

THUESON LAW OFFICE

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September 15, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
C/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
PO Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: Don Jones; applicant for vacancy in the First Judicial District

Dear Members of the Commission:

Please accept this recommendation to have Don Jones' name be submitted to the Governor for selection as a judge in the First Judicial District.

I've known Mr. Jones for several years. He was a lawyer student of mine at the Trial Academy put on by the Montana Trial Lawyers Association. He has also received awards for his appellate work. He is civically minded, having run for local offices in Helena, Montana. He has a broad practice involving several areas of law, which will make him a knowledgeable District Judge.

My association with Don indicates he has a nice temperament, a bright mind and a sense of civic duty, which I am sure compels him to apply for this position. I think he will make an excellent judge. He will be a credit to both Helena and Montana. I urge you, therefore, to send his name to the Governor.

Sincerely yours,

THUESON LAW OFFICE


Erik B. Thueson

EBT: ems

BEST LAW OFFICES, P.C.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

MICHAEL JOSEPH BEST
ELIZABETH ALLAIRE BEST

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September 14, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Ms. Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Dear Committee Members:

I write this letter in support of Don Jones' appointment to fill the seat of Judge Jeffrey Sherlock.

I have known Don for several years. I know him to be a person of strong character, and to be a fine lawyer. Don started where all jurists probably should--- wearing a blue collar, and working his way up. After he became a lawyer, he never forgot that our courts and our Constitution are there to protect all of us, especially those who have little power or resources.

Don has volunteered and given back to his community throughout his life. He is clearly seeking this appointment not as an addition to his résumé but because it is part of this commitment to his community and State.

Montanans deserve a judge like Don. He is highly regarded among lawyers across the State, and is recognized by his community as a leader. He has a judicial temperament, and a clear-eyed approach to people and the law. Don clearly cares about the people who come to him for help.

Please forward Don Jones' name to Governor Bullock and urge that he be appointed as Lewis and Clark County's next District Judge. I am available at any time to answer questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

BEST LAW OFFICES, P.C.



Elizabeth A. Best, Esq.



September 16, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Re: Letter of recommendation, Donald Jones for District Court Judge, 1st Judicial District

Respected members of the Commission:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter of recommendation. I have known Don Jones for many years both personally and professionally. Don has volunteered his time to serve on several boards in Helena and has passionately supported his beliefs which I have always found to be in the best interest of the organization he is serving. Whether it was while he was serving on the Helena School Board or as an advocate for those with disabilities, Don has always been objective and demonstrated a unique ability to listen and understand both sides of any issue. I believe that Don would serve as District Court Judge with utmost professionalism.

I have called Helena home for most of the last 40 years; I raised my children here and have been practicing architecture in the State of Montana for 20 years running my own practice. I have a great interest in what is best for our great State and I also volunteer my time serving on committees and volunteer boards. I currently serve on the Governors Main Street Montana Program Small Business and Downtown KIN.

If there is anything else I can offer to support Don in this pursuit, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Michael W. Dowling". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael W. Dowling, AIA, NCARB
President, Dowling Studio Architects, PC
Vice President, One Way Marine and Motorsports

Past Chair - Helena Business Improvement District
Helena Parking Commission,
Helena Area Chamber of Commerce
Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

HOYT & BLEWETT PLLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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September 15, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Re: Donald Jones

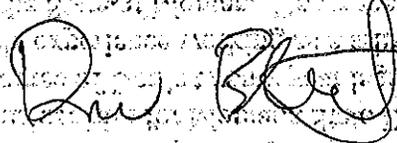
Dear Ms. Menzies:

I am writing this letter in support of Don Jones respectfully requesting that the Judicial Nomination Commission strongly consider him for Montana State District Court Judge in Lewis and Clark County. Throughout the course of Don's twenty year legal career in both Washington and Montana, he has gained invaluable experience working as a criminal defense attorney, a special assistant attorney general for the State of Montana Department of Administration, a staff attorney for Disability Rights Montana, and a partner at a successful personal injury and employment law firm. This broad spectrum of legal experience has provided him with a unique perspective that lends itself well to serving as a State District Court Judge where he would be responsible for making important and sometimes life-altering decisions for people in Lewis and Clark County.

Don has tried eight jury trials and thirty five bench trials over the course of his twenty year legal career in both Washington and Montana. Few attorneys around the State can say the same. Needless to say, his track record confirms that he is well prepared to take on the challenges inherent in serving as a State District Court Judge.

For these reasons, I wholeheartedly endorse Don Jones for State District Court Judge in Lewis and Clark County and hope that the Judicial Nomination Commission takes into careful consideration his twenty years of legal experience in making its decision.

Sincerely,



Drew Blewett
Attorney
Hoyt and Blewett PLLC

DANIEL WHYTE, ESQ.
718 JOSLYN ST.
HELENA, MT 59601

September 19, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Re: The Application of Donald Jones for the First Judicial District Judicial Vacancy

Dear Commission:

I write to urge you to recommend to Governor Bullock the nomination of Don Jones for First Judicial District Court Judge. I have known Don as a colleague and friend for many years and think of him as a seasoned professional and a fine member of the community.

Don has had a varied practice that makes him uniquely qualified for the position of district court judge. His many years of trial experience in district courts and administrative hearings will serve him well in the protection of the justice system. He has the knowledge base necessary to administer the Rules of Civil and Criminal Procedure and the Rules of Evidence in a fair manner. He is fair and thoughtful in his practice and meets the highest ethical standards.

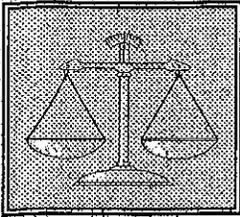
Don's character also shows in his commitment to his community. This is apparent through his leadership on the Helena School Board for four terms. He also has been involved in many nonprofit organizations, such as Queen City Ballet, the Helena Wrestling Club, and the Montana Conservation Voters. He is also a dedicated husband and father, as evidenced by his participation in his children's activities, whether as an athletic coach or in the cast of ballet performances.

Don is a qualified and dedicated candidate for this position. Please include him in your nomination to Governor Bullock.

