

Gayle Garrigues

ABA# 8111096

Statement of Candidacy – Attorney Member Judicial Council 2nd & 4th Districts

I have practiced law in both the 2nd and 4th judicial districts. I began my legal career practicing in Kotzebue, first as an Alaska Legal Services Corporation lawyer (1980-82), next in private practice (1982-84), finally at the recently established Kotzebue District Attorney's Office (1984-87). During my time in Kotzebue, I also appeared before courts in Nome.

After a voluntary transfer to the Fairbanks DAO (1987), my duties included travel to Barrow to present cases to the grand jury and prosecute felonies. The rest of my legal career continued at the Fairbanks DAO (1987-98, 2010-13), with intermediate stops working for the Alaska legislature (2000), in Rita T. Allee's family practice (2000-02), and at the Fairbanks Attorney General's Office in the child protection section (2002-2010). On several occasions I traveled to Bethel to assist both in criminal prosecutions and child protection cases.

While in Fairbanks I was one of the founders of the Fairbanks Sexual Assault Response team and early supporter and developer of Stevie's Place, the Fairbanks child advocacy center. Additionally, I assisted in the redevelopment of the Fairbanks juvenile treatment court.

I twice, without success, applied for Superior Court judicial positions; specifically, for Kotzebue in 1989, and Bethel in 2000.

After more than 25 years of state service, I retired in 2013.

Since my retirement I have been traveling the world, enjoying my cats and garden, assisting with SART and MDT trainings, serving on the Statewide Alaska Children's Justice Act task force, and as Vice President of the board of directors of Farthest North Girl Scout Council.

December 4, 2017

Deborah O'Regan
Alaska Bar Association
840 K Street, Suite 100
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

RE: Alaska Judicial Council Application

Dear Ms. O'Regan:

Please accept my application and letter of interest in serving on the Alaska Judicial Council for the 4th Judicial District. As a lifelong Alaskan, it would be an incredible honor to serve in this capacity – to help make decisions on judicial applicants to better serve our state. My family came from the community of Allakaket where we were raised in the traditional ways – camping and hunting in different areas depending upon the season. The school in Allakaket kept us grounded to our house in the village.

In the late 1960's and early 1970's, we were in the midst of the Alaska Native Land Claims discussions in our villages where numerous planes would land and meetings were held in our community hall. The folks who appeared to be making decisions were from Fairbanks and did not know the people, land or ways of our community. That concerned my grandmother and hence, my earliest "career advice" came from my late grandmother, Effie Williams, who challenged me to go to school to help make decisions on behalf of our people in the village.

Since those early days, I received a bachelors of arts degree in Justice from the University of Washington and a juris doctorate from Seattle University School of Law. Upon completion of college, I moved back to Alaska working in different industries and locations. Prior to joining Doyon in 2012 as senior vice president of Administration, I was vice president of Alaska Lands and Operations and general counsel for the Tyonek Native Corp. Prior employers were Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corp. in Bethel, Tanana Chiefs Conference in Fairbanks, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium in Anchorage, Alaska Federation of Natives and the First Alaskans Institute, and prosecuted for the State of Alaska in Anchorage. Those experiences (work and location) would be of great benefit in evaluating future judicial candidates.

In all my work and life, I have lived with integrity, passion for our community, compassion for our people and always being of service to my community. And when I say community, it means my fellow Alaskans, not limited to a people or specific community. This opportunity will allow me to serve the greater community in a way that is beneficial to all.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for the consideration.

Sincerely,



Geraldine Simon
Alaska Bar #9806031