

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 3:53 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment

From: Jan B Newman MD FACS [<mailto:jan@sightsoflight.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 3:24 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: 4th District Judge

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Thomas Orr's application for the 4th District judge seat. I have known Tom as a client and friend for a number of years and have referred an number of people to him for legal work. He is a knowledgeable diligent attorney who always assesses the merits of an action. I have never seen him take on work or suggest actions solely to get a paycheck. There is no question that he is working for justice and has always does his homework. The people whom I have referred to him have been equally satisfied with his wise counsel.

Personally I would hate to have him leave private practice as he would be very difficult to replace, but I believe he would greatly benefit the citizens of the 4th District achieve justice. I can recommend him without equivocation.

Sincerely

Jan B Newman MD, MA, FACS, ABIHM
3436 Mountain Dr
Clinton, MT 59825
406-258-6824
406-544-0006



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

www.avast.com



3011 American Way, Missoula, MT 59808
ERALAMBROS.COM

March 10, 2015

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

RE: District Court Nomination

Dear Lois,

I would like to highly recommend Tom Orr for the seat that has opened in the Fourth Judicial District Court. Tom will bring over two decades of legal experience, knowledge, and professionalism to the position and would, in my honest opinion, make an excellent judge.

Tom has been a practicing attorney since 1990 and has a great deal of experience handling cases related to family law, real estate law, and business transaction law. We have used Tom for my businesses for over a decade and are always quick to recommend him to clients and friends.

Tom is not only knowledgeable and competent but also compassionate. His high level of integrity and ethical conduct will undoubtedly be of great benefit if he is granted a judicial seat.

That is why I, without hesitation, wholly recommend and support Tom Orr as the new judge for the Fourth Judicial District Court.

Most Sincerely,

Bruno Friia
Owner/CEO



IHESS

P.O. Box 3104

Missoula, Montana 59806

T 406.544.1682

mark1@hazmat.net

www.hazmat.net

March 10, 2015

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

Dear Committee,

I would like to endorse Mr. Tom Orr for Judge replacing the retiring District Court Judge Ed Mclean. I have known Mr. Orr for 15+ years on a personal and business basis. I believe Tom would well represent the position in an ethical, honest and straight forward fashion. Mr. Orr is a caring knowledgeable and is an upstanding member of our community. Please call if you need.

Mark Hlebichuk CIEC

Industrial Hygienist

Certified Indoor Environmental Consultant-ACAC

National Advisory Board-ACAC

From: [Menzies, Lois](#)
To: [Cook, Kevin](#)
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:40:07 PM

From: Puhrmann, Kai [mailto:kai.puhrmann@umconnect.umt.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:18 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Tom Orr Nomination

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of Tom Orr in his application to be considered for the open judgeship in the Fourth Judicial District Court. I have known Tom for several years and have hired him on several occasions for legal work and consider his legal knowledge and ethics to be second to none. Dealing with him on a professional and personal level has inspired me to pursue my own career in law, and with his encouragement, I am now in my second year of law school. I appreciate being given the opportunity to comment, and it is my sincere hope that the Judicial Nomination Committee will make a recommendation to the Governor for Mr. Orr to be appointed.

Respectfully,

Kai N. Puhrmann
Juris Doctorate Candidate, 2016

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From: [Menzies, Lois](#)
To: [Cook, Kevin](#)
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment
Date: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:40:33 PM

From: Don Stoen [mailto:donstoen@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:11 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Nomination of Thomas C Orr to Fourth Judicial District Court Judge

To: Lois Menzies

Dear Commission Members:

It is with great pleasure and honor that I recommend the appointment of Thomas C Orr to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Ed McLean.

I have the highest regard for him both personally and professionally. I for one cannot think of anyone more suited to the job. In his capacity as my attorney, I was greatly impressed by his honesty and integrity. For example during my case he listened to me very carefully but was still able to point out that I was incorrect in some of my assumptions.