With best regards,



Dan Whyte



HELENA AVENUE LAW OFFICES

C Charles E. Petaja
Attorney and Counselor at Law
1085 Helena Avenue
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 442-3625
(406) 449-6038- Fax

September 21, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/- Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: Donald Ford Jones
Nominee for 1st Judicial District Court Judge

Dear Commissioner:

I am writing to urge support for Donald Ford Jones as the new District Court Judge for the 1st Judicial District, Lewis & Clark County, Montana. I have known Don Jones since his 2007 entry into the private practice of law with Philip Hohenlohe, Esq, and prior to that when Don was a staff attorney at Disability Rights Montana. Don has a very broad background in civil law practice as well as some criminal law experience. Don has legal experience with complex litigation and has represented both plaintiffs and defendants. Don is a fair and honest person with excellent ethical standards and compassion for those less fortunate citizens who suffer from disabilities or are otherwise discriminated against. I believe Donald Ford Jones *will bring very impartial balance to our judiciary in the 1st Judicial District*. Currently, three of our four District Court Judges have extensive background with the Lewis and Clark County Attorney's Office, Montana Attorney General's Office and the City of Helena. I firmly believe Donald Ford Jones' overall experience in the private sector practice of law best qualifies him for the position of District Court Judge. I also believe Don will be fair and impartial if he becomes District Court Judge. Don's even temperament and compassion for the less fortunate must be the overriding consideration.

Thank you for your support of Donald Ford Jones.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles E. Petaja".

Charles E. Petaja
Attorney at Law since 1969 to present
Former Commissioner for
Montana Public Defender Commission 2009-2015

CEP/kp

Summit Independent Living Center, Inc.

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Judicial Nomination Commission
C/O: Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
PO Box 203005
Helena, MT 596203005

September 21, 2015

RE: Donald Ford Jones

Dear Commission Members:

Please accept this letter of recommendation in earnest support of Mr. Don Jones's appointment to the position of District Court Judge, 1st Judicial District. I have known Don for 15 years since we together served on the Montana Vocational Rehabilitation Council. I have since grown to know Don professionally and personally as an outstanding community member, attorney, school board member, coach, volunteer, advocate, and friend. In these roles and others, Don has and continues to demonstrate character of integrity, respect for others and commitment to what is right and just.

Mr. Jones's community service in multiple capacities and professional dedication to youth, individuals with disabilities, and his community exemplifies his interest in and concern for humanity. His hard work, intelligence, and acquired knowledge demonstrate his willingness to accept responsibility and follow through to completion. Don's blue-collar experience, legal work, and involvement in many formal and informal positions have enabled him to exercise the balance between rights and responsibilities.

It is with assured confidence and honor that I write this letter of recommendation strongly encouraging the appointment of Don Jones to the position of District Court Judge, 1st Judicial District. His appointment will reflect well on the position and he will undoubtedly serve it well and benefit all involved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris E. Clasby". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Chris Clasby, MSW
Peer Advocacy Coordinator
cclasby@summitilc.org

HOHENLOHE, JONES, PLLP

LAW OFFICES

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DONALD FORD JONES
don@hohenlohejones.com

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406-443-4601 VOICE/TTY
406-443-4602 FAX
WWW.HOHENLOHEJONES.COM

September 25, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Re: Application of Donald Ford Jones for First Judicial District Judgeship

Dear Members of the Commission:

I write in support of Don Jones' application for the First Judicial District judgeship. I have worked closely with Don for well over ten years. Don and I worked together as attorneys at the Montana Advocacy Program (now Disability Rights Montana). Then, for the last eight years, Don and I have been partners at Hohenlohe, Jones, PLLP.

I have been tremendously impressed with Don's commitment to public service and his desire to contribute to his community. For example, Don served on the school board for several years, has been active in coaching, and is always willing to volunteer his time and energy to support his community. I believe that if appointed to the judgeship, Don would be tremendously dedicated and would serve the public interest by striving tirelessly to improve the quality of justice.

As a judge, Don would be fair, independent, and open-minded. Don makes decisions by carefully analyzing the available information, focusing on the important issues, and applying sound judgment to the problem. He will make well-informed decisions based on the facts and the law.

I also believe that Don has great empathy, and a fine understanding of the interests and concerns of those people who will appear before him. Thus, I have no doubt that he will treat all litigants with the respect and consideration they deserve.

Don has handled numerous different types of cases over his career, involving criminal law, family law, employment law, civil rights and discrimination law, personal injury law, and contract law. Thus he has a broad knowledge of the law which will serve him well as a judge.

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Philip A. Hohenlohe
Attorney at Law

September 23, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005
lmenzies@mt.gov

Re: Donald Ford Jones

Dear Judicial Nomination Committee,

I am writing in support of Don Jones for the appointment as the First Judicial District Court Judge. I have had the opportunity to get to know and work with Don on many different levels. I teach 4th grade at Rossiter Elementary here in Helena where I have witnessed Don's dedication to the community of Helena. Don has strong community values and knows the importance of guiding, supporting, and leading in order to maintain our values as a community.

Don served very well as a trustee on the Helena School Board and also in the past volunteered his time taking on ballet at Queen City Ballet. This demonstrates his dedication of time, effort, and support throughout all aspects of our community.

Don also helped with the creation of the Helena Education Foundation. As an educator this foundation is vital in providing opportunities for teachers to obtain grants for learning opportunities for Helena students. Don is always willing to make room in his schedule in order to successfully help and serve in different capacities to better our community as a whole.

I was born and raised in Montana and know the importance of selecting persons of substantive quality for public service so we can maintain the great state of Montana. I know him as a leader, a community advocate and as a parent. Don has the ability and attributes it takes to successfully serve as judge for the First Judicial Court and would serve us all very well.

Sincerely,



Patrick Rieley
2726 Overlook
Helena, MT 59601

P.O. Box 289
Boulder, Montana 59632
September 21, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Dear Sirs:

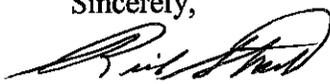
I would like to recommend Mr. Don Jones, esq. as your choice for the District #1 judicial position.

I have known Don for some time, having worked as a teacher and librarian for the Helena School District while Don was on the school board. I found him to be concerned for the education and well being of our students, fair and impartial when deciding policy, and supportive of students and staff. He made sure that resources were available to provide the best education possible for students and that staff had adequate resources to accomplish their tasks.

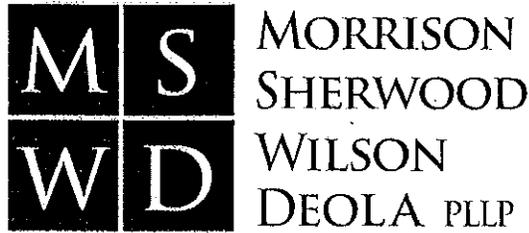
As a former Chief of Police and City Administrator for Boulder, Montana, I know Don to be a competent, caring, and dedicated attorney. His knowledge of employment law and his courtroom representations are first rate. As a trial lawyer he has worked hard to uphold the law. He has argued cases at all levels of the judicial system and has proven his competency at each.

