



alaska judicial council

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Alaska Judicial Council

Retention Questionnaire

2026 Candidates for Judicial Retention

Full Name: Jonathan Andrew Woodman

Court: Palmer 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:** 30%
- **Delinquency:** 5%
- **Domestic Relations:** 5%
- **Child in Need of Aid:** 50%
- **Probate:** 5%
- **General Civil (Including Appeals):** 5%

1c. Number of jury trials/year: 10

1d. Number of non-jury trials/year: 75

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

Palmer remains the busiest courthouse in Alaska as measured by cases per judge.

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

I am on the CINA/Delinquency Rules Committee and the CINA CIP Committee.

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

I attended the annual judicial conference. I also attended a CINA therapeutic courts conference with my Families with Infants and Toddlers Court team, one day of which was set aside for judicial education.

4. Please describe any public outreach activities.

I presided over multiple swearing-in ceremonies for Valley area CASAs. I also presented at multiple Valley area CIT trainings.

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 am satisfied with my efforts to reduce the post-COVID/flooding backlog of criminal cases, as well as the volume of CINA cases resolved.

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.

At all sentencings, I make sure to recognize the presence of victims, to ask for their victim impact statements, to thank them for their impact statements, and at the end of the hearing, thank them for their attendance.

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 have conscientiously carried out my duties as a superior court judge for the last nine years, and pledge to continue doing so.
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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: SOA v. Anthony Taranto

(Case No: 3PA-20-2579CR)

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: Jordan Markson 515 E. Dahlia St, Ste 150 Palmer, Alaska 99645	Atty 2: Michael Branson 813 W. 3rd Ave. Anchorage, Alaska 99501
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Case 2: SOA v. Craig Fales

(Case No: 3PA-23-1435CR)

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: Katrina Keogh 515 E. Dahlia Ave, Ste 150 Palmer, Alaska 99645	Atty 2: Brett Berntsen 515 E. Dahlia Ave, Ste 100 Palmer, Alaska 99645
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Case 3: SOA v. Josiah Martin

(Case No: 3PA-24-346CR)

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: Jordyn Caldwell 515 E. Dahlia Ave, Ste 150 Palmer, Alaska 99645	Atty 2: William Taylor 515 E. Dahlia Ave, Ste 100 Palmer, Alaska 99645
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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 D.C. v.

(Case No: 3PA-24-152CN)

Total Attorneys: 3

Atty 1: Candace Bales 515 E. Dahlia Ave, Ste 150 Palmer, Alaska 99645	Atty 2: Darby Mullen 515 E. Dahlia Ave, Ste 100 Palmer, Alaska 99645	Atty 3: Dianne Thoben 1517 Industrial Way Palmer, Alaska 99645
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Case 2: ITMO J.O. v.

(Case No: 3PA-24-107CN)

Total Attorneys: 3

Atty 1: Nick Nauman 1031 W. 4th Ave Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: Laurel Bennett 515 E. Dahlia Ave., Ste 100 Palmer, Alaska 99645	Atty 3: James Bauman 291 E. Paulson Ave, Unit A Wasilla, Alaska 99654
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Case 3: ITMO J.J.F., G.L.F., A.C.F., J.F. v.

(Case No: 3PA-25-143/144/145/146CN)

Total Attorneys: 3

Atty 1: Candace Bales 515 E. Dahlia Ave, Ste 150 Palmer, Alaska 99645	Atty 2: Darby Mullen 515 E. Dahlia Ave, Ste 100 Palmer, Alaska 99645	Atty 3: Melody Britton 1517 Industrial Way, Unit 1 Palmer, Alabama 99645
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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: Shiela Monson v. Warren Kellicut

(Case No: 3PA-22-2049CI)

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: Samuel Gottstein 510 L St., Ste 601 Anchorage, Alaska 99501	Atty 2: Brett von Gemmingen 637 W. 3rd Ave. Anchorage, Alaska 99501
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Case 2: Matanuska-Susitna Borough v. Justin Benson

(Case No: 3PA-24-3060CI)

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: Denise Michalske 350 E. Dahlia St. Palmer, Alaska 99645	Atty 2: Jana Weltzin 901 Photo Ave., 2nd Flr Anchorage, Alaska 99503
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Case 3: Settlers Bay Golf Course LLC v. Bobby Barrett

(Case No: 3PA-24-2045CI)

Total Attorneys: 2

Atty 1: Jeremy Collier 800 E. Railroad Ave., Ste 300 Wasilla, Alaska 99654	Atty 2: William Bankston 1127 W. 7th Ave. Anchorage, Alaska 99501
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