

Superior Court Judge

Ian Wheelles, Third Judicial District



MAILING ADDRESS: 825 W. 4th Ave
Anchorage, AK 99501

AGE: 43

PLACE OF BIRTH: Anchorage

SPOUSE’S NAME: Kathryn

CHILDREN’S NAMES: Ruby, Pepper, Saylor, Riker

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 43 years

ALASKAN COMMUNITIES LIVED IN:
Anchorage since 1983

EDUCATION:
Dimond High
Illinois Institute of Technology
University of Alaska Anchorage
University of Idaho – College of Law

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:
Anchorage Superior Court Judge (2022-present)
Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct (2024-present)
Child Support Rules Committee (2015-present) Family
Rules Committee (2025-present)

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:
Law Office of Ian Wheelles (2009-2022)
Law Office of Dan Allan (2008-2009)

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIPS:
ChangePoint Church
Anchorage Youth Court

SPECIAL INTERESTS:
Family, camping, hunting, baseball, reading, theology

OTHER:
My grandparents moved to Alaska in the 1950s and 1960s. I grew up in Anchorage, with many cousins, aunts and uncles throughout the state. My children will be 3rd generation Dimond High grads in a few years. My family is deeply rooted in Alaska, and I would never be at home somewhere else. I am blessed to enjoy days on a mountain or the water and grateful every day that I was born here.

STATEMENT:
After running a small, busy family law office for 13 years, I have served the past four in the Anchorage Superior Court. I am humbled by this honor each day and work hard to give my very best in every case. I believe this is our calling as judges and I strive to remember that daily. In a free society, the rule of law depends on the courts for justice and equality under the law. Judges must earn the public’s respect and maintain free and fair courts to do that. I seek to ensure everyone in court is heard and treated with dignity. Our oath to uphold the Constitution demands nothing less.
I have been appointed to roles that will improve our justice system and the outcomes for our community. I chair the committee tasked with reviewing the child support rules—which affect thousands of parents and children in Alaska. I also chair the court’s family rules committee, aimed at improving divorce and child custody cases. I serve on the Judicial Conduct Commission, which has an immense role in safeguarding the public’s trust in the judiciary. And I preside over a felony probation court for those battling addiction—which affects nearly everyone in Alaska in some way.
I applied for this job to serve the public and make justice accessible for every Alaskan. If retained, I will continue to do so to the very best of my ability.

*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 Ian Wheelles, Anchorage Superior Court

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

Judge Ian Wheelles was appointed to the Anchorage Superior Court on 6/16/2022. Judge Wheelles is a trial court judge handling mostly civil and some criminal cases. This is his first judicial retention election.

Performance Summary

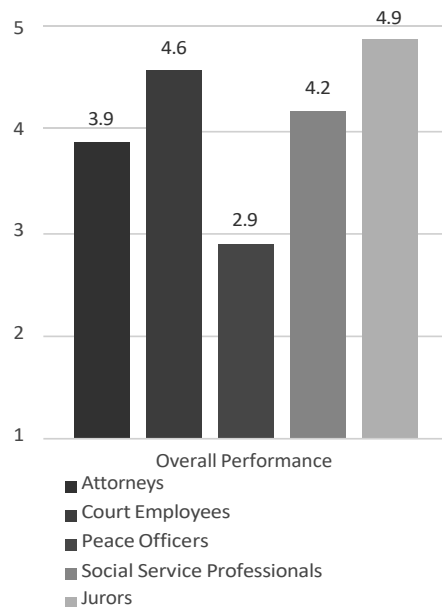
Judge Ian Wheelles met or exceeded performance standards related to legal ability, integrity, impartiality, fairness, temperament, diligence and administrative skills. He complied with public disclosure requirements, followed standards of ethical conduct for judges, and met or exceeded educational requirements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

Performance Findings: The Judicial Council surveyed attorneys, court employees, peace officers, social service professionals, and jurors. Survey ratings on Judge Wheelles's overall performance were in the excellent range (4.1) when averaged across all groups.

The Council reviewed other performance measures, including Judge Wheelles'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 Wheelles chairs the court system's Child Support Guidelines Review Committee, a group that advises the Alaska Supreme Court on the rules governing calculation of child support, and chairs the Family Rules Committee, a group that drafts, reviews, and recommends improvements in cases involving family law to the Alaska Supreme Court. He serves on a committee that reviews procedures concerning trial exhibits. He is a member of the Alaska Commission on Judicial Conduct, a constitutionally created body that investigates complaints about judicial conduct and disability. He participated in numerous community events to foster public understanding and dialogue between courts and the community.

Ratings from Justice System Professionals and Jurors for "Overall" Job Performance for Judge Ian Wheelles



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