It is my opinion that Don would be a great choice for the District Judgeship. He has exemplified the qualities of knowledge of the law, competence in his practice, and working for what he believes is fair. He has a proven record to support this. I am sure he will prove to be a good judge for the district court.

Sincerely,



Rick Streib



John M. Morrison
Frederick F. Sherwood
David K. W. Wilson, Jr.
Linda M. Deola
Brian J. Miller

john@mswdlaw.com

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Robert Farris-Olsen
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September 21, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, Montana 59620-3005

RE: Don Jones/First Judicial District Applicant

Dear Members of the Commission:

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation in support of Don Jones, who is an applicant for the vacancy in the First Judicial District.

I first became acquainted with Don when he was with the Harrison, Loendorf & Posten in the 1990's. I was impressed with his skill and diligence as a young lawyer. Since then, I have watched Don apply these qualities in a diverse array of legal services, including defending the State of Montana, advocating for people with disabilities, and representing a variety of parties, both plaintiffs and defendants, in private civil litigation. He is respected for his skill, his hard work, and his professionalism.

Don brings to this process the added dimension of having been a proven and experienced public servant in our community. He served for many years on the Helena School Board as a Trustee, as Vice Chair and as Chairman. This experience also gives Don a thorough understanding of issues related to education and public administration, which have special importance here in the state capital.

I believe Don Jones possesses the intelligence, personal temperament, breadth of legal experience, and demonstrated commitment to public service to make him an outstanding state district judge. For these reasons, I respectfully urge the commission to forward his name to the Governor for appointment as our next First Judicial District Judge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John Morrison'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'John' being more prominent than the last name 'Morrison'.

John Morrison

Judicial Nomination Committee
C/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
PO Box 203005
Helena MT 59620

Re: Don Jones, applicant for the vacancy in the First Judicial District

Dear Members of the Commission:

I am a retired pediatrician writing in support of Don Jones for District Court Judge.

I have known Don for approximately 14 years, and have been impressed by both his diligence as a lawyer, and his commitment to his community. I have seen his compassion and competence put to work in his representation of the handicapped, and in discrimination cases. I have personally hired him to represent one of my family members in an identity theft case, which thankfully resulted in the quick and thorough correction of a miscarriage of justice. He served on the Helena School Board for several terms, during a very productive period of School Board activity.

I was pleased to serve as his Treasurer when Don ran for the seat of Representative for House District 82; during many home visits over many months I was able to see his interest in, and grasp of, a wide range of issues, as he spoke with diverse members of the community on their front porches. Don is interested in clarifying the elements of an issue, rather than argument for the sake of argument. He listens carefully and well.

Don has a lot of energy, which shows in his work ethic, his community involvement, and his attention to his family's many activities – most recently in his provision of spare space in his law office for several of Helena's competitive robotics teams!

I have no doubt that Don's intelligence, energy, and temperament will serve our community well in the position of District Judge -

Sincerely
Elizabeth P Gundersen MD
Helena MT
September 28, 2015

704 Stuart Street
Helena, MT 59601
September 17, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the application of Donald Jones for the position of District Court Judge in the 1st Judicial District. I have known Don for the past 16 years and can attest to his exemplary character, ability to grasp the relevant details of whatever comes before him as well as his profound work ethic.

Don and I served on the Helena Public School board together for five years. In that time, Don brought energy, compassion and an ability to understand both sides of an issue. Our years together on the board were not quiet ones as anyone who remembers the Health Enhancement Curriculum approval process would understand. Through the numerous public hearings Don retained his calm demeanor in the face of sometimes unpleasant and personally challenging comments. Don then deliberated and made his decision based on the facts, not his personal feelings or the emotional appeal of the public.

Don's commitment to public service extends beyond time spent as an elected school board member. He has been active in supportive of our local bicycle trail system, coaching his children's sports teams, became a foster and then adoptive parent. And all this in conjunction with his professional work in the area of disability rights.

In closing, I would re-affirm my support for Don as a District Court Judge in the 1st Judicial District. Don would thoughtfully and fairly consider all issues before him. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask me.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth D. Goldes
libbygoldes@gmail.com

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Thursday, October 1, 2015 5:49 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: Eric Feaver [<mailto:efeaver@mea-mft.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 11:46 AM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Don Jones Application for Judicial Appointment

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005
mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

Don Jones has applied for appointment to fill an impending vacancy in the 1st Judicial District, Lewis and Clark County, Montana.

I recommend your fullest consideration of his application.

On issues of primary concern to me, I am confident Don will correctly read our state constitution and laws and rule accordingly.

Further, Don is fully engaged in our community, our children and their education, our mentally ill and their treatment.

Plus Don has an easy going, compelling manner about him that serves him well now and will continue to do so on the bench.

Don's application speaks for itself. He has earned your notice.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Feaver". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Eric Feaver
901 Flowerree
Helena MT 59601

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Thursday, October 1, 2015 5:48 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: Michael Swingley [<mailto:MSwingley@lccountymt.gov>]
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 9:04 AM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Don Jones

I respectfully submit this recommendation on behalf of Mr. Don Jones, Esq., who has submitted his name for the vacancy in the First Judicial District Court, created by retiring judge Jeffrey Sherlock.

I have worked with and known Mr. Jones for the last 5 years while serving as a judge in Lewis and Clark County. Mr. Jones is one of the people I am always happy to see working on a case, as he is very intelligent, straight forward in his thinking, common sense orientated and organized. He always works hard for his clients and seems to have a great knowledge of the court system, Montana Rules of Evidence, Criminal and Civil Procedure.

Mr. Jones would be a good choice for a District Judge.

Respectfully,
Mike Swingley

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Thursday, October 1, 2015 5:48 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: kkgliewe@bresnan.net [<mailto:kkgliewe@bresnan.net>]
Sent: Sunday, September 20, 2015 5:18 AM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: application by Don Jones

Dear Members of the Commission,

I am writing to provide input on the application of my neighbor, Don Jones, for the position of First Judicial Court Judge. In addition to the community service that Don Jones outlined in his application, I would like to mention the acts of neighborliness that he has exhibited over the years. Since about 2005 when Don and Sandy Jones and their family moved into our neighborhood accessible by a lane not maintained by the city, he has taken it upon himself to plough our street and driveways in the Winter. Without his unsolicited service we would have been snow bound many times. During countless early hours of snowy mornings, he can be found on his snow plough, making sure that we can come and go. When his son was younger, Don would often have the boy with him; teaching a valuable lesson of service. He extended this kindness to an elderly woman who lived on the street below us. Without this help she may not have been able to remain independent in her home as long as she did.