Based on Tom's determination, fairness and experience, I strongly recommend him for District Court Judge

Sincerely,

Don Stoen
Florence, MT

Geoff Badenoch
336 South 5th St. East
Missoula, MT 59801

March 13, 2015

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

Dear MS. MENZIES,

I am writing in reference to Thomas Orr's application for appointment to the position of District Court Judge in Missoula County.

I have known Tom Orr for over twenty years and consider him a close personal friend. During the period of our friendship I have known Tom to be a hard-working and persistent advocate for justice. We first met when he was appointed an Assistant Municipal Attorney for the City of Missoula. In my estimation, Tom worked hard not only in prosecuting cases, but looking for solutions to problems to keep them from having to be litigated. As a citizen, I always appreciate when conflicts can be resolved short of going to court.

More recently I have watched Tom work for his clients to find non-litigious solutions to their problems, saving them time, money and aggravation, not to mention saving the court from expense of its time and resources that can be spent on more serious problems.

It is not to say that Tom is not a vigorous advocate for his clients when the situation demands it. Most recently, Tom successfully litigated a case that took nearly ten years to resolve and required two trips to the Montana Supreme Court. His opponent in this case was the City of Missoula, a party with way more resources than Tom had at his disposal, and yet Tom had faith in his clients' position under the law, prosecuted the case with good reasoning and tireless advocacy. This was clearly a "David v. Goliath" situation and Tom used his skill and talent to his clients' ultimate vindication.

Tom has also demonstrated unselfish commitment to the community having served on the Missoula County School Board, the Missoula Urban Transportation Board and the Board of the Missoula Housing Authority. All these positions are voluntary and do not come with any compensation, a clear example of Tom's dedication to public service.

For as long as I have known Tom, he has spoken of his dream of ultimately serving on the bench. He loves the law and the perpetration of justice.

I hope you and the Committee will give Tom Orr's application to serve as District Court Judge your careful and complete consideration.

Sincerely yours,



geoffb@ism.net

406.360.7532

State of Montana



Lewis and Clark County Courthouse
228 Broadway, Second Floor
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 447-8205 or 447-8209
(406) 447-8421 (Fax)

Broadwater County Courthouse
515 Broadway
Townsend, MT 59644
(406) 266-9236
(406) 266-4720 (Fax)

First Judicial District Court

March 16, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
PO Box 2003005
Helena MT 59620-33005

Ladies and Gentlemen:

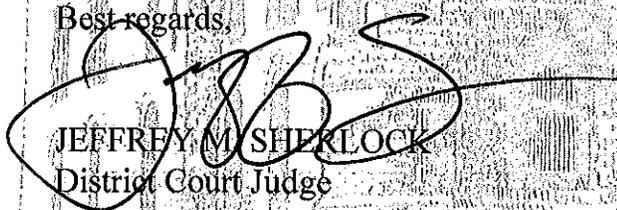
It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation on behalf of my former law clerk Tom Orr. Tom has applied to fill the vacancy about to be created by the retirement of Judge Ed McLean of Missoula.

I have known Tom for a number of years, as he was my second law clerk. During Tom's tenure with me, I found him to be a very intelligent, hard-working young man. I could always count on his research as being top-notch, and his writing skills were excellent. Since Tom left Helena for Missoula several years ago, I have been following his career from afar and have been pleased to have seen him doing well as an attorney.

I believe Tom would be an excellent district court judge. He is intelligent, thoughtful, and patient. These are essential characteristics for a good district judge.

If anybody has any questions about Tom, please feel free to give me a call at the number noted above.

Best regards,


JEFFREY M. SHERLOCK
District Court Judge

JMS/tbd

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:27 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment

From: Michael Conner [<mailto:bigskyconner@centurylink.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:50 AM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: District Court Nomination

Dear Lois,

My name is Michael Conner and I am the owner of Architectural Wood Products and Environmental Fire Science. I would like to add my voice in support of Tom Orr who is running for the seat in District Court.

I've known Tom for 25 years and would like to say that his friendship, experience and wisdom as a lawyer has been a true asset to me personally and professionally. Tom is a true professional and his contributions, not only to my company, but to his community is why I recommend Tom for this position. Fairness, understanding and compassion, these are qualities Tom lives by every day in his personal life and in his practice.

