

TAYLOR J. BUCKLEY, M.D.
Surgery of Hand & Upper Extremity

JOHN P. HAMMERSTEIN, M.D., FAAOS
Surgery of Neck and Spine

JUSTIN A. JACOBSON, M.D.
Surgery of Shoulder & Elbow
Sports Medicine

LARRY R. STAYNER, M.D., P.C.
Orthopaedic Surgery, Sports Medicine
& Arthroscopic Surgery

November 3, 2016

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

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Matt Erikson, Attorney at Law, who is applying for judgeship in the 5th Judicial District.

I have known Mr. Erikson since I moved to Montana six years ago. He is a man of excellent character and ethics. His skills as an attorney also parallel his personal abilities and personal ethics.

I would recommend him highly for the judgeship and I think he would be of benefit to the citizens of Montana.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin A. Jacobson".

Justin A. Jacobson, M.D.

JAJ/tst – 11/03/16 – 1103-20121238

Cook, Kevin

From: MT Supreme Court,
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 3:59 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Erekson

From: Krutilla, Kirk
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 12:32 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Matt Erekson comment

I am Kirk Krutilla. I have worked as a criminal defense attorney for 22 years. Matt filled in temporarily here as prosecutor. I found him to have a fair, open minded approach to the law. I think he would make an excellent Judge.

Billings:
D. Michael Eakin
Laurie Andreen Grygiel



Bozeman:
Jeannette Ellen Berry

Eakin, Berry & Grygiel, PLLC
Attorneys at Law

Via Email Only: mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

Judicial Nomination Committee c/o
Lois Menzies
Office of the Court Administrator
PO Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: Matthew Erikson Fifth Judicial District Court

I am writing to recommend the Commission forward the name of Matthew Erikson to Governor Bullock for appointment as District Judge for the open judicial position in the Fifth Judicial District Court. An increasing portion of a district judge's responsibilities is dealing with self-represented litigants. Matt has had to deal with many self-represented parties in his practice of debt collection. Often if parties cannot pay bills, they cannot afford a lawyer. Matt has been one of the few debt collection attorneys that I know that can empathize with the debtor.

Matt brings a civility to his practice of law. One of my favorite stories about practicing law involves Matt as opposing counsel in a Ninth Circuit argument. After the argument, we went out and had lunch together. Matt would encourage such collegiality among the bar. He values opposing views and treats opposing counsel with respect.

I realize that Matt does not live in the Fifth Judicial District. This is actually an advantage in the selection of a district judge. Matt will not have a plethora of former clients or adverse parties in the district. He would not find it necessary to recuse himself from cases like a prosecutor or other active litigator in the district would.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. Michael Eakin

D. Michael Eakin

DME/aw

BILLINGS LEGAL

A Professional Limited Liability Corporation

20 North 29th Street
Billings, Montana 59101
Telephone: (406) 248-7000
Facsimile: (406) 248-5191
www.billingslegal.net

Jeffrey A. Simkovic*
jeff@billingslegal.net
Timothy Baldwin**
tim@billingslegal.net

* also admitted in New York
** also admitted in Florida

December 1, 2016

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

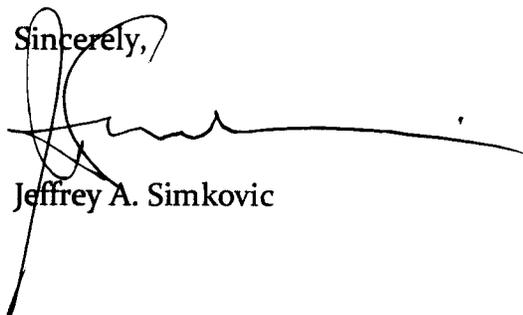
Sent via email only http://courts.mt.gov/supreme/boards/jud_nomination

RE: Application of Mathew Erikson for 5th Judicial District Judgeship Vacancy

Dear Lois Menzies:

I have known Mathew Erikson for over fifteen years both personally and professionally. He always has an excellent balance in his attitude towards life. He is intelligent, kind, and a very fine lawyer. I believe he would make an excellent Judge.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Simkovic