-volume trial court and the ten judges really work as a team with our block calendaring. It can be frustrating as each litigant may only receive a small amount of our time due to heavy calendars, although their issue is important to them and can result in significant consequences in their lives. I believe my compassion, and ability to communicate and listen, assists litigants through what can be a daunting process. Many of our litigants are self-represented and it is important for them to understand what is happening to them. I enjoy meeting the hundreds of jurors who make sacrifices to serve, and am consistently impressed by how hard they work to make decisions on difficult cases.

We have a great team in place and I couldn't be happier with the job, my colleagues and our supportive and excellent court staff. I have acted as a mentor judge for one of our new judges and that has been a fulfilling experience. I still learn new things every week, which makes the job challenging, interesting and fun.

6. 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 non-judicial 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
  - f) had any complaints, charges or grievances filed against you with the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct, the Alaska Bar Association, the Alaska Court System, or any other agency that resulted in public proceedings or sanctions?  
 Yes  No

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

8. Please provide any other information which you believe would assist the Council in conducting its evaluations and in preparing its recommendations for the 2020 retention elections.

I have participated in the Alaska Women's Giving Circle during this term (although not in 2018 due to severe earthquake damage to my house). This group provides grants to non-profit, non-partisan defined projects which assist the community.

I have organized a Peak a Week hiking group that meets every Wednesday through the summer. This year was my 20th year! Anyone is welcome and we routinely adopt young lawyers and law clerks to join us to learn about the outdoors.

My running group sponsors an annual event to provide gift baskets for displaced or homeless women and children experiencing domestic violence.

***For questions 9 - 12, please do not list any cases that have pending issues in your court.***

- 9. Please list your three most recent jury trials including case names and numbers. Please list the names, current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these trials. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Case Number 1**

**Case Name:** Municipality of Anchorage **Case Number:** 3AN-19-01568 CR  
**v.** Timothy Lezama

***Attorneys Involved:***

Name: <u>Michael Shaffer</u>	Name: <u>R. James Christie III</u>
Address: <u>632 W. 6th Ave, Ste 210</u>	Address: <u>745 W. 4th Ave, Ste 250</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 2**

**Case Name:** Municipality of Anchorage **Case Number:** 3AN-18-05532 CR  
**v.** Mutazz Chenery

***Attorneys Involved:***

Name: <u>Monica Elkinton</u>	Name: <u>Lynn Bechtol</u>
Address: <u>632 W. 6th Ave, Ste 210</u>	Address: <u>750 W. 2nd Ave, Ste 104</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** Municipality of Anchorage **Case Number:** 3AN-17-09915 CR  
**v.** Saye Gatei

***Attorneys Involved:***

Name: <u>Jennifer Ivers</u>	Name: <u>Igor Herbey</u>
Address: <u>222 W. 7th Ave, Room 253 #9</u>	Address: <u>750 W. 2nd Ave, Ste 104</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99513</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

- 10. Please list your three most recent non-jury trials including case names and numbers. Please list the names, current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these trials. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Case Number 1**

**Case Name:** Elaina O'Loughlin **Case Number:** 3AN-17-00209 SC  
 v. Lucy and Marius Maxwell

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Jason Skala</u>	Name: <u>Michael Rose</u>
Address: <u>800 E. Dimond Blvd, Ste 3-305</u>	Address: <u>4300 B St, Ste 206</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99515</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99503</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 2**

**Case Name:** Taree Wood **Case Number:** 3AN-17-06561 CI  
 v. Sadi Smith

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Kimberlee Colbo</u>	Name: <u>Vikram Chaobal</u>
Address: <u>1029 W. 3rd Ave, Ste 110</u>	Address: <u>1841 W. 80th #7</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99502</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** Municipality of Anchorage **Case Number:** 3AN-14-05551/08861 CR  
 v. Kurt Sorensen

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: <u>Michael Shaffer</u>	Name: <u>Richard Payne</u>
Address: <u>632 W. 6th Ave, Ste 210</u>	Address: <u>750 W. 2nd Ave, Ste 104</u>
City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>	City, State, Zip: <u>Anchorage, AK 99501</u>
Name: _____	Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: _____

- 11. Please list your three most recent cases, including case names and numbers, which did not go to trial, but on which you did significant work (such as settlement conference, hearings, motion work, etc.). Please list the names, current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these cases. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Case Number 1**

**Case Name:** Cedar Crest Condo Assn. **Case Number:** 3AN-16-06198 CI  
 v. Lenell Cheatham

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Todd Timmermans	Name: Hal Gazaway
Address: 1049 W. 5th Ave, Ste 202	Address: 123 E. Fireweed Lane, Ste 215
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99503

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

**Case Number 2**

**Case Name:** State of Alaska **Case Number:** 3AN-17-02430 CR  
 v. Jennifer Putnam

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: John Haley III	Name: Chong Yim
Address: 310 K Street, Suite 520	Address: 900 West 5th Ave, Ste 200
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

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

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** Julianne Heyes **Case Number:** 3AN-17-10306 CI  
 v. ACMHS and Dee Foster

**Attorneys Involved:**

Name: Julianne Heyes, pro se	Name: Allen Clendaniel
Address: _____	Address: 500 L Street, Ste 500
City, State, Zip: _____	City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

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

12. *Optional:* If you deem it helpful to the Council, please list up to three other cases during your past term in which you believe your work was particularly noteworthy. Please list the names, current addresses, including zip codes and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in these cases. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

**Case Number 1**

**Case Name:** James Kuzma **Case Number:** 3AN-18-06109 CI  
 v. Municipality of Anchorage

***Attorneys Involved:***

Name: Megan Rowe	Name: Sarah Stanley
Address: 750 W. 2nd Ave, Ste 104	Address: 632 W. 6th Ave, Ste 210
City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501	City, State, Zip: Anchorage, AK 99501

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

**Case Number 2**

**Case Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Case Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 v. \_\_\_\_\_

***Attorneys Involved:***

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

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

**Case Number 3**

**Case Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Case Number:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 v. \_\_\_\_\_

***Attorneys Involved:***

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

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