

Alaska Judicial Council
Application for Judicial Appointment

Received
JUN 26 2025
Alaska Judicial Council

Position(s) for which you wish to be considered:
Alaska Court of Appeals

Date: June 24, 2025

I. Public Information (Questions 1-24)

Personal

1. (a) State full name* RuthAnne Beach
Name as it should appear on bar survey: RuthAnne Beach
* Unless otherwise specified, this is how your name will appear on the bar survey.
- (b) Have you ever used or been known by any other names or pseudonyms? If so, please identify. RuthAnne Beach Bergt
2. How long have you been a resident of the State of Alaska immediately preceding the date of this application? **
 12 years 0 months
Total 12 years 0 months
3. How long have you been engaged in the active practice of law immediately preceding the date of this application? **
 11 years 7 months
Total 11 years 7 months

Nonlegal Education

4. State names and dates of attendance of all colleges and professional schools (other than law schools) ever attended and degrees and dates conferred. List any honors.

Central Oregon Community College, Bend, Oregon, 1998-1999.
University of London, England, 1999
- exchange program through AFS, 4.0 GPA.
Southern Oregon University, Ashland, Oregon, 2000-2003
- Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, Minor in Psychology,
Dean's List award recipient nine times.

** See AS 22.10.090; see also 1984 Inf. Op. Atty. Gen. (July 19; 366- 624-84).

Legal Education

5. List all law schools, dates attended and degrees conferred. If you did not receive a degree from any law school, please indicate.

Thomas Jefferson School of Law, San Diego, CA, 2010-2013, Juris Doctor degree.

6. (a) Did you receive any honors in law school or belong to any honorary societies or groups?
☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, please give details.

Graduated with honors (Cum Laude); Dean's Scholarship recipient 2010-2013; Honor Roll/Academic Honors recipient 2010/2011/2012/2013; Witkin Award for Academic Excellence: Women and International Human Rights; Jefferson Medals: Women and International Human Rights, Advanced Appellate Advocacy, Moot Court Honor Society (Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013); Moot Court (President and competition member), 2012-2013; Alternative Dispute Resolution Society Member, 2011-2013; and TSJL Advisor contributing writer, 2012-2013.

- (b) Have you taken any CLE (continuing legal education) courses during the past five years?
☒ Yes ☐ No

Please describe or list. Please do not attach individual certificates of attendance.

I receive CLE credits each year for attending the annual District Attorney's Conference. The conference is a three-day training session with multiple presentations on criminal law, ethics, legislative updates, and appellate case reviews. For the past two years I have also attended an annual one-day Chief's Conference with the Department of Law focusing on management and leadership skills. Last year I attended a multiple day NAAG conference on leadership. I am a member of the Appellate Section of the Alaska Bar and attend meetings and "off the record" judicial events when offered.

Military

7. Have you served in the armed forces (reserves or otherwise)? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If so, please provide the following information:

- (a) Dates of service: _____
(b) Branch of service: _____
(c) Rank at time of discharge: _____
(d) Type of military discharge: _____
(e) Awards or citations: _____

- (f) Have you ever been refused admission to or released from any of the armed services for reasons other than honorable discharge? ☐ Yes ☐ No If so, state the details.

Nonlegal Employment

8. Describe major nonlegal working experience. If you had a business or association that has been discontinued, please note whether there are unpaid debts or claims pending litigation.

After graduating from Southern Oregon University and prior to attending law school, I spent two years working as a real estate broker with Keller Williams Realty and four years in Banking with Wells Fargo, Redding Bank of Commerce, and Torrey Pines Bank. I also managed my parents' business as they attended to medical needs that forced them to live out of town for extended periods of time.

Legal Experience

9. Describe chronologically your legal employment since admission to law school. Please provide dates and location of employment, name of employer, name AND CURRENT ADDRESS OF supervisor or person who can verify AND COMMENT ON YOUR employment, the reason you left the position, and a brief description of type of practice (i.e., insurance defense, criminal, appellate, general, litigation, etc.) for each position listed below. IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY A TRIAL COURT JUDGE, PLEASE LIST YOUR PRESIDING JUDGE. FOR PAST JUDGESHIPS, PLEASE LIST THE JUDGE WHO LAST PRESIDED DURING YOUR TIME ON THE BENCH.

The Council will ask for comments from your current and former employers about your employment and your judicial qualifications. You may choose to list other persons as character and professional references in response to Question 20 of this application.

