



alaska judicial council

510 L Street, Suite 450, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-1295 (907) 279-2526 FAX (907) 276-5046

<http://www.ajc.state.ak.us>

E-mail: postmaster@ajc.state.ak.us

Alaska Judicial Council

Retention Questionnaire

2026 Candidates for Judicial Retention

Full Name: Christina A Rankin

Court: Anchorage Superior Court

1a. Please estimate your workload during your present term:

- **Case work:** 95%
- **Administrative work, outreach, continuing education, etc:** 5%

1b. Superior Court Judges:

- **Criminal:** 10%
- **Delinquency:** 0%
- **Domestic Relations:** 40%
- **Child in Need of Aid:** 30%
- **Probate:** 5%
- **General Civil (Including Appeals):** 15%

1c. Number of jury trials/year: 2

1d. Number of non-jury trials/year: 40

1e. Any additional information you would like to provide about your workload?

Assigned to civil docket but cover criminal trials as needed and handle the Anchorage Central Criminal Competency docket.

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

Civil Rule Committee - Alaska Bar Association, E-file work flow study - Alaska Court System
AI Policy Committee - Alaska Court System

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

Annually - Newer Judges Conference, Annually - Judicial Conference, National Judicial College - General Jurisdiction (2 week class), NCJFCJ - Child Abuse and Neglect Institute
Panel Member: Newer Judge Conference - Evidence and Judicial Processes, Judicial Conference - Handling High Profile Cases

4. Please describe any public outreach activities.

Judge - Alaska High School Mock Trial Competition, Presenter - Alaska Native Justice Center ICWA Worker Training, Presenter - Family Law Section Meeting, Presenter - "Bench Press" Program for Journalists, Presenter - Forensic Class at Polaris K-12 School, Active Member - Polaris PTA, Officer - PEO International - AK Chapter L

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.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on the Superior Court and believe that I have transitioned well to the bench despite a steep learning curve.

Presiding over a court of general jurisdiction, I frequently encounter a new area of law or novel legal issue. Each of these new issues affords me the opportunity to continue to grow my knowledge base on existing precedent and, when there is no precedent on point, use my analytical skills to apply related case law to determine the just result.

It is also important to me that each party that appears in front of me feel fully heard because I understand how important their case is to them. This can sometimes be a challenge given time constraints and I continue to work on my ability to guide parties to providing the court relevant information without them feeling that they have not had an opportunity to fully present their position.

I am particularly proud of my recent appointment to oversee the block calendar for criminal competency matters. I do not have a background in criminal law and have enjoyed the challenge of taking on this very important and specialized docket.

5a. This question pertains to Superior Court judges only.

State Law requires the Council to conduct an evaluation of judges standing for retention, and to provide information to the public about the judges. Under a provision added in 2013, the information the Council provides to the public "shall include the judge's consideration of victims when imposing sentence on persons convicted of felony offenses where the offenses involve victims" (see AS 22.10.150).

Please submit a short statement about how you consider victims when imposing sentences in felony offenses.

As an Anchorage Superior Court Judge assigned to a primarily civil docket, I have only presided over two sentences involving victims. In each case, the victim provided a statement (one written, one orally at sentencing). I took the victims' positions into consideration when making my sentencing decisions, specifically discussing how the victims' positions were considered in my sentencing remarks.

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?

No

b) been involved in a non-judicial 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

f) had any complaints, charges or grievances filed against you with the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct, the Alaska Bar Association, or with the Alaska Court System that resulted in public proceedings or sanctions?

No

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 care deeply about our community and I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve it into the future.
--

Trial Judges: Questions 9a-9d please do not list any cases that have pending issues in your court.

9a. 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. (If there are additional pages, please email these to sdipietro@ajc.state.ak.us)

Jury Trial Cases

Case 1: State of Alaska v. Jeremy Lee Smith

(Case No: 3AN-20-09313CR (on appeal))

Total Attorneys: 3

Atty 1: Lance Wells 1029 W. Third Ave, Ste. 550 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: Michael Garbe 632 W. 6th Avenue, Suite 210 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 3: Lindsey Maguigan 310 K St Ste 520 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
--	--	--

Case 2: State of Alaska v. Michael Roberts Jolly

(Case No: 3AN-22-02865CR (tried twice - on appeal))

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: John Zelinsky 1016 W 6th Ave, Ste 306 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: Ashley McGraw 310 K St Ste 520 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
--	---

Case 3: State of Alaska v. Nickolus Earl Scott

(Case No:)

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: R. Brent Williams 1031 E. 4th Ave, Suite 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: Scott Crawford 4300 B St Ste 206 Anchorage, Alaska 99503
---	---

Trial Judges: Questions 9a-9d please do not list any cases that have pending issues in your court.

