

District Court Judge

Chris Darnall, Third Judicial District



MAILING ADDRESS: 303 K. Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

AGE: 39

PLACE OF BIRTH: Fairbanks, Alaska

SPOUSE’S NAME: Samantha Crosby

CHILDREN’S NAMES: Charlotte Darnall, Paige Darnall, Holden Darnall

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 35 years

ALASKAN COMMUNITIES LIVED IN:
North Pole, 5/23/87-08/01/00. Anchorage, 08/01/00-08/05/2011, 02/02/18-present. Kenai, 06/21/16-02/01/18.

EDUCATION:
East Anchorage High School, University of Alaska Anchorage (B.S. Biological Sciences), SUNY at Buffalo Law School (J.D.).

MILITARY SERVICE:
Alaska Air National Guard, 2005-2011.

SPECIAL INTERESTS:
Weightlifting, firearms, family, and computers.

OTHER:
Judge Chris Darnall was appointed to the Anchorage District Court in July 2024. He presides over criminal and civil cases and is committed to ensuring that every

person who comes before the court is treated with fairness, respect, and dignity.

Judge Darnall grew up in North Pole and Anchorage, and served in the Alaska Air National Guard while attending the University of Alaska Anchorage, where he earned a Biology degree. After graduating law school, he returned home to Alaska, clerked for the Superior Court in Kenai, and spent many years serving the public as a prosecutor, including handling complex cybercrime cases.

STATEMENT:
Serving as an Anchorage District Court Judge has been one of the greatest privileges of my career. Each day, I work to ensure that every person who appears before the court is treated with fairness, respect, and dignity, while faithfully applying the law and protecting the rights of all parties.

Over the past two years, I have handled a full range of criminal and civil cases, focusing on timely, thoughtful, and impartial decisions. I have also taken on additional responsibilities that strengthen our court system and improve the administration of justice.

I co-chair Anchorage’s Veterans Court, working with a dedicated team to address the unique needs of veterans while promoting accountability, rehabilitation, and community safety. As lead of the Anchorage Exhibits Subcommittee, I am working to improve how the court handles digital evidence, making proceedings more efficient and effective for litigants, attorneys, and court staff.

Beyond my courtroom, I serve on the Judicial Conference Planning Committee and have been selected to help train other judges at the annual judicial conference. These opportunities allow me to share best practices, support judicial education, and contribute to the continued improvement of Alaska’s courts.

The Alaska Judicial Council’s evaluation found that I met or exceeded performance standards in every category reviewed, including legal ability, integrity, impartiality, fairness, diligence, temperament, and administrative skills. I remain committed to serving the people of Alaska with professionalism, humility, and an unwavering dedication to the fair and impartial administration of justice.

*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 Chris Darnall, Anchorage District Court

The Alaska Judicial Council finds Judge Darnall met or exceeded performance standards and recommends a **“YES”** vote for his retention in office. In consideration of retention of Judge Darnall, the Alaska Judicial Council voted 6 Retain.

Judge Chris Darnall was appointed to the Anchorage District Court on 7/1/2024. Judge Darnall is a trial court judge handling criminal and civil cases. This is his first judicial retention election.

Performance Summary

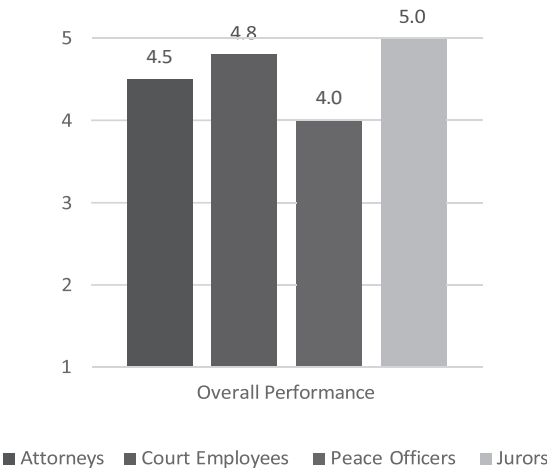
Judge Chris Darnall met or exceeded performance standards related to legal ability, integrity, impartiality, fairness, temperament, diligence and administrative skills. He complied with public disclosure requirements, followed standards of ethical conduct for judges, and met or exceeded educational requirements set by the Alaska Supreme Court.

Performance Findings: The Judicial Council surveyed attorneys, court employees, peace officers, and jurors. Survey ratings on Judge Darnall’s overall performance were in the excellent range (4.6) when averaged across all groups.

The Council reviewed other performance measures, including Judge Darnall’s financial and conflict of interest statements, whether pay was withheld for untimely decisions, how often his decisions were affirmed by higher courts, disqualifications from cases, and public ethics files. The Council found no concerns in these areas.

Commitment to administration of justice and community: Judge Darnall has helped the court system address technology issues with respect to the use of electronic evidence and the court’s electronic case management system.

Ratings from Justice System Professionals and Jurors for “Overall” Job Performance for Judge Chris Darnall



*Rated on a scale from 5 (excellent) to 1 (poor).
See this judge's full evaluation at www.ajc.state.ak.us*

Find this judge’s full performance evaluation at www.ajc.state.ak.us