If the supervisor or contact person asks (in writing) that the letter be shared with the governor, the Council will send designated letters for each nominee. The applicant should not request a copy of the letter from the reference. References or letters not solicited by the Council are considered public (with few exceptions) and will be sent to the governor for all nominees.

Current Employer: Alaska Department of Law, Office of Criminal Appeals

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Tamara DeLucia

Current address of this person: 310 K Street, Suite 702

City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99501

Dates and location of Employment: From June 2017 To current City Anchorage State Alaska

Job title and description:

I represent the State of Alaska before the Alaska Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and in matters of habeas corpus in federal court. Since October 2022, I have been serving as the Deputy Chief of the Office of Criminal Appeals, assisting the solicitor general in her management and supervisory duties.

Previous Employers: *(In chronological order, most recent first)*

Employer: Bankston, Gronning, O'Hara, P.C. (now Manley, Brautigam, Bankston, P.C.)

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Christopher M. Brecht

Current address of this person: 1127 W. 7th Ave.

City Anchorage State Alaska Zip 99501

Dates and Location of Employment: From March 2014 To May 2017 City Anchorage State Alaska

Job title and description:

Associate Attorney (previously Of Counsel). Gained experience in probate, arbitration/mediation, will drafting, trust litigation, commercial and business law, general civil litigation, divorce, landlord/tenant law, LLC and partnership law, real estate law, contract drafting, employment law, and insurance law.

Reason for Leaving: to pursue appellate practice

Employer: California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Charles Ragland

Current address of this person: 600 W. Broadway, Ste 1800

City San Diego State CA Zip 92101

Dates and Location of Employment: From Jan. 2013 To May 2013 City San Diego State CA

Job title and description:

Certified Legal Intern with the Appeals, Writs and Trial Section. I wrote Respondent and Reply briefs, I argued five cases in the court of appeals in Los Angeles and San Diego.

Reason for Leaving: I moved to Alaska.

Previous Employers (continued)

Employer: San Diego County Primary Public Defender

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Sloan Ostbye or Michael Washington

Current address of this person: 450 S. Melrose Dr., Ste 220

City Vista State CA Zip 92083

Dates and Location of Employment: From August 2012 To December 2012 City Vista State CA

Job title and description: Certified Legal Intern. I conducted legal research and wrote many motions including a judicial determination of factual innocence, motions to suppress evidence, and a Pitchess motion. I interviewed clients and helped to prepare them for hearings. I also advocated for defendants in arraignment and probation hearings.

Reason for Leaving: Internship ended.

Employer: Winet, Patrick, & Weaver (now Winet, Patrick, Gayer, Creighton, & Hanes)

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: Jennifer Creighton

Current address of this person: 1215 West Vista Way

City Vista State CA Zip 92083

Dates and Location of Employment: From May 2012 To August 2012 City Vista State CA

Job title and description: Legal intern. This is a civil firm specializing in school district representation. I performed extensive research and writing, reviewed and summarized e-discovery, medical records and other case materials, and attended mediations, hearings, and depositions.

Reason for Leaving: _____

Employer: _____

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: _____

Current address of this person: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Dates and Location of Employment: From _____ To _____ City _____ State _____

Job title and description: _____

Reason for Leaving: _____

Employer: _____

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: _____

Current address of this person: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Dates and Location of Employment: From _____ To _____ City _____ State _____

Job title and description: _____

Reason for Leaving: _____

Employer: _____

Supervisor or name of contact person who can verify employment: _____

Current address of this person: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Dates and Location of Employment: From _____ To _____ City _____ State _____

Job title and description: _____

Reason for Leaving: _____

10. During your legal career, please indicate (approximately) the following:

(a) Percent of your practice that was: Civil 20
Criminal 80
Other _____
= 100%

Comment: _____

(b) Percent: State 95
Federal 5
Other _____
= 100%

Comment: _____

(c) Of practice in state courts, percent: Supreme Court 20
Court of Appeals 75
Superior Court 5
District Court _____
= 100%

Comment: _____

(d) Frequency of appearance in court (select one):
☐ Regularly ☒ Occasionally ☐ Infrequently ☐ Not at All
Comment: I participate in oral argument a few times a year on average.