Don's concern for the environment and love of the outdoors is manifested in the practical way of controlling noxious weeds in our neighborhood. This is another task that he has simply taken upon himself without an expectation of recompense. He lent a helping hand to another neighbor in building a retaining wall to prevent erosion.

I have witnessed the patient fatherliness with which he taught his son to ride a bike on our mutual lane and in more recent years, his adopted niece. As an adoptee myself, I have the utmost respect for someone who will give a child a good home.

I think that the day to day conduct of someone in their personal life speaks volumes about their character, perhaps even more so than their public persona. I can attest that Don is considerate and law abiding even in small ways. For these reasons I believe that Don Jones has the appropriate temperament, work ethic and fairness to be a good judge. I encourage you to advance Mr. Jones' application to the Governor.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Christianson Gliewe

DOUBEK, PYFER & FOX, LLP

Attorneys at Law

JOHN C. DOUBEK
RICK PYFER
PATRICK T. FOX
KEIF STORRAR

307 N. JACKSON - P.O. BOX 236
HELENA, MONTANA 59624
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406-442-7839 (FAX)

CARL A. HATCH
Of Counsel
FLOYD O. SMALL
(1907-1995)

October 15, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of the Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena MT 59620-3005

Re: Letter in support of Don Jones for
1st Judicial District judicial appointment

Dear Members of the Judicial Nomination Commission:

I write this letter in support of Don Jones for the 1st Judicial District judge vacancy. I often receive calls from people who need help in the complex arena of civil rights and employment law. Based upon Don's proven track record, I confidently refer these people to Don's law firm because I know they will get an accurate assessment of their case and good representation if it comes to it.

Don's application shows his diverse life experience. Don had a non-law career before he became a lawyer. Don's dual-perspective as lawyer and layperson would undoubtedly assist him on the bench. Since becoming a lawyer, Don has had diverse legal experiences, from defending the accused to defending the State of Montana in tort actions to defending citizens' civil and statutory rights. His diverse legal experience would serve him well as a judge.

Don's application also shows his dedication to the greater community, where he has served on the Helena School Board and in various non-profit public service organizations. As an example of his commitment to service, Don also ran for the State Legislature in 2012. Don's commitment to public service is evident in his involvement outside of the law.

Don has unique characteristics to serve as a judge in the First Judicial District. I wholeheartedly recommend him for that position. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Patrick T. Fox

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005
mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

RE: Donald Jones application for District Court Judge, 1st Judicial District

Respected Members of the Commission:

Please accept my highest recommendation to recommend to Governor Steve Bullock the nomination of Don Jones for First Judicial District Court Judge.

I have known Don professionally and personally since I first moved to Helena in 2007. Don's character and integrity are evident in everything he pursues. As an experienced trial lawyer, Don's legal expertise will be invaluable. Moreover, a judge needs genuine empathy and the ability to identify with all of the people our legal system serves. Don's community involvement and volunteerism on the Helena School board and through nonprofit organizations such as Queen City Ballet, the Helena Wrestling Club, and ExplorationWorks! help give him a better understanding of the many challenges that people in our community and in our state face on a daily basis.

Our courts must be fair, impartial and accessible to all Montanans. The four judges in our district – the Honorable Kathy Seeley, Mike Menahan, Jeffrey Sherlock and Jim Reynolds – all have my highest regard as the epitome of impartiality, respect and justice. As the Honorable Sherlock retires, I know that Don Jones has the necessary experience and qualities to protect and promote these values as a district court judge.

I would be happy to discuss my experience with Don or my recommendation at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact me at john_doran@bcbsmt.com or at (406) 422-6894.

Sincerely,



John Doran

1101 University St.

Helena, MT 59601

DOUBEK, PYFER & FOX, LLP

Attorneys at Law

JOHN C. DOUBEK
RICK PYFER
PATRICK T. FOX
KEIF STORRAR

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CARLA A. HATCH
Of Counsel
FLOYD O. SMALL
(1907-1995)

October 6, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620—3005

RE: Letter in Support of Don Jones for
Judicial District Judge Appointment

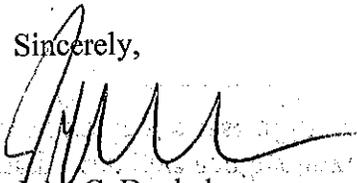
Dear Members of the Judicial Nomination Commission:

I write this letter in support of the Commission's appointment of Donald Jones to the judicial seat which will soon be vacated by Judge Sherlock in the First Judicial District. I have known and worked with Don on many cases over the years. I have referred clients to him as he has exhibited a real expertise in the area of work relations, wrongful discharge, and discrimination kinds of cases.

Probably the highest compliment I can give another lawyer is to refer serious cases to him or her. That is what I have done in the case of Mr. Jones. I also follow up typically with people I have referred to Mr. Jones. I have always received good feedback from those folks and thus have been pleased to refer and I continue to refer cases to Mr. Jones.

Don Jones has exhibited a real caring attitude toward clients, particularly those less fortunate and in need of attorney representation. He has acted as a real advocate for these people and I think he would truly serve the best interests of the Bar and the community here in the First Judicial District. I strongly recommend him for the district judge position.

Sincerely,



John C. Doubek
Attorney At Law

JCD/ljr

Bruce K. Messinger, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools
6500 East Arapahoe Road
Boulder, Colorado 80303
720-561-5114
bruce.messinger@bvsd.org



October 5, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005
mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

Dear Members of the Commission:

I write this letter to support Donald Jones' application for the First District Judicial Judgeship. Don is a thoughtful and committed public servant who has provided valuable service to the Helena community and throughout the state of Montana. I have always been impressed with Don's high integrity and desire to address the needs of all children and families even in difficult and challenging situations.

I first met Don when he was elected to the Helena School District Board of Trustees, and I was superintendent of schools. Don served as president of the Helena School District Board of Trustees during my tenure as superintendent. In that role, he was thoughtful, trustworthy and willing to invest the time to thoroughly research issues, so the Board of Trustees and school district administration were well informed before taking action. This dedication to getting complete and thorough data served us well and resulted in better decisions.

Don has always had the courage and commitment to address difficult issues when it was in the best interest of children and families. He understands the need to consider the interests of all parties, especially when they do not have the expertise or resources to advocate for their position.

