



Press Release

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Alaska Court System Announces New Administrative Director **Long-time Deputy Director Christine E. Johnson to begin September 1st**

Anchorage, Alaska. August 19, 2009. The Alaska Supreme Court has appointed Christine E. Johnson of Anchorage as the new Administrative Director of the Alaska Court System, effective September 1, 2009. Johnson is a life-long Alaskan who has worked for the court system for nearly twenty years, first as Court Rules Attorney from 1990-2000, then as Deputy Director of Operations from 2000-2009. She has served on the court's management team for numerous statewide justice initiatives, including therapeutic courts, alternative dispute resolution programs, and computerized case management systems. Most recently, she has served on the Criminal Justice Working Group, a collaborative effort of the judicial, legislative and executive branches to improve justice delivery in criminal cases. She chairs one of that group's two principal sub-groups, the Efficiencies Committee. Johnson received her undergraduate degree from Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania and her law degree, *cum laude*, from the University of Michigan.

Johnson succeeds long time Administrative Director Stephanie J. Cole, who is retiring after over thirty years of service to the court system, including twelve as director. The Administrative Director is responsible for supervising all court operations at 44 locations statewide, and works closely with the Alaska Supreme Court and the presiding judges and area court administrators of each of the state's four judicial districts on a wide range of administrative matters.

"We are deeply indebted to Stephanie Cole for her many years of distinguished service to the people of Alaska," says Chief Justice Walter Carpeneti of the Alaska Supreme Court, "and we are very fortunate that Christine Johnson will now be bringing her many talents and years of experience to this vital position."

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