

**From:** pl hamlett [plhamlett@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2011 11:29 AM  
**To:** info@communitycouncils.org  
**Subject:** FW: From the Desk of Johnny Ellis: Justice Will Prevail

Mark ---

pls fwd to CPCC members

Thanks  
PETER HAMLETT  
CPCC Chair

---

From: Senator\_Johnny\_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us  
To: Senator\_Johnny\_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us  
Date: Mon, 14 Mar 2011 08:04:42 -0800  
Subject: From the Desk of Johnny Ellis: Justice Will Prevail

## From the Desk of SENATOR JOHNNY ELLIS



*Representing the neighborhoods of Airport Heights, Anchor Park, Campbell Park, College Village, Downtown, Fairview, Geneva Woods, Government Hill, Green Acres, Midtown, North Star, Rogers Park, South Addition, Tudor, Valley of the Moon, Waldron, and Woodside East*

**March 14, 2011**



**SENATOR  
JOHNNY ELLIS**

### **JUSTICE WILL PREVAIL**

#### **State of the Judiciary and Alaska's homeless**

Friends and Neighbors,

This week Chief Justice Walter Carpeneti delivered his annual [State of the Judiciary](#) address to the Legislature, I heard testimony on the issue of Alaska's homeless in the [Health and Social Services Committee](#), and I continued to meet with my constituents.

***Working hard  
Solving problems  
Getting things done***

Alaska Capitol, Room 119  
Juneau, AK 99801  
(907) 465-3704  
fax (907) 465-2529

[Sen.Johnny.Ellis@  
legis.state.ak.us](mailto:Sen.Johnny.Ellis@legis.state.ak.us)

<http://ellis.aksenate.org>

• [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) •

**Contact Other Elected Officials:**

Senator Mark Begich,  
Anchorage Office:  
907-271-5915  
EMAIL: [Senator Mark Begich](mailto:Senator Mark Begich)

Congressman Don Young,  
Anchorage Office:  
907-271-5978  
EMAIL: [Rep. Don Young](mailto:Rep. Don Young)

Senator Lisa Murkowski,  
Anchorage Office:  
907-271-3735,  
EMAIL: [Sen. Lisa Murkowski](mailto:Sen. Lisa Murkowski)

Office of the Governor  
Anchorage Office:  
907-269-7450  
EMAIL: [Office of the Governor](mailto:Office of the Governor)

**Follow me on:**



[Senator Ellis](#) with Chris Jenkins. Chris is a senior at Stellar High School in Anchorage. He is using his spring break to volunteer-intern for [Representative Scott Kawasaki \(D-Fairbanks\)](#).

## STATE OF THE JUDICIARY

[Chief Justice Carpeneti](#) met with the Legislature on Wednesday to update us on the state of the Judicial Branch. Chief Justice Carpeneti emphasized the need for cooperation among the three branches of government and compared it to a “three legged chair that cannot stand if one leg is missing.” The Legislature, Executive Branch, and Judiciary must work together on solutions to Alaska’s challenges.

Chief Justice Carpeneti’s remarks on the importance of evidence based treatment programs, for nonviolent offenders, [echo my sentiment](#). Two-thirds of Alaskan offenders are repeat offenders. If we concentrate our efforts on these offenders we can save money and reduce crime.



*Chief Justice Carpeneti delivering the State of the Judiciary address to a joint session of the Alaska Legislature.*

Two programs were introduced in Alaska targeting these repeat offenders. [Project PACE \(Probationer Accountability with Certain Enforcement\)](#) and the formation of the [Alaska Prisoner Reentry Task Force](#) aim at a successful “reintegration of offenders back into their communities”.

Chief Justice Carpeneti closed his remarks inviting all Alaskan citizens to take part in government saying, “the greatest guarantee of a strong future for all three branches of government is citizenry that understands and embraces the fundamental principles of democracy”. An easy way for Alaska’s youth to become involved is by visiting [iCivics.org](#). This website is designed to teach and inspire young Alaskans to become active participants in government.

## **ALASKA’S HOMELESS**

This week members of the [Senate Health and Social Services Committee](#) came face-to-face with the realities of the homeless population in Alaska. These members of our society face a greater risk due to our cold climate. Several organizations – [Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homeless](#), [Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority](#), and [NeighborWorks Anchorage](#) – have taken on the responsibility of looking out for these individuals.

The best social program is one which does a good

job at taking individuals out of poverty and places them into a productive lifestyle. The above organizations have done this by investing time and effort into eradicating homelessness. In particular, The Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homeless works to increase the availability of affordable housing. It provides rent based on wages rather than market rate. This method creates affordable housing for low-income families.

## **PAINT THE TOWN**

NeighborWorks Anchorage is participating in a nationwide initiative named [Paint the Town 2011](#) on June 3<sup>rd</sup> – June 11<sup>th</sup>. This is a “community based program to paint homes for single parents, seniors, people with disabilities, and other homeowners with a limited capacity” and is a great opportunity to give back to the community. You are able to nominate a home to be painted by [clicking here](#). I encourage you to get involved whether by volunteering or voting.

Until next week,



Senator Johnny Ellis

P.S. Stay Informed! Former-Justice Sandra Day has founded the [iCivics.org website](#) which ensures “every young person in this country has a real opportunity to learn about both the rights and the responsibilities of citizenship.”

<http://ellis.aksenate.org>