

Attachment A
Sample Judicial Council selection survey document



alaska judicial council

510 L Street, Suite 450, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-1295
<http://www.ajc.state.ak.us>

(907) 279-2526 FAX (907) 276-5046
E-Mail: postmaster@ajc.state.ak.us

[REDACTED]
Dear Member of the Alaska Bar Association:

[REDACTED] individuals have applied to [REDACTED]. The Alaska Judicial Council is required by law to evaluate applicants for judicial positions. Applicant biographies can be accessed on the Council's website: <http://ajc.alaska.gov/selection/bios> [REDACTED]

The Council is seeking your help in rating and providing comments about the applicants' professional competence, integrity, and suitability to serve in the position. Given your experience as an attorney in Alaska and the potential that you know and/or have worked directly with one or more applicants, your input is highly valued. Participation from as many attorneys as possible will ensure that the survey findings are representative. As part of the merit-based selection process, the Council relies on survey findings as an important part of its review of each applicant's qualifications.

The survey is short; we estimate that it will take 2-3 minutes per applicant to complete. In addition to requesting numerical ratings, the Council encourages narrative comments. Please refer to Professional Conduct Rule 8.2 concerning your obligation to provide truthful and candid opinions on the qualifications and integrity of these applicants.

It is possible you may have rated these applicants in the past. The Council can only consider responses obtained through the current survey. Therefore, we ask that you rate any applicant for whom you have basis, even if you may have rated the individual in a previous survey.

We ask that you complete and return the survey no later than [REDACTED]. You may also receive an email invitation to complete the survey online. If you respond to the electronic survey, please do not respond to this paper survey.

On behalf of the Council, thank you for your time. The Council appreciates your willingness to share your opinions and experience.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susanne DiPietro".

Susanne DiPietro
Executive Director

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Introduction

Validation of Responses. A postage-paid business reply envelope is enclosed for the return of your completed evaluations. Place the completed survey inside the envelope marked “Confidential” and seal the envelope. Place that envelope inside the business reply envelope, being sure to sign in the space provided. The return envelope **MUST BE SIGNED** in order for your survey to be counted.

Confidentiality. All responses will be aggregated for statistical analysis. The identity of individual respondents will remain strictly confidential. Responses to the demographic questions also are confidential. Demographic data are critical to our analysis; strict guidelines are followed to protect the identities of all respondents.

The Council gives attorneys the option of identifying their written comments to the Council by signing comment pages. While optional, providing your name tends to give comments more credibility with the Council. The Council does not consider unsigned comments unless they are corroborated, independently substantiated, or acknowledged by the applicant. Your name will not be provided to the applicant, and it cannot be used by the Council to identify your ratings or your unsigned comments on other applicants. Survey comments will be shared with an applicant only after the comments have been edited to remove information that might identify the respondent. Note that you must write your name on each comment page for which you wish to identify yourself to the Council.

Return Date. Please complete and return this survey no later than [REDACTED], to:

UAA - Institute of Social and Economic Research
P.O. Box 230952
Anchorage, AK 99523

Questions. If you have questions about the survey, please contact [REDACTED] at UAA Institute of Social and Economic Research at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]. If you have questions for the Alaska Judicial Council, please contact Susanne DiPietro at postmaster@ajc.state.ak.us.

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Demographic Questions

1. Type of Practice. Which of the following best describes your practice? (CIRCLE ONE)
 1. Private, solo
 2. Private, office of 2-5 attorneys
 3. Private, office of 6 or more attorneys
 4. Private corporate employee
 5. Judge or judicial officer
 6. Government
 7. Public service agency or organization (not government)
 8. Retired
 9. Other (specify) _____

2. Length of Alaska Practice. How many years have you practiced law in Alaska?
_____ years

3. Gender. _____ Male _____ Female _____ Another identity

4. Cases Handled. The majority of your practice consists of (CIRCLE ONE)
 1. Prosecution
 2. Criminal
 3. Mixed criminal and civil
 4. Civil
 5. Other (specify) _____

5. Location of Practice. In which judicial district is most of your work conducted? (CIRCLE ONE)
 1. First District
 2. Second District
 3. Third District
 4. Fourth District
 5. Outside Alaska

Certification

I certify that I will answer this survey truthfully in accordance with Professional Conduct Rule 8.2.

Yes No

Attachment A - Continued
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Court

APPLICANT

****REQUIRED A-B** Basis for Evaluation**

- A. Which of the following best describes the basis for your evaluation of this applicant? Direct professional experience is limited to direct contact with the applicant's professional work. This includes working with or against the applicant on a legal matter (i.e., a case, arbitration, negotiation. . .) or as a judicial officer or other dispute resolution role. (check one)
- Direct professional experience Professional reputation Other personal contacts Insufficient knowledge to evaluate this applicant (go to next applicant)
- B. If you selected direct professional experience:
1. Does your experience with this applicant include experience within the last five years? Yes No
2. Please describe the amount of your experience with this applicant. Substantial Moderate Limited
- C. Please rate the applicant on each of the following qualities by circling the number that best represents your evaluation. Applicants should be evaluated on each quality separately. Use the ends of the scales as well as the middle. The tendency to rate an applicant "excellent" or "poor" on every trait should be avoided since each person has strengths and weaknesses. If you cannot rate the applicant on any one quality, leave that one blank.

1 PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE	1 POOR Lacking in knowledge and/or effectiveness	2 DEFICIENT Below-average performance occasionally	3 ACCEPTABLE Possesses sufficient knowledge and required skills	4 GOOD Usually knowledgeable and effective	5 EXCELLENT Meets the highest standards for knowledge and effectiveness
2 INTEGRITY	1 POOR Unconcerned with propriety and/or appearance, or acts in violation of codes of professional conduct	2 DEFICIENT Appears lacking in knowledge of codes of professional conduct and/or unconcerned with propriety or appearance at times	3 ACCEPTABLE Follows codes of professional conduct, respects propriety and appearance of propriety at all times	4 GOOD Above average awareness of ethics, holds self to higher standard than most	5 EXCELLENT Outstanding integrity and highest standards of conduct
3 FAIRNESS	1 POOR Often shows strong bias for or against some person or groups	2 DEFICIENT Displays, verbally or otherwise, some bias for or against groups or persons	3 ACCEPTABLE Free of substantial bias or prejudice towards groups or persons	4 GOOD Above average ability to treat all people and groups impartially	5 EXCELLENT Unusually fair and impartial to all groups
4 JUDICIAL TEMPERAMENT	1 POOR Often lacks compassion, humility, or courtesy	2 DEFICIENT Sometimes lacks compassion, humility, or courtesy	3 ACCEPTABLE Possess appropriate compassion, humility, and courtesy	4 GOOD Above average compassion, humility, and courtesy	5 EXCELLENT Outstanding compassion, humility, and courtesy
5 SUITABILITY OF THIS APPLICANT'S EXPERIENCE FOR THIS VACANCY	1 POOR Has little or no suitable experience	2 DEFICIENT Has less than suitable experience	3 ACCEPTABLE Has suitable experience	4 GOOD Has highly suitable experience	5 EXCELLENT Has the most suitable experience possible for this position
6 OVERALL RATING FOR THIS POSITION	1 POOR Has few qualifications for this position	2 DEFICIENT Has insufficient qualifications for this position	3 ACCEPTABLE Has suitable qualifications for this position	4 GOOD Has highly suitable qualifications for this position	5 EXCELLENT Has exceptionally high qualifications for this position