(e) Number of trials (by court or jury) you conducted (select one):
☒ None ☐ 1-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ 16-30 ☐ 31 or more
Comment: _____

(f) Percent of these trials which were: Jury _____ Non-Jury _____
Comment: _____

(g) Approximate number of appellate matters handled: 110
Comment: _____

(h) Approximate number of arbitrations or administrative hearings (select one):
☐ None ☒ 1-5 ☐ 6-15 ☐ 16-30 ☐ 31 or more
Briefly describe type of matters heard:

Contract dispute arbitrations.

(i) Please briefly summarize any *pro bono* work that you have done and indicate whether the work was done through a *pro bono* legal service provider (e.g. Alaska Legal Services, Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, etc.).

As an attorney for the State's criminal division, there are conflict of interest limitations that prevent me from providing *pro bono* representation in my area of expertise.

11. List all the courts and administrative tribunals in the United States or elsewhere to which you are or have been admitted to practice, and the dates of admission.

State of Alaska, 2013;
U.S. District Court, District of Alaska, 2013; and
U.S. Court of Appeals Ninth Circuit, 2022.

Public Service

12. List bar associations, and sections and committees of which you are or have been a member or officer.

Alaska Bar Association, New Lawyer Association Member, 2013-2014;
Alaska Bar Association, Estate Planning and Probate Law Section Member, 2015-2017;
Alaska Bar Association, Appellate Law Section Member, 2017-present; and
Anchorage Association of Women Lawyers Member, 2015-present.

13. List publications, if any (give title, subject and date of publications). Please include online publications such as blogs or websites, and any publications you have co-authored and the name(s) of the co-author(s).

14. Have you ever applied for a judgeship? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Please list dates and judgeships applied for, as well as whether you were nominated by the Judicial Council and appointed.

Judgeship	Date	Nominated By Council (Y/N)	Appointed By Governor (Y/N)

15. Have you ever held public or political office, elective or appointive? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If so, state office, manner selected, and when and where held.

16. Please provide the Council with information that you would like the Council to consider about other legal and nonlegal organizations and clubs of which you are a member, including civic, charitable, religious, educational, social and fraternal organizations. Please indicate whether you participate in the organization's activities, or simply hold a membership. Your involvement in the community is one of the criteria the Council uses in its evaluations. The Council does not use affiliation with a particular group as a criterion except to the extent that it might raise questions of conflict of interest or would affect an applicant's ability to impartially apply the law.

P.E.O. International, Chapter AC member, 2004 - present;
Tanaina Child Development Center, board of directors, 2018-2022; and
I am a current member of the PTA at my children's elementary school.

17. Indicate (Yes or No) whether you have ever:

- (a) been arrested, charged with, pled guilty or *nolo contendere* to, or been convicted of the violation of any law or ordinance, or been requested to appear before any prosecuting or investigative agency in connection with any matter in any jurisdiction, including all traffic offenses, unless the fine was less than \$100 and there were no other sanctions?
☒ Yes ☐ No
- (b) failed to answer any summons or other legal process served upon you personally at any time? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- (c) as a member of any armed forces, been the subject of any charges which may have resulted in disciplinary action or court martial? ☐ Yes ☒ No

- (d) had any proceedings brought to have you declared a ward of any court or adjudged an incompetent? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If your answer is "yes" to any part of this question, state the facts in detail. Give the name and place of the court or agency, dates of the beginning and end of any action or proceeding, case numbers, and the judgment or other disposition.

Traffic ticket, speeding, Bend, Oregon, Deschutes County, 1996, and
Traffic ticket, speeding, Redding, California, Shasta County, 2007.

18. (a) Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state or local authorities? ☐ Yes ☒ No

In particular, have you been the subject of any proceeding, criminal or civil, initiated against you by the Internal Revenue Service or a State Tax Office? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If so, give particulars, including case numbers.

- (b) Have you ever been sued by a client? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If so, give particulars, including case numbers.

- (c) Have you ever been a party in any other legal proceeding? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If so, give the particulars. Include all legal proceedings in which you were a party in interest, including petitioner or respondent in dissolution or divorce proceedings; a material witness; a named co-conspirator or correspondent; and subject or witness in any grand jury proceedings. Do not list proceedings in which you were sued only in a representative capacity (e.g. guardian ad litem, or as Commissioner of Natural Resources).

Divorce, 3AN-19-06693CI, Bergt v. Bergt; and
Civil Business Dispute in capacity as trustee of a personal trust of one of the business owners, M&D Ranch, LLC v. Rohe, LLC, CNC Homes, LLC, et al, Oregon case number 20cv33454. I was dismissed as a party to the case with prejudice, and without costs or fees, on May, 25, 2021.