In addition to his service on the Helena School District Board of Trustees, Don is active in the Helena community, providing opportunities for youth and advocating for the needs of underrepresented citizens. During my years in Helena working with Don, I valued his understanding and empathy for the diverse community. Don supported the consensus work we conducted in the school district and throughout the community. By design, the consensus decision-making process encourages all individuals to participate and have a voice, so the outcome is responsive to all needs.

I give my full support to Don Jones' application for the First District Judicial Judgeship. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information.

Bruce K. Messinger, Ph.D.
Superintendent, Boulder Valley School District, Boulder, CO 2011- present
Superintendent, Helena School District, Helena, MT 1997-2001

Mark R. Lambrecht
945 Sunny Vista Road
Helena, MT 59602
(406) 594-2955 cell
marklambrecht@mt.net

October 6, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Commissioners:

Please consider this letter of support for the application of Donald Jones for district court judge for the 1st Judicial District.

I am a former executive of two Montana associations and am currently employed as Director of Government Affairs for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

I've known Mr. Jones personally and professionally for over 20 years and recommend him without reservation.

My professional involvement with Mr. Jones involved his service as a member of the Helena School District Board of Trustees. I was Executive Director of the Montana Quality Education Coalition toward the end of his tenure on the Board and engaged him on several complicated public school funding issues. I always found Mr. Jones to be well prepared for all proceedings and he consistently displayed thorough knowledge of Montana's public school funding system. Mr. Jones was always tough but fair and respectful in questioning me and others during testimony.

I've also had the privilege of working with Mr. Jones on a volunteer basis. We were both board members of the Helena Wrestling Club for the past couple of years. I served as Tournament Director and he as treasurer. During our time on the board, we helped dramatically increase club revenue and improve operating procedures. The club's financial procedures had been neglected for a number of years, leading to mismanagement of funds. Mr. Jones immediately implemented a system of transparency and accounting procedures that corrected the problems.

Donald Jones is a highly intelligent, honorable and hard working individual with the temperament and objectivity to be a successful judge.

I encourage you to appoint him to this important position.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Lambrecht

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2015 4:33 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: Dave Dalthorp [<mailto:dcd@gsjw.com>]
Sent: Monday, October 05, 2015 3:41 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Don Jones Application for First Judicial District Judge

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005
mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

RE: Don Jones Application for First Judicial District Judge

Dear Commission members:

This letter is a recommendation that the Commission submit Don Jones' name to the Governor for consideration to take Judge Sherlock's place as a judge in the First Judicial District Court.

We first met in the late 1990's when Don was a young attorney working with Harrison, Loendorf & Poston, and I was a new partner at Gough, Shanahan, Johnson & Waterman. We were on opposite sides of litigation involving a motor vehicle accident, as I recall. I found Don both capable and pleasant in our interactions on that case and ever since.

In his current law practice, Don primarily represents plaintiffs employment related matters. A significant portion of my practice consists of representing defendants in employment related matters, so Don and I are still on opposite sides. It is important for a District Court judge to give a fair shake to both sides, and I believe Don would do that.

What makes Don stand out among the applicants is that he has a great deal of experience in civil litigation in addition to a prior experience with criminal matters. I think it is important to have more than one judge in the First Judicial District Court with substantial experience in civil litigation. Don's even temperament and legal expertise in both criminal and civil matters make him a outstanding applicant for District Judge. I urge you to submit his name to the Governor.

Sincerely,

Dave Dalthorp
1555 Charlie Russell Dr.
Helena, MT 59601

October 9, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Re: Application of Don Jones for First Judicial District Judgeship

Dear Members of the Commission:

I am writing to recommend Mr. Don Jones to fill the judicial vacancy in the First Judicial District. I worked with Don at Disability Rights Montana (then Montana Advocacy Program) and found him to be fair, thoughtful, and genuinely concerned that justice be done in each case.

In this position, he represented individuals with disabilities in various circumstances, from advocating for them to receive appropriate vocational rehabilitation services to representing them in discrimination claims. In each situation, Don analyzed the issue and was doggedly fixed on bringing the case to its fairest conclusion.

In this position, he also served on the Montana Vocational Rehabilitation Council, providing guidance and input to Montana's vocational rehabilitation system. He was persuasive in his role as disability advocate, as well as open-minded and even-handed in his role as a member of the council.

In addition to his experience at Disability Rights Montana, he has considerable experience in criminal law, employment law, civil rights, family and contract law, giving him the broad knowledge he needs to be a good jurist.

Finally, as many others have noted, Don has a strong commitment to public service. He believes that he has a duty to contribute and to serve in any way he can. We would be served well if he was appointed to be district court judge.

Sincerely,



Beth Brenneman
Attorney at Law

ADDENDUM

Addendum Note:

Additional Notes Please accept my highest praise and recommend DONALD FORD JONES esq for the district judge position.

My acquaintance with don spans multiple capacities including his advocacy for some of my most indigent patients who needed support with for example illnesses from workplace causes. He either handled their questions or triaged them toward the best services.

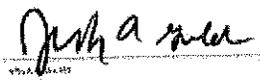
He reached out to one young man who without legal advice was spiraling into a permanent legal bind with probation violations hampering his ability to perform his legal obligations. When Don investigated he found the probation violation was in fact due to an academic appointment for a research project for the federal government out of state. Don contacted the U of M department and got the chairman and the judge together for a conference. The judge was very receptive and justice was served through some creative service including use of "volunteer jail". This creativity is typical of Don, who probably rescued the young mans career and chances to be a contributing member of society.

Don civic volunteer work for school board and Montana school board association are well recognized, among other services.

The school board work was alone occupying a third of professional time and Don had limitless energy!

Finally, Don had a skilled working class career as a machinist at Boeing before law studies. His ability to relate to ALL citizens is probably his strongest asset in his future judgeship!

Sincerely,
Jeffry A Goldes MD
President Associated Dermatology of Helena
Formerly State Surgeon Montana Army National Guard



Secondary Providers

- Goldes, Jeffry

DOUBEK, PYFER & FOX, LLP

Attorneys at Law

JOHN C. DOUBEK
RICK PYFER
PATRICK T. FOX
KEIF STORRAR

307 NORTH JACKSON • P.O. BOX 236
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406-442-7830
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www.doubekpyfer.com

CARL A. HATCH
Retired
FLOYD O. SMALL
(1907 - 1995)

October 6, 2015

Montana Judicial Nomination Committee
c/o Montana Supreme Court
Room 323, Justice Building
215 North Sanders
P.O. Box 203003
Helena, MT 59620

RE: First Judicial District Court Judge opening - Don Jones

Dear Commission Members:

I am writing on behalf of Don Jones in support of his nomination application to be considered as a Judge for the First Judicial District Court to replace retiring Judge, Jeffrey Sherlock. Judge Sherlock was an outstanding member of our Court for many years and will be greatly missed.

