SAN FRANCISCO – The United States Senate has confirmed President Donald Trump’s nomination of Joshua M. Kindred to serve as a district judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska. Senators gave their consent by a vote of 54-41.

Mr. Kindred was previously nominated for the judgeship and had his hearing before the committee in 2019, but the nomination was not voted upon during the last session of Congress. He was nominated again for the judgeship on January 3, 2020, and was reported favorably by the Senate Judiciary Committee on January 16. He fills a judgeship vacant since December 31, 2015, when District Judge Ralph R. Beistline assumed senior status.

Mr. Kindred had been regional solicitor, Alaska Region, U.S. Department of the Interior, in Anchorage since 2018. Previously, he served since 2013 as environmental counsel for Alaska Oil and Gas Association. Mr. Kindred worked as a Violent Crimes Unit supervisor and as an assistant district attorney for the State of Alaska from 2008 to 2013. He engaged in private practice as an associate at Lane Powell, LLC, in Anchorage from 2007 to 2008.

Born in Goldsboro, North Carolina, Mr. Kindred received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Alaska, Anchorage, in 2002 and his juris doctor in 2005 from Willamette University College of Law, where he was editor-in-chief of the Willamette Law Review from 2004 to 2005. Following law school, he clerked for Chief Justice Paul J. De Muniz of the Oregon Supreme Court from 2005 to 2007.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska had 605 new case filings in fiscal year 2019 ending September 30. The court is authorized three judgeships, all of which are now currently filled.

Appointed under Article III of the Constitution, federal district court judges are nominated by the president, confirmed by the Senate and serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior.

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