

In Support of Schaeffer Cox # 12, June 3, 2017

On December 31, 2015 one of the three Federal judges in Alaska received “senior status.” Meaning he was entering retirement. Working on a part time basis and receiving full pay.

When Ralph R. Beistline reached “senior status” it meant one of the three allotted federal judges for Alaska went vacant.

Politics being the way it is, Republicans did not want President Obama to appoint his replacement. So the court judge seat went vacant. The current four senior judges (semi retired) would pickup the slack.

After President Trump’s election, an announcement was made requesting those interested to apply for the vacancy.

On January 13, 2017 Alaska’s two U.S. Senators (Murkowski and Sullivan, both Republicans) sent a letter to the Alaska Bar Association. In the letter they requested; any Alaskan attorney with the desire to become a United States District Court Judge (in Alaska) to send them a letter with their resume to apply for the vacancy created on December 31, 2015.

Twenty applicants applied. Attached is the application letter from Steven E. Skrocki. I will post the link to where I copied the attached Skrocki letter in the comment section.

Skrocki along with Joseph W. Bottini were the lead attorneys in the corrupt conviction of my friend Schaeffer Cox.

Now Skrocki wants to be a federal judge to rubber stamp the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE presumed guilt of those folks, his friends in the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE deem guilty. I am sure Joseph W. Bottini would love to have his friend preside over his cases.

Will Skrocki be like Judge Emmet G. Sullivan who was the presiding judge in the Senator Ted Stevens case? Sullivan was constantly challenging what the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE was saying and doing. Judge Sullivan is the one who ordered an investigation into the corrupt conviction of Senator Ted Stevens.

We can see how things will work if Skrocki becomes a Federal Judge. Just look at his behavior with evil doer Joseph W. Bottini. . Supporting his behavior all the way up and through the exposure of Bottini's corrupt behavior. Even allowing Bottini to whisper direction to Skrocki during the Schaeffer Cox trial.

Steven E. Skrocki is no Emmet G. Sullivan. He worked closely with Joseph W. Bottini in developing the case against Cox. All the time Skrocki supporting his friend who was the primary perpetrator in corrupt conviction of Senator Ted Stevens and other cases in Alaska. Only after the public exposure of the truth, concerning the Stevens case, was Bottini removed from public sight on the Cox case. But I wonder what was happening behind the scenes?

Could Steven E. Skrocki been naïve following Bottini's lead? Not hardly. Look at his resume. You can see how Mr. Skrocki was an expert attorney in the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. Unlike novice attorney Nicholas Marsh in the Ted Stevens case. With Steven E. Skrocki extensive background in the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE he was well aware of how things work in the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. For he lived and breathed it since 1991.

Skrocki and Bottini worked closely in developing the case against Schaeffer Cox. Following and supporting paid FBI informants who they realized was actually a detriment to the case. Did they not review the tape recordings supporting Schaeffer's defense? Much like the "exculpatory evidence", Bottini withheld in Ted Stevens case. I believe Skrocki and Bottini held back the supporting documentation of Cox's defense while knowing full well they must present it to the defense. If only a whistleblower would come forward as one did in the Ted Stevens case. But who would risk their job on such an individual like Schaeffer Cox. Certainly none working in the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. For Schaeffer was such an "extremist" so says the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Schaeffer Cox is just a family man who cared more about the nation than anything else. It saddens me that he was unjustly removed from his family. For his wife and children suffer the most. He is a man of principle and stood for Liberty and Freedom. I wonder what Steven E. Skrocki stands for? Certainly not Liberty and Freedom.

Please consider what it means if Steven E. Skrocki were to become a Federal Judge in Alaska.

I believe he used Schaeffer Cox as a stepping stone for his own self interest. Out of the 1000 cases he has prosecuted in Alaska he only mentioned a couple in the attached resume. Schaeffer Cox being front and center.

A great stepping stone to accomplish his own self interest at the people's expense. More to come on Steven E. Skrocki.

Signed Ray Southwell, Nikiski, Alaska

Alaska Bar Association
U.S. District Court Judge Vacancy Poll
LETTERS and RESUMES
alaskabar.org

Senator Lisa A. Murkowski
Senator Daniel S. Sullivan
Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.
20510

February 2, 2017

Dear Senator Murkowski and Senator Sullivan,

The purpose of this letter is to express my interest in the Alaska Bar Association in serving as a judge on the U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska. It has been my privilege to represent the citizens of the United States as a federal prosecutor for 26 years. My interest in the judgeship is based on my career in federal district court along with a professional and personal interest in the unique relationship between the state of Alaska, all of its citizens, and the federal government.

