

RESUME:

MYRA MUNSON

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921 Cowles Street  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
456-5848

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

November 1983 to Present      Assistant Attorney General  
Attorney General's Office, Human Services Section  
100 Cushman Street, Suite 400  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
452-1568

Most of my cases involve child abuse or neglect, including termination of parental rights. I have represented the Division of Medical Assistance in a reimbursement case and a class action. I represent the Department of Law on the State team of drafters in the Indian Child Welfare Act State-Tribal Agreement negotiations and have been active in developing procedures to implement Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. I have also been involved in mental commitments, guardianships, foster care, licensing, juvenile probation cases, and adoptions through litigation, offering training, and meeting with the court system, hospital, and other providers to develop local practice and procedure.

August 1980 to November 1983      Social Services Program Coordinator/Court Coordinator  
Department of Health and Social Services  
Division of Family and Youth Services  
Staff Development Training Center  
437 E Street, Suite 400  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
278-4626

I drafted and assisted in implementation of policy in many areas of practice where issues of law were present, including intervention in sexual abuse cases, Indian Child Welfare Act, confidentiality, licensing, and elder abuse and provided orientation and advanced training to state employees and almost every Alaska Native Regional Association in the State as well as many other provider groups. In other projects I helped draft regulations, negotiated amendments to the A.K. v. Ahtna Summary Judgement, and managed the application and trust responsibilities for Permanent Fund Dividend accounts for children in custody.

May 1982 to Fall 1983      Part-time Instructor  
University of Alaska - Anchorage  
Schools of Justice and Social Work

The classes were Juvenile Procedure (Justice 475), Social Services Law, and Indian Child Welfare Act.

1972 - 1977                      Social Work I - III  
                                    Division of Social Services  
                                    Department of Health and Social Services  
                                    Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

I provided direct child welfare services, took part in efforts to develop community based response to runaways, developed an extended work-day plan for Fairbanks social workers that is still in effect, was a participant in the formation of the Fairbanks Child Protection Task Force, and was a member of the statewide Youth Services Task Force, which resulted the following year in the first preventative services grant monies being appropriated.

### EDUCATION

1978 - May 1980                      University of Denver  
Masters Degree in                      Graduate School of Social Work  
Social Work                              Denver, Colorado

Specialization: Social welfare policy, administration and community development. Major research projects focused on "Succession of Leadership in Small Organizations", desirable attributes of leaders in small organizations, and developing evaluation tools for nursing homes.

#### Internships:

National Center for the Treatment and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Denver, Colorado, September 1979 - May 1980. I conducted research regarding transition of leadership, organized a national conference for the National Association of Counsel for Children, research adequacy of guardianship proceedings regarding children, and drafted sample legislation regarding representation of children and children's trust funds.

Ft. Logan Community Corrections Center, Denver, Colorado, September 1978 - May 1979. I provided direct counseling to inmates of this half-way house for prisoners preparing for parole after incarceration in Colorado prisons, participated in parole hearings, and arranged for community services.

1977 - March 1980                      University of Denver  
Juris Doctor                              College of Law (graduated first in class)  
    Denver, Colorado

#### Selected Internships:

Adams County Student Guardian ad Litem Project, University of Denver, College of Law, May 1979 - January 1980. In this program in which law and social work students were appointed as guardians ad litem in child abuse, custody, and adoption proceedings, I reviewed and assigned cases, conducted the class and supervised the other students for one quarter and acted as guardian ad litem in four cases.

1968 - 1972                      University of Alaska  
Bachelor of Arts                Fairbanks, Alaska

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS

Executive Committee Alaska Native Law Section, Alaska Bar Association (1985 - 1987)

Fairbanks Child Sexual Abuse Task Force, Fairbanks, Alaska Chairperson of Executive Committee (1985 - 1986)

Consultant for Northwest Resources Associates, 909 N.E. 43rd, Suite 208, Seattle, Washington 98105, phone (206) 632-1201, on federal grant: Active and Reasonable Efforts to Preserve Families: A Guide for Delivering Services in Compliance With The Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 (P.L. 95-608) and The Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act of 1980 (P.L. 96-272). (Published September, 1986.

Supreme Court Task Force on Simplifying Civil Litigation Domestic Relations Task Force (1982 - 1983)

Supreme Court Committee on Guardian Ad Litem Representation in Alaska (1982)

Alaska Bar Association (admitted November 1980)

Alaska Bar Association Family Law Section

National Association of Counsel for Children (member and former director, 1977 - 1980)

National Association of Social Workers

Alaska Native Child Advocacy Board (defunct) -- Ex Officio Member

American Public Welfare Association

American Humane Society

Alaska Foster Parent Association

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Munson, Update for Alaska Bar Association on the Indian Child Welfare Act for June 1986 Convention.

Munson, Continuing Legal Education Program, Alaska Native Domestic Relations Issues, Indian Child Welfare Act, for the Alaska Bar Association, Alaska Native Law Section, November 1985.

Munson and Fox, "Implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act in Alaska," presentation at the Fifth International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, September 1984.

Munson, "Agency Strategies for Implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act: Legal and Policy," presentation for the Indian Child Welfare Act Task Force at the Indian Law Seminar sponsored by the Native American Rights Fund, Indian Law Support Center, Boulder, Colorado, August 23 - 24, 1982.

Munson, "Legal Issues in Child Welfare Practice," Spotlight Presentation for the Northwest Regional Child Welfare Training Center, April 7, 1982.

Munson, "Training Child Welfare Workers to Practice in a Legal Arena," presentation at the First Annual Conference on Social Work and Law: Critical Issues in Child Welfare Practice, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, April 1982.

Munson, "Impact of the Indian Child Welfare Act on State Law," presentation at Regional Child Welfare League of America Conference, Anchorage, Alaska, May 1981.

Bross and Munson, "Alternative Models of Legal Representation for Children," Oklahoma City University Law Review, Fall 1980.

Munson, "Checklist for Guardians ad Litem," The Guardian, Fall 1979.

#### HONORS AND AWARDS

Recognized as expert on implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act by the National American Indian Court Judges Association (1983)

American Jurisprudence Awards for Administrative Law, Creditor Rights, Family Law, Trusts, and Wills

Inducted Order of Saint Ives (honorary society of College of Law)

Jean Pearl Sinnock Award for Outstanding Student at the Graduate School of Social Work, 1980

#### PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL REFERENCES

✓ D. Rebecca Snow, Office Chief, Attorney General's Office, 100 Cushman Street, Suite 400, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701. Phone 452-1568. *479-0892*

✓ Neisje J. Steinkruger, Public Defender Agency, 912 Barnette Street, Suite 1, Fairbanks, Alaska. Phone 452-1621 *7-8733*

Irvin Rothrock, Fairbanks Psychiatric and Neurological Clinic, 1919 Lathrop, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701. Phone 452-1739

✓ Stephanie Cole, Deputy Director, Alaska Court System, 303 "K" Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2099. Phone 264-8230

Donald Bross, Staff Attorney, C. Henry Kempe National Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect, 1205 Oneida Street, Denver, Colorado 80220. Phone 303-321-3963.