March 2, 2020

RE: Fairbanks District Court Vacancy

Dear Member of the Alaska Bar Association:

The Alaska Judicial Council is seeking applicants for a vacancy on the Fairbanks District Court due to the upcoming retirement of Judge Patrick S. Hammers. This letter provides essential information about the position and the application deadline. For more information, please contact the Judicial Council at 279-2526, or by e-mail at sdipietro@ajc.state.ak.us.

Alaska judges must conform their conduct to the Alaska Code of Judicial Conduct and the laws of Alaska and the United States. They must be familiar with Alaska law, procedure, and trial practice. A district court judge must meet the qualifications set out at AS 22.15.160. They must: be a citizen of the United States and of the State of Alaska; be at least 21 years of age, be a resident of Alaska for at least five years immediately preceding appointment; and either (1) have engaged in the active practice of law, as defined in AS 22.05.070, for not less than three years immediately preceding appointment; and be licensed to practice law in Alaska at the time of appointment, or (2) have served for at least seven years as a magistrate in the state. In addition, Administrative Rule 19.1 requires that a magistrate who seeks appointment as a district court judge be a graduate of a law school accredited or approved by the Council of Legal Education of the American Bar Association or the Association of American Law Schools.

The annual salary of a Fairbanks District Court judge is $163,855. Judges also receive personal leave as established by the Administrative Rules of Court, state-paid health and dental benefits, and judicial retirement system benefits. An application form for this position may be obtained by writing or by calling the Alaska Judicial Council. Application forms may also be obtained online by visiting the Council’s website: www.ajc.state.ak.us. Completed applications for this position must be received by the Alaska Judicial Council no later than 3:00 p.m., April 3, 2020.

Sincerely,

Susanne DiPietro
Executive Director