

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The staff of the *Alaska Law Review* is pleased to present our June 2006 issue. The *Year-in-Review*, formerly included with each June issue, continues to be published exclusively online at <http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/alr>.

We hope that the five pieces in this issue appeal to the varied sectors of the Alaska legal community. The Article by Andy Harrington examines the history of the 1970 “Metlakatla” amendment to Public Law 280, concluding that the amendment should not be interpreted to divest the affected Indian Tribes of residual civil or criminal jurisdiction. The Comment by Gordon Harrison discusses legislative redistricting in Alaska and argues for bipartisan participation in the redistricting process by the legislature. Next, Benjamin Roesch’s Comment examines the applicability of Alaska Civil Rule 68 in federal diversity actions under *Erie-Hanna* jurisprudence, concluding that the substance of the state rule rather than the federal rule should apply. Eric Lobsinger’s Comment analyzes the recent Alaska Supreme Court decision of *Alaska Civil Liberties Union ex rel. Carter v. Alaska*, where the court struck down the denial of employment benefits to public employee’s same-sex domestic partners under the state constitution’s equal protection clause. Finally, Lee Perla’s student-written Note discusses how the criminal conviction of the captain of the Exxon Valdez oil tanker for negligent discharge of oil under the civil standard of negligence departed from Alaska’s prior *mens rea* jurisprudence.

As always, we encourage members of the Alaska Bar to submit responses, articles, and comments for publication, or to contact us with feedback or questions regarding the journal. For details regarding manuscript submission and selection criteria, please visit our website at <http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/alr>. We can be reached via email at alr@law.duke.edu.

It has been a great pleasure to manage the journal this year, and I thank the many attorneys, scholars, and students who have contributed their hard work to this issue and to the 2005 *Year-in-Review*.

Lauren Shurman