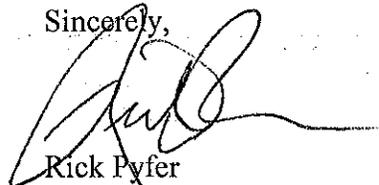
I am recommending two individuals to the Commission (DeeAnn Cooney and Don Jones). Don Jones would be an excellent choice for Judge and this letter addresses his credentials, experience and professionalism.

I have been aware of Don Jones' practice in Helena for many years and know him to be an intelligent, hard working and strong and fair advocate for his clients. He has always had the reputation of being an ethical professional with reasoned basis for his arguments and positions.

Don served the School District of Helena as a Board member for many years and was a vital part of that Board during his tenure. He and his partner, Phil Hohenlohe, have a very active practice and have been involved in numerous employment related legal matters over the years. Since my practice is very limited in this employment arena I have always taken great solace in having Don Jones available for a referral. I refer cases to him because I know he will do a very good job for his clients and act diligently and professionally.

I recommend Don highly as one of your nominees for the open court seat being vacated by Judge Sherlock.

Sincerely,



Rick Pyfer
Attorney at Law

RJP/nr

MICHAEL M. O'NEIL
621 HILLSDALE
HELENA, MONTANA 59601
(406) 459-0281 ONEIL_MICHAEL@MSN.COM

October 9, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: Don Jones; Nomination for Vacancy First Judicial District

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission members:

I am writing to strongly recommend Don Jones to the Nomination Commission to fill the judge vacancy in the First Judicial District. I cannot think of another candidate who would bring such a diverse strong legal background as well as rich community service and life experiences to fulfilling the duties of district judge.

I have known Don personally and professionally for over 15 years working closely with him observing his sound rational decision making and leadership abilities. In my professional work, Don has been a particularly strong advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities, workers, low-income folks and others who may not always get access to their full legal rights. I served together for eight years with Don on the Helena School District #1 Board of Trustees where I was impressed by Don's passionate commitment to public education and other critical civic institutions, and his careful weighing of important decisions to make the best judgments based on evidence regardless of public pressures. He demonstrated remarkable leadership skills during his twelve years on the school board. In addition to Don's rich legal background and public service, Don brings diverse real world life experiences that provide him insights into the struggles and aspirations of ordinary citizens which are critically important to having a well rounded judicial perspective.

I strongly encourage that the Nominating Commission provide Don Jones the strongest consideration for filling the vacancy in the First Judicial District given his professional and personal qualifications preparing him for exemplary service as a judge.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael M. O'Neil

Joan Miles
500 Diehl Drive
Helena, MT 59601
Joanmiles03@gmail.com
406.431.5444

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: Donald Ford Jones – application for vacancy in First Judicial District

Dear members of the Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am pleased to join in encouraging you to submit Don Jones' name to the Governor for consideration as a judge to replace the retiring Hon. Jeffrey Sherlock in Montana's First Judicial District.

My professional experience with Mr. Jones was primarily during his tenure as a School Board member for the Helena School District. Don was a thoughtful, reasoned board member, consistently listening to all of the information before developing his position on sometimes very controversial issues. He always kept a very professional and even temperament, and was courteous to all involved.

My association with Don suggests to me that he would be an excellent judge. He is bright, committed to public service, and dedicated to his legal profession. I encourage this Commission to forward his name to the Governor for his consideration.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Joan Miles

MARK D. ETCHART
Attorney at Law
800 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 101
Helena, Montana 59601

October 12, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Re: Montana First Judicial District Court Judge

Dear Members of the Commission:

This letter is written in support of Donald F. Jones' application for the position of District Judge for the First Judicial District. While there are several fine candidates for the position, Don's personal characteristics, community service, and professional experience make him rise to the top of the list.

I have known Don for more than ten years. While he is obviously a talented attorney with twenty years of experience, more importantly Don possesses the critical personal qualities of integrity, intelligence, compassion, and common sense. He has a very strong work ethic; he is thoughtful; and he has been a dedicated servant leader in the Helena community.

Don has served our community tirelessly. He was a Trustee of the Helena School Board for twelve years, and served on the Montana School Boards Association. On both boards he demonstrated fairness and impartiality. Don also coached a variety of youth sports, and volunteers in the schools. It is this commitment to his community, and the characteristics he exemplifies that will make him an asset to the community as the next District Judge.

Based on his personal characteristics, community service, and professional experience, I highly recommend you nominate Don Jones to Governor Bullock for appointment as the new First Judicial District Court Judge.

Sincerely,



Mark D. Etchart



McDONALD LAW OFFICE PLLC

Jonathan McDonald
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 1570
Helena, MT 59624
406.442.1493

October 12, 2015

via e-mail only: mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

Judicial Nomination Commission
Office of the Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: First Judicial District Vacancy

Dear Commission:

I am writing to encourage you to forward Don Jones' name to Governor Steve Bullock for selection as a judge in the First Judicial District.

Don has an excellent temperament, a sharp mind and the experience necessary to serve as a judge. In addition, he is exceptionally community minded and has ran for and held offices in Helena including on our board of school trustees.

I have no doubt that as a judge, Don would be fair, independent and open-minded. He also understands the plight of people in an economy that increasingly leaves so many behind. He worked as a staff attorney for Disability Rights Montana before going into a private practice here in Helena, where he helps the injured, the abused and the wronged to secure and access justice.

However, being fair is not the only quality we should seek in a jurist. As Helena is the seat of state government, it is also where considerable constitutional litigation takes place. Don understands the unique protections and history of the 1972 Montana State Constitution and will ensure that the rights of the people are not actively encroached upon by an overreaching Legislative branch or quietly eroded over time by a timid Judicial Branch.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

McDONALD LAW OFFICE, PLLC

By: 

JONATHAN McDONALD

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 5:21 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: chuckbutlr@aol.com [<mailto:chuckbutlr@aol.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 2:31 PM

To: MT Supreme Court,

Subject: Recommendation for Attorney Donald F. Jones to be named Judge in the 1st Judicial District

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

Attn: Lois Menzies

Simply stated, Donald F. Jones will make an excellent Judge in the 1st Judicial District and an outstanding successor to Judge Sherlock, who frankly will be hard to replace.