9b. 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. (If there are additional pages, please email these to sdipietro@ajc.state.ak.us)

Non-Jury Trial Cases

Case 1: ITMO: K.O. & K.O. v.

(Case No: 3AN-22-00129CN; 3AN-22-00130CN; 3AN-24-00950PR; 3AN-24-00951PR)

Total Attorneys: 4

Atty 1: Daniel Cacciatore 1031 W. 4th Ave # 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: Brett Watts 900 W 5th, Suite 101 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 3: Ali Wykis
Atty 4: Dianne Olsen P.O. Box 142273 Anchorage, Alaska 99514-2273		

Case 2: Natalie A. Rohlfs v. Diana Fisher Medina, et al

(Case No: 3AN-23-07801CI)

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: Brianna Arriaga-Lanier 310 K. Street, Suite 306 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: Rachel Berngartt P.O. Box 32819 Juneau, Alaska 99803
--	---

Case 3: La Quen Naay Elizabeth Medicine Crow, et al v. Director Carol Beecher, et al

(Case No: 3AN-24-05615CI)

Total Attorneys: 6

Atty 1: Scott Kendall 510 L St Ste 601 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: Samuel Gottstein 510 L St Ste 601 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 3: Maeve Kendall 510 L St Ste 601 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Atty 4: Thomas Flynn 1031 W 4th Ave # 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 5: Lael Harrison 123 4th St. Ste. 600 Juneau, Alaska 99801	Atty 6: Kevin Clarkson 2511 Sentry Dr., Suite 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99507

Trial Judges: Questions 9a-9d please do not list any cases that have pending issues in your court.

9c. 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. (If there are additional pages, please email these to sdipietro@ajc.state.ak.us)

Cases that Did Not Go to Trial

Case 1: Frontier Investments, LLC v. Frontier Dental, LLC, et al

(Case No: 3AN-23-05226CI)

Total Attorneys: 4

Atty 1: William Ingaldson 813 W 3rd Ave Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: David Shoup 510 L Street, Ste. 700 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 3: Mario Bird 4300 B St Ste 206 Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Atty 4: Jeffrey Robinson 1600 A Street # 304 Anchorage, Alaska 99501		

Case 2: State of Alaska v. Brandon Christopher Lawler

(Case No: 3PA-24-00350CR)

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: Jose Musa jose.musa@inlet-law.com Homer, Alaska	Atty 2: Jordan Markson 515 E. Dahlia Street Ste 150 Palmer, Alaska 99645
---	---

Case 3: Jane Doe v. John Doe

(Case No:)

Total Attorneys: 5

Atty 1: Jeffrey Barber 540 E 5th Ave Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: Catherine Rogers 304 Lake St., Suite 202 Sitka, Alaska 99835	Atty 3: Jason Skala 800 E Dimond Blvd Ste 3-305 Anchorage, Alaska 99515
Atty 4: Jacob Sowell 550 W. 8th Ave Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 5: Blake Quackenbush 550 W. 8th Ave Anchorage, Alaska 99501	

Trial Judges: Questions 9a-9d please do not list any cases that have pending issues in your court.

9d. 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. (If there are additional pages, please email these to sdipietro@ajc.state.ak.us)

Optional Cases

Case 1: LBG Memorial, LLC v. State of Alaska, et al

(Case No: 3AN-23-07366CI)

Total Attorneys: 3

Atty 1: Kevin Boots 500 L St Ste 300 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: Sven Fedorow 1031 W. 4th Avenue #200 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 3: Jordan O'Connell 1031 W 4th Ave # 200 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
---	---	--

Case 2: LED Ultra Lounge & Grill, LLC v. Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, et al

(Case No: 3AN-23-07776CI)

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: Zingre Veenstra 510 L St. #601 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: William Falsey 632 W 6th Ave #870 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
---	--

Case 3: Jane Doe v. Kim Kovol, et al.

(Case No: 3AN-24-06937CI)

Total Attorneys: 3

Atty 1: David Case PO Box 661 Soldotna, Alaska 99669	Atty 2: Kevin Gullufsen 123 W. 4th St Juneau, Alaska 99801	Atty 3: Jayne Fallon 1031 W. 4th Ave. #200 Anchorage, Alaska 99501
---	---	---