When I view Alaska through the lens of federalism, I see a state with a proud and increasingly diverse Alaskan populace. Defining an "Alaskan" invokes many different definitions. Alaska has, at its core, a vibrant Alaska Native population to whom "Alaskan" includes a way of life rich in cultural heritage with important traditional subsistence and land use rights. Others are "Alaskan" as they seek to create a life in the wilderness of the Last Frontier, where one is still able to do so. Still others are "Alaskan" by modern convention, choosing to reside in one of her cities or towns, or by fishing coastal waters, or by mining or drilling. Overshadowing all Alaskans are the federal constructs of ANCSA, ANILCA, the state *McDowell* decision, the recent *Wilde* and *Sturgeon* matters, marine mammal/endangered species concerns, education, and natural threats to villages, subsistence and wildlife due to climate change. As an Alaskan myself, I understand and appreciate the delicate, and oftentimes contentious clashes between the state and federal governments which grapple with legal complexities not found elsewhere in these United States and which have such a large impact on Alaska.

When my wife and I arrived here in 1989, we believed Alaska to be what I label "the last best place." Even before we arrived, I was drawn to the polar regions by the tales of Shackleton, Amundsen and Nansen. I read tales of the Klondike and Nome gold rushes, the voyages in search for the now open Northwest Passage, the Aleutian campaign of World War II, the Harriman Expedition and its aftermath, and John McPhee's *Coming into the Country*. My father in law, John Granicher, a West Point graduate, shared my Arctic interests and stoked it with Kodachrome slides of his own Alaskan adventures with the Army Corps of Engineers. In the 1950s John was in command of a mapping unit tasked with developing USGS topographical maps of the Alaska Range north to the Arctic Ocean. Over a period of two years, John's team produced dozens of USGS topographic maps which are relied upon even today.

While in law school, United States Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, then on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, was my Constitutional Law instructor. Justice Kennedy spent many classes covering the expansion of federal power by Congress under the Commerce Clause and he would question the limits of federal power over the states, especially with regard to the 10th Amendment to the United States Constitution. I was intellectually intrigued with the tension between Congress' expanded use of the Commerce Clause and the 10th Amendment's reservation of powers to the states. Today, one can see the tension continuing, with Alaska and individual citizens challenging the federal government on cases of submerged lands and waterways within National Parks, in subsistence fisheries on the Yukon River and in natural resource development.

Upon earning my law degree in 1989, the Hon. H. Russell Holland, United States District Court Judge offered me a two-year law clerk position which, with my wife's concurrence, I did not hesitate to accept. I knew, before accepting the position, that Judge Holland had heard novel cases, including *Katie John* and was assigned the matter of *In re Exxon Valdez*. During the clerkship, I was exposed to the great legal personalities of Judges Holland, Van Der Heydt, and Fitzgerald. In addition to their mentorship, I participated in a spectrum of Alaska civil and criminal matters. These included, *inter alia*, injunctions on subsistence hunts, tort claims against the United States, personal injury, and logging issues in Southeast Alaska.

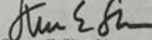
At the conclusion of the clerkship, in September 1991, I was appointed as a prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney's Office. Since that time I have prosecuted over 1,000 cases and have accumulated significant investigative and multi-defendant trial experience, with several trials in excess of six weeks' duration. Large investigations, such as the *Joshua Wade* case, and trials of legal complexity, such as *U.S. v. Schaefer Cox* and *U.S. v. Mark Avery*, have given me expertise in applying the Constitution, the rules of evidence and criminal procedure in the pursuit of justice in federal court. Indeed, I have been practicing with these guarantees and rules daily for more than 25 years. The Department of Justice has conferred two separate awards for my exemplary service in the areas of terrorism and crimes against children. I have, in addition to those, received other awards and commendations too numerous to mention. As the Anti-Terrorism prosecutor for more than a decade, it was my responsibility to protect our state and nation from threats of foreign and domestic terrorism. Along with the listed law enforcement references, my resume includes three prominent, and well-respected members of the defense bar, including the Federal Public Defender for the District of Alaska. These three career defense counsel support my candidacy.

