

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**ORDER NO. 1617**

Amending Canon 4B of the Alaska Code  
of Judicial Conduct concerning pro bono  
activities for judges

**IT IS ORDERED:**

Canon 4B of the Code of Judicial Conduct is amended to read as follows:

**Canon 4. A Judge Shall So Conduct the Judge's Extra-Judicial Activities as to Minimize the Risk of Conflict with Judicial Obligations.**

\* \* \* \*

**B. Educational Activities.** As part of the judicial role, a judge is encouraged to render public service to the community. Judges have a professional responsibility to educate the public about the judicial system and the judicial office, subject to the requirements of this Code. A judge may speak, write, lecture, teach, and participate in other extra-judicial activities concerning the law,\* the legal system, the administration of justice, and non-legal topics, subject to the requirements of this Code.

***Commentary.** — As a judicial officer and person specially learned in the law, a judge is in a unique position to contribute to the improvement of the law, the legal system, and the administration of justice, including revision of substantive and procedural law and improvement of criminal and juvenile justice. To the extent that time permits, a judge is encouraged to do so, either independently or through a bar association, judicial conference, or other organization dedicated to the improvement of the law. Judges may participate in efforts to promote the fair administration of*

*justice, the independence of the judiciary, and the integrity of the legal profession. A judge may also encourage community involvement in court-affiliated programs and may invite public suggestions for the improvement of the law, the legal system, or the legal profession. In conducting these activities, judges should be mindful to comply with Canon 2 when recommending specific programs or activities.*

*The responsibility to educate the public is not intended to be enforced through the disciplinary process.*

DATED: June 1, 2006

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 15, 2006

/s/  
Chief Justice Bryner

/s/  
Justice Matthews

/s/  
Justice Eastaugh

/s/  
Justice Fabe

/s/  
Justice Carpeneti