



## **The Alaska Court System: Celebrating 50 Years**

### **QUIZ**

1. Where and when was the Alaska Constitution's Judiciary Article adopted?
2. The statewide youth facility in Anchorage is named after the delegate to the Alaska Constitutional Convention who served as chair of the Committee on the Judiciary. What was his name?
3. Which two of the following concepts were rejected by delegates to Alaska's Constitutional Convention when they adopted the Judiciary Article:
  - i. That the court system should be unified and centrally administered.
  - ii. That judges should be elected.
  - iii. That local governments should operate their own courts, independent of the state court system.
  - iv. That judges should be appointed through a merit selection process.
4. Which early Alaska Supreme Court justice described judges as "the guardians of the natural and inalienable rights of man of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" during the first official session of the Alaska Court System?
5. Which one of the following is *not* a responsibility of the Alaska Judicial Council?
  - i. Conducting studies for the administration of justice
  - ii. Appointing judges to the bench
  - iii. Conducting evaluations of judicial candidates and recommending the most qualified candidates to the governor, who makes the appointments
  - iv. Conducting evaluations of judges standing for retention
6. What is the name of the state's highest court?
7. How many justices served on the state's highest court in 1959? How many serve on the state's highest court today?
8. Which two early justices have courthouses in Anchorage named after them?

9. When was the Alaska Court of Appeals established, and what kinds of cases does it handle?
10. Name the two trial courts of the Alaska Court System. Which was established by our constitution, and which was established by the legislature?
11. How many trial court judges were appointed to the bench when the Alaska Court System was established in 1959?  
How many trial judges serve on the bench today (circle)? 27 45 61 150
12. When were the first women judges appointed to the bench in Alaska? To what court were they appointed?
13. Who is the first woman to serve on the state's highest court, and the first woman to be chosen by her colleagues to serve as chief justice?
14. How do magistrates differ from judges?
15. Which two of the following are *not* duties of the clerk of court?
- i. Accepting court paperwork and maintaining court case files
  - ii. Scheduling hearings and trials before judicial officers
  - iii. Conducting hearings and trials when a judge is not available
  - iv. Ensuring the recording of court proceedings
  - v. Offering legal advice to people without attorneys
  - vi. Providing information to people involved in court cases
16. What is the *Color of Justice* program, and what important goal does the program attempt to address?
17. How many Alaska Court System locations are there across the state today (circle)?  
15 22 44 78
18. How many cases does the Alaska Court System handle in an average year today (circle)? 5,000 50,000 100,000 150,000
19. How many employees work for the Alaska Court System today to ensure that the promise of "justice for all" is a reality for Alaska's citizens? 200 500 700
20. What duty of citizenship brings thousands of Alaskans to courthouses each year?

**THANK YOU  
FOR TAKING THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY QUIZ!**