I have known Don for a number of years and especially from the time he served on the Helena School Board. He is thoughtful. He is considerate. He is a leader. He is open to knowing all the facts of an issue and he listens carefully and with sincere interest to others, then reaches well-reasoned conclusions and/or decisions.

The citizens of the 1st Judicial District would be well-served by Don 'on the bench.'
I would highly recommend that the Judicial Nomination Commission put forth the name of Donald F. Jones to Governor Bullock for the governor to interview Don for the position of Judge in the 1st Judicial District.

Respectfully,
Chuck Butler
3360 Vince's Court
Helena, MT 59602

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 5:20 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: john koerth [mailto:jkhelena54@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 6:54 AM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: comments on Don Jones application for district court judge

I've known Don Jones for 15+ years in my capacity as a professional educator and as a parent of children who grew up with his. I'm writing as a personal, rather than a professional reference, in attestation to the character, integrity, work ethic, common sense and humanity of Don Jones; all characteristics a candidate for judge should possess in strong measure, and to which I can speak with great assurance. As I will delineate, Don Jones is a leader who doesn't stand on the sidelines complaining. He gets involved and works diligently to accomplish his purpose— even if that accomplishment includes waiting on tables, wearing tights or negotiating half the night between teachers and administration – he follows through with what he believes.

I've known Don Jones to help his friends build houses, install new floors in his family room, research and build water features for landscaping, butcher venison and cook dinner. He thinks ahead, works hard and problem-solves quickly. He isn't afraid to get his hands dirty and doesn't hold himself above any job or any individual. I've also known him to target-practice for hours and research calls, equipment and his quarry before embarking on a hunt; testament to a man who can both enjoy hunting and have a profound respect for wildlife and the environment.

It is as a family man, however, that I know Don best. We have children of approximately the same age and have spent many hours together waiting for our ballerinas to be finished with class. Rather than complaining (like me) about the inordinate amount of time, money and practice required for ten- year-olds to perform in the Nutcracker, Don volunteered as an adult cast member. He said that, if it was the only way to see more of his girls, he'd learn how to dance. Lifting tiny ballerinas across the stage while wearing pink tights and lederhosen may not seem like the best recommendation for judgeship, but, to me it represents the depth of commitment Don has to his values and his willingness to follow through with what he believes (as well as possession of a sense of humor).

I've also watched Don efficiently wait tables during a dinner theater fund-raiser for the robotics program his son participates in. He helped plan and organize the event, in addition to donating the space for XWorks to use; all so that he could spend his weekends chaperoning middle school students through the Northwest as they competed to perform tasks with the robot they had designed and constructed.

Don's commitment extends beyond his immediate family. He worked hard, at both a state and local level, to ensure that all Montana school children have a quality education and that teachers be recognized and paid for what they do. As an educator, I greatly appreciate his dedication to our schools. On another level, I'll always treasure the picture he took of my son as he proudly held up the six point rack of his first buck. While hunting on my family's ranch, Don let Shawn drive his 4-wheeler (a thrill Shawn talked about for weeks) to a spot he'd scouted previously and set up for the perfect shot. Don made sure my son got his deer before doing any hunting himself. He's also spent a great deal of time arranging to adopt his young niece and welcoming her into the family. After seeing his older girls off to college, Don, once more, is waiting for a daughter to be finished with ballet classes. I watched him tenderly hold her in his lap at the Nutcracker performance last year, while my own daughter danced her final solo before going off to college, and was flooded with admiration for his love and dedication.

I know less about Don's professional life, though I see him as an astute businessman and money manager who has successfully started his own law firm after waiting to get the requisite experience and financial security to do so. He is not a businessman, however, who views the world primarily through a lens of his own financial gain. Don Jones has dedicated himself to serve those who are least able to defend themselves, both as a legal advocate and as an advocate for education. He's done pro-bono work for those people and issues he believes in and has served as a volunteer member for various boards and organizations, including the Helena School Board.

I understand that my observation of Don's personal attributes cannot directly relate to his professional capabilities. However, I believe that one can strongly reflect the other. The kind of man I'd want adjudicating a case that could affect me as an individual, an educator or a Montanan would be a man with personal qualities like commitment, integrity, humanity and compassion. I'd want someone who could see the big picture and both sides of an issue, someone willing to research and scout out the terrain; someone who would work hard and pay attention to the details. I'd want a judge for whom no job is too small to do well and no person unimportant or beneath consideration – a man like Don Jones.

Sharon Koerth

smkoerth@gmail.com

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 5:20 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: Jeffrey Hindoien [mailto:jhindoien@hindoienlaw.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 5:44 AM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Don Jones Application for First Judicial District Court Judge

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: Don Jones Application for First Judicial District Court Judge

Dear Commission Members:

I am writing to urge your recommendation of Don Jones to Governor Bullock for his consideration as a candidate for appointment to the vacant First Judicial District Judge position.

I have worked directly with Don in the past in his capacity as a member of the Board of Trustees for Helena Public Schools, and he consistently demonstrated his energy, commitment to public service, intellect and judgment in working on behalf of the children in our community. I am confident that those same qualities, combined with the depth and breadth of his legal experience and knowledge, would serve him well as a District Court Judge here in Helena.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Hindoien

--

*Jeffrey M. Hindoien
1325 Charlie Russell Drive
Helena, MT 59601*

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 5:19 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: Lance Melton [mailto:lance.l.melton@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2015 12:01 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Cc: Don Jones
Subject: Letter of Support of Nomination of Don Jones

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission (Attention to Lois Menzies):

Please accept this letter of support for Don Jones' application for the position of district court judge for the 1st Judicial District. I am sending this letter in my individual capacity as a member of the Bar since 1996.

I have known Don for over ten years and have had numerous opportunities to interact with Don on a variety of public policy issues. I have always found Don to be level headed, highly intelligent, and open to considering others' views in his work. Don is very civic-minded, having volunteered as an elected school board member for Helena Public Schools and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Montana School Boards Association. I have often relied on Don to provide a centrist, solutions-based perspective to controversial issues and have admired both his ability to carefully analyze all angles of an issue and the judgment he has displayed when reaching a decision.

In addition to my interactions with Don in my professional capacity, I have also enjoyed a friendship with Don and his family during the last ten years. I have always found Don to display honesty, integrity, kindness and compassion in his professional and personal dealings. The combination of these admirable traits with Don's unbelievable work ethic make him particularly suited for a judicial position.

