

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The staff of the *Alaska Law Review* is especially proud to present our June 2008 issue. With this issue, we celebrate our twenty-fifth year of publication at the Duke University School of Law. This has been a memorable and exciting project for all those involved, and we look forward to the many great years ahead. On behalf of the editors of the *Alaska Law Review*, I would like to thank all those at the Alaska Bar Association and you, our readers, for your unwavering support and for helping make this project a possibility.

As part of this publication milestone, the editors of the *Alaska Law Review* sought to find ways to better serve the members of the Alaska Bar Association, both in our print edition and on our website. As you have probably already noticed, the print edition has been completely redesigned. The new layout was designed with an eye towards making the text cleaner, crisper, and ultimately easier to read. We hope these changes will make for a more pleasurable reading experience.

This first issue of our twenty-fifth anniversary volume contains four exceptional pieces that we feel will be of interest to varied sectors of the Alaska legal community. It is our goal to present thought provoking articles, comments, and notes that provide either practical suggestions or truly groundbreaking legal analysis. This group of articles and comment are exceptional in their in-depth analysis, coupled with their well-reasoned conclusions and proposals. The first Article, co-authored by Geoffrey Y. Parker, Frances M. Raskin, Carol Ann Woody, and Lance Trasky, addresses the Pebble Mine project in southwestern Alaska. The authors argue that the current state permitting process is inadequate to deal with large metallic sulfide mines such as Pebble Mine, analyze the strengths and weaknesses of pending legislation, and ultimately propose their own amendments to this legislation. Second, the Article by James B. (Jim) Gottstein focuses on the rights of those who are involuntarily committed and non-voluntarily given psychiatric medication in Alaska's trial courts, arguing that the constitutional rights of these persons are not being adequately represented. Next, the Article by Eric C. Chaffee provides an in-depth reexamination of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and ultimately concludes by presenting suggestions in case the Act is ever amended or if similar legislation is ever proposed. Finally, the Comment by Benjamin J. Roesch addresses the inadequacies in the Alaska Supreme Court's recent decision

in *Jackman v. Jewel Lake Villa*, suggesting substantive changes to Rule 68 of the Alaska Rules of Civil of Procedure, but ultimately providing practical suggestions to insurers so that they can best protect themselves under the current legal framework.

The *Alaska Law Review* has also made significant changes to our website. Based on feedback from our readers, we have uploaded archived versions of the Year-in-Review. You can now find the Year-in-Review for 2004–07. We have also updated the Cumulative Index, and it is now up to date through Volume 25, Issue 1. We recognize that this is a tool used by many of our readers, and we will strive to update it on a biannual basis.

Most importantly, we have added an entirely new section to the website. Based on our experience and feedback from members of the Alaska Bar Association, it is clear to us that our publication schedule is not always adequate for those who would like to publish a relatively quick response to an article, comment, or note that has appeared in the most recent print issue. By hopefully allowing us to publish a limited number of pieces on a rolling basis, our new Online Articles Forum should better facilitate conversation and debate between members of Alaska's legal community. The first Article to appear on this exclusively online forum is titled *Recidivism in Alaska* and was authored by Theresa Carns. The Comment combines and synthesizes data from two recent reports published by the Alaska Judicial Council and provides some insights into conclusions drawn from that data, as well as potential avenues for further analysis. We encourage you to visit this new forum and to enquire about opportunities for online publication. We welcome any comments you may have as to how best we can utilize this new online space. Please email us at alr@law.duke.edu. All of our online sources can be accessed at <http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/alr>.

As of this publication, my term as Editor-in-Chief of the *Alaska Law Review* has officially come to an end. I cannot express in words how much this experience has meant to me. I am surrounded by a magnificent group of people, both here at Duke and in Alaska. I want to thank all of those with whom I have worked in Alaska for affording me the opportunity to do so. It has been an absolute joy to learn about this magnificent state on a daily basis and to be a small part of a truly amazing legal community. I also want to thank all of our editors and publications staff here at Duke, who have worked tirelessly all year long. I am extremely proud to have had the opportunity to work with all of you. While it will be difficult for me to move on to other projects in my life, I have the greatest confidence

that those who follow will continue the great legacy that the editors of the *Alaska Law Review* have developed over the past twenty-five years.

Mauricio Almar