Like many Alaskans my family enjoys an active outdoor life. We have hiked Southcentral Alaska, and have fished and explored the waters of Prince William Sound. I have hunted the Alaska Range and Southwest Alaska, most recently with my son. We have raised three children all of whom are making their own professional lives here. We have seen caribou herds grazing peacefully in the midst of the Prudhoe Bay complex and have dear friends in the oil and gas, construction, government and health care industries. We recognize the viability and necessity of responsible resource development, which is necessary for Alaska's future. My wife of 30 years, Susan, is an elementary school teacher with the Anchorage School District. She has seen firsthand the new Alaskan urban demographic, with its influx of peoples, cultures and the use of more than 100 languages.

As an Alaskan, I believe Alaska still to be "the last best place." Most certainly cases will come before district court with issues significant to some or all Alaskans. My personal interests, experience, and long-term commitment in the state of Alaska as a just public servant, along with my service in federal district court illustrate the depth of my interest, my dedication to public service and the strength of my candidacy for this very important position. It would be the highest of honors to continue serving Alaska as a United States District Court Judge.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my expression of interest in the judgeship position to you both and the Alaska Bar Association membership.

Sincerely yours,



Steven E. Skrocki
Assistant U.S. Attorney
Senior Litigation Counsel
District of Alaska

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PROFILE

Since 1991 it has been my privilege to represent the people of the United States as a federal prosecutor. In that capacity I am responsible for investigating matters before the federal grand jury, determining the sufficiency and quality of evidence for charging criminal offenses by indictment, collecting evidence in support of the investigated activity and managing all aspects of the prosecution for trial in federal district court, including post-conviction appeals and oral argument.

EXPERIENCE

Assistant United States Attorney, District of Alaska, 1991-Present

Manages and conducts the investigation and prosecution of criminal offenses in violation of the United States Code, including Anti-Terrorism, Carjacking, Murder, Murder for Hire, Wire Fraud, Money Laundering, Child Exploitation, and other offenses against the United States and its citizens.

Assistant United States Attorney, District of Alaska Lead Anti-Terrorism Prosecutor, U.S. Department of Justice Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council Coordinator, 2002-2014

In connection with regular prosecution duties, I coordinated and managed the sharing of classified and unclassified Anti-Terrorism intelligence and investigative information for prosecution and de-confliction between federal law enforcement and state and local law enforcement through quarterly briefings of senior executive leadership as required or due to a specific threat assessment. I conducted classified and unclassified anti-terrorism investigations including those involving Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and Classified Information Procedures Act. Successful prosecution of domestic terrorists in *U.S. v Paul and Nadia Rockwood*, (False Statements/Conspiracy to Murder U.S. Military Officers), and *U.S. v. Schaefer Cox and Lonnie Vernon et. al.* (Conspiracy to Murder Federal Officials and the Hon Ralph R. Beistline and his family, among others.)

Law Clerk, Hon. H. Russel Holland, United States District Court Judge, District of Alaska, 1989-1991

Responsible for legal analysis of civil and criminal matters as directed by Judge Holland. I reviewed the pleadings filed by the parties and created a proposed ruling/order for the court's use and/or adoption.

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES AND AWARDS

Senior Litigation Counsel, 2012 to Present

Responsible for in-house prosecutor training and law enforcement training pursuant to U.S. Department of Justice directives.

International Criminal Coordinator, 2010 to Present

Lead prosecutor for extradition requests and collection of foreign evidence via Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty Requests to foreign governments.

Department of Justice Director's Awards for Superior Performance as an Assistant U.S. Attorney

2001 (*United States v. DeGlanville-Child Exploitation*)

2012 (*United States v. Joshua Wade-Carjacking, Capitol Murder*)

2014 (*United States v. Cox-Domestic Terrorism, Conspiracy to Murder Federal Officials*)

More than two dozen inter-office and law enforcement agency awards and commendations for superior performance.

OTHER

Developed and conducted law enforcement training since 1995, and trained hundreds of federal, state and local law enforcement officers. Briefed, trained and presented to prosecutors, agents and officials of the United States, Canada, Botswana, South Africa, Namibia, Uganda and Kenya in areas of criminal investigation, compliance with the law and trial advocacy. Additionally, I trained law enforcement personnel, including high level management of the FBI, the United States Department of Justice and Canadian authorities, in matters of Anti-Terrorism investigations. I have also trained federal prosecutors and agents at the United States Department of Justice National Advocacy Center on domestic terrorism matters and most recently law enforcement officers of several sub-Saharan African countries at the International Law Enforcement Academy in Gaborone, Botswana, a training facility administered by the State Department.

EDUCATION

University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law — Juris Doctor, 1991

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member Alaska Bar Association

Member Washington State Bar Association

National Association of Assistant U.S. Attorneys

REFERENCES

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