I recommend Don without hesitation for the position of district court judge for the 1st Judicial District. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lance Melton, Attorney at Law, Helena Montana

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 5:19 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: sradford@strainbld.com [mailto:sradford@strainbld.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 10, 2015 11:37 AM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Cc: don@hohenlohejones.com
Subject: (ID:53A93F900030F75F)

October 10th, 2015 (Saturday)

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. BOX 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: Attorney Donald Ford Jones, applicant for the vacancy in the First Judicial District

Dear Members of the Commission:

I strongly recommend submission to Governor Bullock of the name of Atty Don Jones for his selection as a Judge in the First Judicial District. I am an attorney who specializes in collections and Bankruptcy. I am been a Montana Attorney since 1981 (based out of Great Falls). The Montana Bar is small enough to know the good and bad attorneys, either personally or by reputation. ATTORNEY DON JONES IS ONE OF THE GOOD ONES!

Over three years ago I was approached by Atty Jones to provide my input and expertise into the enforcement of a District Court Judgment (a complicated and difficult case). The judgment had arose over the issue of employee rights. The judgment creditor was more than entitled to her judgment award. I was impressed by Atty Jones dogged determination into the advancement of his client's rights. He did not give up, even in the face of extreme difficulties. It was quite impressive.

I see that there are eleven applicants for this position. I know a good number of the other applicants either personally or by reputation. Of those individuals, I think that Atty Don Jones is by far the most qualified to be a District Court Judge. Being a MT District Court Judge is one of the hardest jobs in all of Montana. Hands down, Atty Don Jones has all the abilities, experience and skills to be an extraordinary District Court Judge.

I have read all of the published twenty-two (22) comments concerning Atty Don Jones. All of them positive. I am proud to add mine to the list. I think Helena and all of Montana would be VERY well served by having Attorney Jones on the District Court Bench.

PLEASE PASS ATTORNEY JONES' NAME ON TO THE GOVERNOR!

Scott M. Radford, esq.
Radford Law Firm, P.C.

P.O. Box 2928
Great Falls, MT 59403

(406) 452-5522 office
sradford@strainbld.com

Annette Hocker
Legal Assistant
Radford Law Firm
(406)452-5522

ED TINSLEY

October 6, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Donald Jones

Dear Ms. Menzies:

I earnestly support Donald Jones for the position of District Court Judge in the 1st Judicial District. I have known Don for 17 years, both personally and professionally, and can attest to his excellent work and profound commitment to our community.

As a former Lewis and Clark County Commissioner, I had many opportunities to witness and work with Don while he was a Helena School Board trustee. I was always impressed by his good character, work ethic, fairness, and passion for our children's education. As a trustee, Don has directly managed and faced many emotionally charged and challenging issues in our community. In fact, his professional attitude, gracious demeanor, and great ability to keep his focus on the facts and details of any circumstances before him while keeping his personal emotions in check is exactly what all citizens hope for in a judge.

Don's commitment to public service is second to none. His reputation, both as a strong advocate for people with disabilities and as an excellent employment discrimination attorney are well deserved. Reading volunteer, football coach, speech and debate judge, and ballet-dad are just a few of the many other ways I have seen Don serve our community.

It is my honor to support Donald Jones as a District Court Judge. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Ed Tinsley

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 8:52 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: Joanne Schrupp [<mailto:joanne.strauss@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 13, 2015 8:13 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: 1st Judicial District vacancy

Greetings. I am writing on behalf of Don Jones who has filed to fill the vacancy created by Judge Sherlock's departure in the 1st Judicial District.

I've had the pleasure of knowing Don for over ten years. We were appointed to the Montana School Board Association's Board of Directors at the same time; Don represented the Helena Municipal District and I represented a large portion of southeastern Montana, including Colstrip. He & I come from very different communities and even political persuasions but in our years serving together on that Board, we learned a great deal from each other: about our schools, students, communities, families and interests. I found Don to be sincerely interested in learning about and understanding opposing viewpoints as well as willing to find common ground. He is passionate about the underdog and those who have been marginalized through no fault of their own. I admire his tenacity and his firmly held beliefs. I believe Don would serve with an open mind as a judge and strive to find truth and justice.

Respectfully,
Joanne Schrupp
POB 188
Colstrip MT 59323

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 8:52 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: Nancy Courter [<mailto:mtnridge2014@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 8:46 AM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Donald F. Jones for District Judge

I have know Don since he was a baby. He has grown into an awesome man and I would definitely trust him as a judge. He cares about people and always likes to help the underdog. When he was a young man he mentored my son by spending time with him, taking him camping and hiking. My son's dad wasn't around to be an example to him and Don really filled that spot. I have watched him grow into an awesome father and a very caring attorney. He isn't afraid to speak the truth where it is needed, but always in a kind and caring way. He is a fantastic father, always taking interest in what his children have done and giving them a great example of what it is like to be in a loving home.

Thank you

Nancy Courter
13613 Cedar Circle E
Bonney Lake, WA 98391

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 8:51 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: Jim Hunt [<mailto:jhunt@huntlaw.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 3:24 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Donald Ford Jones

Dear Judicial Nomination Commissioner Members:

I write to recommend you forward Don Jones' name to the Governor for nomination to as a district court judge in the First Judicial District. I have known Don for many years. He is a person of high integrity, compassion, and intelligence. Don listens to others and weighs differing opinions carefully. His law practice reflects he is a person who will protect the rights of individuals.

I am also uniquely qualified to comment on Don as a member of the community and a family person. He and I appeared on many occasions in ballet productions so we could dance with our daughters. Don is a passable dancer and looks great in ballet slippers and a baker's hat. In addition, Don was on the school board for a number of years. I think it speaks highly of Don that he was and still is willing to put himself out there for his family and for the community.

The State of Montana would do well to have Don selected to replace the Honorable Jeffrey Sherlock.

Thank you,

Jim Hunt
406-442-8552

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 8:51 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Jones

From: Quint Nyman [<mailto:quint@mympea.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2015 3:36 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Donald Ford Jones: 1st Judicial Court Nominee

Dear Judicial Nominations Commission,
Please consider this communication as support for the nomination of Donald Ford Jones for the 1st Judicial Court.

I have had the opportunity to witness Donald at work on several occasions and have appreciated his straight forward and common sense approach to the practice of law. I believe this gives Donald the approach that the world of law should be approachable by all and not just a select few.

Donald has given a great deal of his personal and professional time to many cause that have a positive effect on our society, most notably in my mind is his time on the Helena School District School Board. By no means are those elected positions easy or without the commitment of time and energy. As I said, this is just one of Donald's many contributions.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation and of Donald's application. I believe he would serve this position well.

Thank you,
Quint Nyman