

Superior Court Judge

Jennifer S. Henderson, Third Judicial District



MAILING ADDRESS: 825 W. Fourth Ave.
Anchorage, AK 99501

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AGE: 44

PLACE OF BIRTH: La Mesa, CA

SPOUSE'S NAME: Robert Edmond Henderson

CHILDREN'S NAMES: Robert Jackson Henderson;
Chloe Ann Henderson

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 18 years

ALASKAN COMMUNITIES LIVED IN:
Anchorage 2001-2002 & 2003-2020

EDUCATION:
West Hills High School - fall 1990-spring 1994
Claremont McKenna College - fall 1994-spring 1998; BA
Yale Law School - fall 1998-spring 2001; JD

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:
Assistant District Attorney; Anchorage District Attorney's
Office - 2003-2007
Associate Attorney; Farley & Graves, P.C. - 2007-2012
District Court Judge for State of Alaska, Third Judicial
District - 2012-2017
Superior Court Judge for State of Alaska, Third Judicial
District - 2017-present

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIPS:

Alaska Bar Association
Girls on the Run Serving Southcentral Alaska - prior
founding member and Board member

SPECIAL INTERESTS:

Family; running; hiking; triathlons

STATEMENT:

Since coming to Alaska in 2001, I have felt so fortunate to get to live and work in this amazing state. My work prior to becoming a judge, both as a prosecutor with the Anchorage District Attorney's Office, and subsequently as a litigator handling a wide variety of civil and administrative matters, has provided valuable experience and preparation for my current work.

It has been an honor to serve my community, initially as a District Court Judge for four years, and more recently, as a judge on the Anchorage Superior Court for the last three years. As a Superior Court Judge, I preside over many different types of cases, including civil, family, probate, Child-In-Need-of-Aid, and criminal matters. I approach all cases that come before me with a dedication to listening impartially to the parties, to hearing the relevant evidence, and to applying the law consistently and fairly. I am committed to assuring that all people are able to access and understand what is happening in the courtroom, and ultimately able to understand the decisions that I make about their cases. I am mindful that the people who appear before me in court are there pursuing cases and/or defenses that are of the utmost importance in their lives, deserving of my time, attention, and respect. I am grateful to have this opportunity to serve the State of Alaska and its citizens, and look forward to continuing to serve the public in this manner.

*The views expressed in this statement are from the candidate and not endorsed by the Division of Elections.
The text of this statement was provided and paid for by the candidate in accordance with AS 15.58.030 and 6 AAC 25.690.*

Alaska Judicial Council Evaluation

Judge Jennifer Henderson, Anchorage Superior Court

The Alaska Judicial Council finds Judge Henderson met or exceeded performance standards, and recommends a **“YES”** vote for another term in office

What is the Alaska Judicial Council?

- The Council is created by the Alaska Constitution;
- The Council members are volunteers who live in different parts of the state, and who are appointed without regard to political affiliation;
- One of the Council’s duties is to evaluate the performance of judges and report back to voters;
- The Council is authorized by law to recommend to voters whether a judge should be retained for another term in office.

What performance standards were used by the Council to evaluate Judge Henderson?

Judge Henderson was evaluated in the following performance areas: integrity, impartiality and fairness, temperament, legal ability, and diligence and administrative skills. Because the judge met or exceeded all standards, the Council recommends a “yes” vote.

How did the Council determine that Judge Henderson met performance standards?

The Council collected and analyzed information from a variety of sources and viewpoints for a full picture of the judge’s performance.

- **Justice System Professionals** – The Council surveyed thousands of Alaskans who work in the justice system about their experiences with Judge Henderson. Survey ratings from these groups are listed in the chart below.
- **Jurors & the Public** – The Council considered feedback from the public at a statewide telephonic hearing, and from written comments. The Council also surveyed jurors who served in the judge’s court. Juror ratings are listed in the chart below.
- **Other Information** – The Council analyzed how often a higher court agreed with Judge Henderson’s decisions, how often the judge was disqualified from sitting on a case, whether the judge’s pay was withheld for late decisions, and whether the judge followed rules about financial disclosure and conflict of interest statements, among other things.

Survey Results for Judge Henderson	Average Survey Ratings*				
	Attorneys	Police & Probation Officers	Court Employees	Social Services	Jurors
<i>Number of responses from people with direct experience</i>	220	21	34	12	32
Legal Ability <i>The judge is knowledgeable in law and procedure, and communicates clearly and accurately.</i>	4.5	-	-	-	-
Impartiality <i>The judge treats everyone fairly and equally.</i>	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.2	5.0
Integrity <i>The judge is free from impropriety or appearance of impropriety and makes decisions without regard to possible public criticism.</i>	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.4	-
Temperament <i>The judge treats everyone with courtesy, without arrogance, showing understanding and compassion.</i>	4.6	4.8	4.9	4.8	5.0
Diligence <i>The judge acts promptly and works conscientiously.</i>	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.5	-
Overall <i>The judge meets the standards of the position.</i>	4.5	4.9	4.9	4.4	5.0

*Rating Scale: 5 = Excellent, 4 = Good, 3 = Acceptable, 2 = Deficient, 1 = Poor
Judges are rated by different groups depending on caseloads

Find Judge Henderson’s full performance evaluation at www.ajc.state.ak.us