Respectfully,

Michael Conner

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 3:21 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment

From: mike halverson [<mailto:mikehalvorson@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 7:25 AM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Lois Menzies :appointment

Lois Menzies

Office of Court Administrator

P.O. Box 203005

Helena, MT 59620-3005

I would like you to consider Tom Orr for Judgeship. Tom has extensive time serving at all levels of private and public service. Tom's personal life is also an example of for any Father, business person, or professional would strive for. Please consider Tom

Mike Halvorson

M&M auto & trailer

Hwy 93

Stevensville mt 59870

John Spierling, D.M.D.

935 S.W. Higgins Ave., #201

Missoula, MT 59803

406-728-5100

office@johnspierlingdmd.com

March 19, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
P.O. Box 2003005
Helena, MT 59620-33005

To Whom It May Concern,

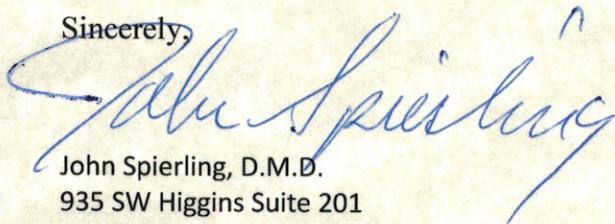
I am writing in support of Tom Orr in his application to be considered for the open judgeship in the Fourth Judicial District Court.

I have known Tom and his family for 15 plus years, not only on a professional level but as a friend.

He has always been knowledgeable in a multitude of conversations concerning the law.

I have found him to be calm, honest and fair. He also has concern for the welfare of others. I feel he would be a great candidate for this position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Spierling". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

John Spierling, D.M.D.
935 SW Higgins Suite 201
Missoula, MT 59803
406-728-5100



March 18, 2015

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

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter of recommendation in support of Thomas C. Orr who is applying for the appointment for a new judge in the Fourth Judicial District Court.

I have known Mr. Orr for the last fifteen years, as we both live in Missoula and have many mutual friends and colleagues. I am a small business owner and among other things, I engage with clients who are seeking political and judicial offices, including recent clients who have become District Court Judges and Municipal Judges.

I have learned quite a good deal, from a citizen's standpoint, about the general temperament of those who have been elected to these positions and what it takes to be a good judge, in my opinion. I believe Mr. Orr is just such a man.

Mr. Orr always acts with the utmost sincerity, honesty, and compassion in both his legal practice and as a member of our community, from my observations. He is trustworthy and a good friend. I have never seen him make rash decisions or act out of emotion that is not tempered with reason and fact and understanding.

Another attribute I think important to this nomination is his deep concern and love of his family. Mr. Orr has been a good dad and husband. He has often put his family before himself, as needed, to assure the best for his children and wife.

This is the same abiding respect Tom has for his community here in Missoula. He practices what he preaches, and he preaches fairness and accountability.

I can imagine no better citizen or professional attorney to replace Judge Ed McLean. I wholeheartedly support his nomination.

Thank you.

Jim Parker, Owner
WestRidge Creative

GEISZLER STEELE, PC
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

March 20, 2015

Lois Menzies
OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATOR
PO Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Re: Fourth Judicial District Court Nomination
Our File No: 15001

Dear Ms. Menzies:

I ask that you submit this letter to the Judicial Nomination Committee which will be considering the upcoming vacancy in the Fourth Judicial District Court. I endorse Thomas C. Orr and urge the Committee to include Tom as one of their selected nominees.