(d) Has a court ever found you to have provided ineffective assistance of counsel?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If so, provide the particulars including petitioner and case number.

19. State the nature and disposition of any of the following actions which apply to you:

(a) Are there any unsatisfied judgments against you? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Have you ever defaulted in the performance of any court-imposed obligation, including payment of alimony or child support or compliance with another court order or decree?

☐ Yes ☒ No

In each case, list the name and address of the creditor, the court which rendered the judgment, the case number, the date, the amount of the judgment, and the circumstances on which such claim was based.

Has property owned by you been either judicially or non-judicially foreclosed?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Please state the circumstances and outcome of any such unsatisfied or default judgment, or of any foreclosure.

(b) Have you ever made an assignment for the benefit of creditors?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Have you ever filed any petition in bankruptcy?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If so, state the circumstances, case number, and the outcome.

References and Counsel Questionnaires*

- * **Please Note:** Letters of reference from these persons are confidential and will not be given to the applicant. If the reference asks (in writing) that the letter be shared with the governor, the Council will send designated letters and counsel questionnaires for each nominee. The applicant should not request a copy of the letter from the reference. (You **should not** list the Chief Justice of the Alaska Supreme Court.)

References or letters not solicited by the Council are considered public (with few exceptions) and will be sent to the governor for all nominees.

20. (a) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes**, and **phone numbers** of two persons whom the Judicial Council may contact who can discuss your general character and background.

Name: Kevin C. Bergt

Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: [REDACTED] Phone: [REDACTED]

Name: Jessica Bjerke-Owens

Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: [REDACTED] Phone: [REDACTED]

- (b) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes**, and **phone numbers** of three other persons whom the Judicial Council may contact who can discuss your professional competence and qualifications for a judicial position.

Name: Tamara DeLucia

Address: 310 K Street, Ste 702

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99501 Phone: 907-269-6260

Name: Diane Wendlandt

Address: [REDACTED]

City/State/Zip: [REDACTED] Phone: [REDACTED]

Name: Elizabeth Burke

Address: 310 K Street, Ste 702

City/State/Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99501 Phone: 907-269-6260

References and Counsel Questionnaires (continued)

(c) List the names, addresses, including zip codes, and suite numbers where applicable, of each attorney involved in your three most recent cases that have gone to trial. Please do not list cases with any pending issues in the trial or appellate courts. (Applicants who are currently judges should list the three most recent trials they presided over.) List only those cases that have gone to trial within the past three years. If you have no cases that have gone to trial within the past three years, you may include cases that went to trial before that date, or may provide up to six cases in response to the next subsection, 20(d). Please include the judge's name and case names and numbers. (Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Case Number 1

Case Name: _____ Case Number: _____
v. _____ Judge Name: _____

Attorneys Involved:

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

Case Number 2

Case Name: _____ Case Number: _____
v. _____ Judge Name: _____

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. _____ Judge Name: _____

Attorneys Involved:

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

References and Counsel Questionnaires (continued)

(d) List the names, addresses, **including zip codes, and suite numbers where applicable**, of each attorney involved in your three most recent cases that did not go to trial but in which you did significant work. Please do not list cases with any pending issues in the trial or appellate courts. (Applicants who are currently judges should list the three most recent cases they presided over that did not go to trial but in which they did significant work.) Please include the judge's name and case names and numbers. *(Attach additional pages if necessary.)*

Case Number 1

Case Name: Phillip Ray Durousseau

Case Number: A-13546

v. State of Alaska

Judge Name: Marjorie Allard

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Megan Rowe, Alaska Legal Drafting

Name: _____

Address: 3705 Arctic Blvd, Box 2494

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: Anchorage, Alaska 99503

City, State, Zip: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 2

Case Name: Derek James Saclamana

Case Number: A-13763

v. State of Alaska

Judge Name: Tracey Wollenberg

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Julia Bedell, Public Defenders Agency

Name: _____

Address: 529 5th Ave, Ste 1

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

City, State, Zip: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Case Number 3

Case Name: Jose Miguel Contreras Evangelista

Case Number: A-13636

v. State of Alaska

Judge Name: Timothy Terrell

Attorneys Involved:

Name: Michael Horowitz, Law Office of Michael Horowitz

Name: _____

Address: P.O. Box 652

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: Kingsley, Michigan 49649

City, State, Zip: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Writing Sample

21. Attach one example of a brief, memorandum of law, or legal opinion or similar example of legal writing (10-20 pages in length; 15-25 pages for appellate positions) prepared solely by you within the last five years. Please choose a sample that reflects your ability to do legal research and analysis. If you do not have a good sample of this length, include an excerpt from a longer writing. Make sure the sample contains sufficient facts to make it understandable. (Some reply briefs may not meet these requirements.)

