IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

ORDER NO. 503

Adding New Rule 37.5 to the Alaska Rules Governing the Administration of All Courts.

IT IS ORDERED:

Rule 37.5 is added to the Rules Governing the Administration of all Courts to read:

RULE 37.5. PUBLIC ACCESS TO PUBLIC RECORDS WITHIN THE ALASKA COURT SYSTEM.

- (a) All public records within the Alaska Court System shall be open to inspection by any member of the public at all times during the regular office hours of the courts as prescribed in these rules. The administrative director shall establish written guidelines to insure that all members of the public will upon request be given reasonable access and opportunity to inspect such public records and to insure the preservation and safekeeping of such public records for such period of time as they may be kept by the Alaska Court System.
- (b) "Public records" means all or any portion of: any written, typed or printed document; any magnetic or electronic recording of sounds, pictures and symbols; any papers, maps, photographic film or prints, any electronic or magnetic tapes or punched cards; or any other document or item filed with, or prepared, owned, or used, by the Alaska Court System which contains information relating to the conduct of the public's business and which does not contain any information or subject matter within the following categories:
 - (1) Personal information, performance evaluations or disciplinary matters of or relating to any past or present employee of the Alaska Court System or any other person who has applied for employment with the Alaska Court System;
 - (2) memoranda, notes or preliminary drafts prepared by or under the direction of any judicial officer of the Alaska Court System which relate to the adjudication, resolution or disposition of any past, present or future case, controversy or legal issue;
 - (3) the work product of any attorney or law clerk employed by or representing the Alaska Court System which is produced in the regular course of business or representation of the Alaska Court System;

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(4) matters which are required to be kept sealed or confidential pursuant to statute, court rule or order of a court for good cause.

DATED: January 11, 1982

EFFECTIVE DATE:

February 1, 1982

Chief Justice

Roger I Count

Justice

Justice

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