

ALASKA LEGISLATURE

HONORING

CHIEF JUSTICE DANIEL WINFREE

The members of the Thirty-Third Alaska State Legislature join family, friends, and community in honoring Chief Justice Daniel Winfree on his retirement from the Alaska Supreme Court.

Born in the Alaska Territory in Fairbanks in 1953, Justice Winfree is the grandson of turn-of-the-century Yukon and Alaska gold rushers. From 1975 to 1978, he was a truck driver and warehouseman in pipeline construction camps and at Prudhoe Bay, working on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.

Justice Winfree was a proud graduate of Lathrop High School before continuing his education with the University of Oregon. He received a Bachelor of Science in Finance from the University of Oregon in 1977; then proceeded to receive his master of business administration from the Haas School of Business and his juris doctorate from University of California, Berkeley School of Law both in 1981.

Admitted to the Alaska Bar in 1982, Justice Winfree spent twenty-five years in private practice in Anchorage, Valdez, and Fairbanks, working with large firms, small firms, and as a sole practitioner on matters across the state. He served nine years on the Alaska Bar Association Board of Governors and was its president from 1994-1995. The Bar Association presented him its Distinguished Service Award in 2007. Justice Winfree was appointed to the Alaska Supreme Court as an Associate Justice in January 2008 by Governor Sarah Palin and served as a Justice until 2021 when he succeeded Chief Justice Joel Bolger becoming the first Alaska-born Chief Justice on July 1, 2021.

During Chief Justice Winfree's tenure the Alaska Supreme Court dealt with many major issues ranging from resource development to redistricting. Justice Winfree authored the Court's majority opinion in more than 250 cases and brought a dissenting voice in nearly 50 other instances. Justice Winfree's jurisprudence will have a lasting impact on all Alaskans.

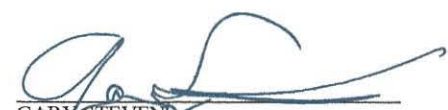
Chief Justice Winfree is married to third-generation Fairbanksan, Cathleen Ringstad Winfree. They have two adult children James and Christina (Gary) Woodward. The Woodwards have two children, Holden and Harper, and the whole family continues to live in Alaska.

During retirement Chief Justice Winfree may be found jet-skiing at his lake cabin in the summer or curling on the ice in the winter. He will remain dedicated to passing along knowledge to future generations and contributing to Alaska's well-being.

The members of the Thirty-third Alaska State Legislature congratulate Chief Justice Daniel Winfree on his well-earned retirement and wish him the best in his newest chapter of life.




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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE


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