Please do not submit: (a) coauthored writing samples, (b) samples with confidential information unless redacted to remove such information, (c) longer writing samples, (d) samples from open cases including cases on appeal.

22. Has any **public** sanction been imposed against you in response to a complaint, charge or grievance brought against you as an attorney or a judge? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Have formal grievance procedures been brought against you? ☐ Yes ☒ No

See Bar Rule 22(b) & (e) concerning public bar grievance procedures against attorneys, and AS 22.30.011(b) and .060(b)(3) concerning public disciplinary grievance procedures against judges.

Have you ever been held in contempt of court? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Have you ever been fined or otherwise sanctioned by a judge? ☐ Yes ☒ No

In each case, state in detail the circumstances and the outcome.

Additional Comments (Non-Confidential)

23. Please make any additional comments that you wish to bring to the Council's attention about your experience and suitability for this judgeship.

I have been working for the State of Alaska in the office of criminal appeals for eight years. The job has been both incredibly rewarding and challenging. I spend the majority of my day researching legal issues and writing appellate briefs, although I also answer trial attorney questions, prepare legal research memorandums, help train new attorneys, and edit my colleagues draft filings. I was promoted to Deputy Assistant Attorney General in 2022, and since then I have assisted the solicitor general with her duties. I screen new cases and help manage attorney workflow. For several years, I provided edits and additions to the Department of Law's practice manuals, and I currently volunteer to prepare material and teach new attorneys at the Department of Law's training seminars.

I have a deep respect for the law in general and have especially enjoyed the privilege of practicing in such a relatively new state where so many legal issues that arise in my cases are issues of first impression. I am committed to public service and to doing what I can to ensure Alaska is a safe, healthy, and enjoyable place for future generations.

My current position as a criminal appellate law attorney uniquely qualifies me to be a judge on the Court of Appeals. I am adept at researching legal issues and writing about them in a clear and concise manner. I am comfortable conversing with other attorneys and advocating for my legal position. I can confidently speak in an appellate courtroom and know the procedures and practices. My interpersonal and management skills allow me to work well with others both within and outside of the legal community.

It would be an honor to serve the State of Alaska as a judge on the Court of Appeals. I take the responsibility of a judicial position very seriously and, if chosen, would strive to promote public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the intermediate appellate court system in Alaska.

Additional Comments (Continued)

24. Please indicate whether you prefer to be interviewed in public session or in private session. Your choice of a public or private interview has no bearing on the Council's determination of your qualifications or on the questions the Council may ask. You may change your request in writing at any time before the interview starts (select one).

☐ Public Interview

☒ Private Interview

25. Please prepare a brief biographical statement (*limited to 150 words*) about your background, legal education, and legal experience. Please do not list personal information about minor children. Your picture and a copy of this statement will be scanned and posted on the Council's website after the application deadline. In its bar survey, the Council will invite attorneys to review the information if they wish to become more familiar with your background and experience. Use the form on the following page for your biographical statement. Please leave the box at the top empty. The Council will use this space for your scanned picture. ***To be fair to all applicants, the Council will strictly enforce the 150 word limit.***

If you object to the posting of your picture on the Council's website, please indicate your objection below. If you object, we will not post your picture, although you still must submit a photograph of yourself with your application.

☐ If you check this box **we will not** post your picture on the website.

Biographical Statement

Name RuthAnne Beach

Position(s) for which you wish to be considered:

Alaska Court of Appeals

Please leave this area blank

Date: June 24, 2025

I grew up in Bend, Oregon, and graduated from Southern Oregon University with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration. I studied abroad at the University of London in England. While attending Thomas Jefferson School of Law, I discovered a passion for appellate law. I was president of my school's moot court team, a member of the alternative dispute resolution team, and completed internships with a private civil firm, the San Diego Public Defenders, and the California Department of Justice.

I moved to Alaska in 2013, after graduating from law school. I worked in civil practice at Bankston, Gronning, O'Hara, P.C. for three years, before going to work for the State of Alaska's Department of Law in the Office of Criminal Appeals. I have been with the Office of Criminal Appeals for eight years and am currently the Deputy Chief.

I am married and have four children.