I have practiced law in the Fourth Judicial District for over 30 years and we have been served by a number of District Court Judges. As a civil practitioner, I request the Nomination Committee to give consideration to whether an applicant for this Judge position has experience in practicing law in the private sector. As we know, litigation is increasingly expensive and can be protracted, both of which do not serve the public well. The present selection provides an opportunity for the Nomination Committee to recommend several attorneys that have this civil practice experience. Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Very truly yours,

GEISZLER STEELE, PC



Timothy D. Geiszler
TDG:ss

15001L1

Jeffrey James Halvorson
Orange Acres Couchsurfing Community Center
24450 US Hwy 93 North
Arlee Montana 59821

3-19-14

Judicial Nomination Committee
Governor Steve Bullock

Re: Support for Tom Orr for new judge in the Fourth Judicial District Court

I would like to support Tom Orr for the open seat in the Fourth Judicial District Court. Mr. Orr is a reasonable down to earth attorney who stands up for fairness, property rights, and justice in Montana.

When the City of Missoula stole the front yards of south avenue residents, Tom Orr represented the people who were not compensated by the city. The Contractor doing the work pushed the project through the city as they stood to make a huge profit. While it was too late to save peoples front yards and trees, or even give them a proper legal hearing on the plan, Tom Orr fought the City of Missoula and got the residents the value for the land that had been stolen from them without consent or court order. The Fourth Judicial District Court and on appeal the Montana Supreme Court also agreed with Tom Orr that what the city had done was wrong. It took nearly 10 years for the people win their case and Mr. Orr has stuck with them.

In our last recession the unemployment rate skyrocketed and 6 million homes were foreclosed on, I had bought an unzoned 8 acre property with a home and commercial building on it for my car dealership with commercial water rights and county issued commercial septic permits, it had commercial electrical building permits issued for it as well.

Seeing people with no place to go, living down by the river in Missoula, in truckstop and Walmart parking lots, and even camped on the courthouse lawn, I invited less fortunate friends to camp on my land for free. My place I call Orange Acres, has a commercial building with a kitchen, showers, and restrooms in it for them to use. Missoula County came and told me I was running a campground for lease or rent. I explained I was not for lease or rent and I was letting people park for free just like Walmart and the people on the county's own courthouse lawn. I was told I could not have rv's but I could have sheds with beds within 300 feet of the bathrooms.

2 years later after then states attorney Steve Bullock signed a legal opinion of a law saying that any property with under 20 acres could not have anything more then one building on it, including garages, sheds or dog houses. While thousands of homes and businesses were in violation of the law, Missoula County Attorney Van Valkenberg and deputy attorney James McCubbin discriminated against me,(for religious, racial, and political reasons), and sued me without notice for over \$1 million dollars for having more then one building on the property (7 were there when I bought the property), again being an rv park for lease or rent (which I was free), and for having "multi family" and commercial use of the property when the state septic permit (COSA) said single family residential (they were oblivious that they had issued commercial electrical, water, and sewer, permits for the property).

Tom Orr volunteered to help me settle my case with the county for free, we let the county inspect our property without search warrant in exchange for their written word they would help us and

allow us to get permits to bring the property into compliance so I could continue to help the less fortunate for free.

In the end the county and James McCubbin did everything in their power to fight us, now the county condemned my land saying the home should never have been allowed on the property because the neighbor illegally floods his hay field for 2 weeks a year in the summer. They admitted the county had illegally issued the permits for the property long before I bought it but now told me I was stuck with it and might have to tear down my house and would never be allowed to build again on the land. This makes the property not worth what I owe on it nor what I have paid for it so far.

While Mr. Orr could not afford take my case to court for free, I have now on my own Counter sued the County for over \$6.5 million for violating state septic and COSA laws and have asked for a jury trial in court if the county will not settle this case. The County has since lost a few other cases similar to mine and has been called "wrong" by Judges McLean. It took 2 years for the state legislators to fix the problems with the subdivision law that Governor Bullock cited in his legal opinion, but the problems caused by it still remain and for 3 ½ years my life has been hell as a result of it, while the county employees have been paid overtime for harassing me.

I am very grateful for Mr. Orr's help and his willingness to help me help the veterans, disabled, and economically less fortunate that stay at my place. I have a change.org petition with nearly 500 signatures on it asking the governor to help save Orange Acres, (I will attach some of the letters and comments which have been sent to the Missoulian and on the Change.org petition).

Our forefathers had the insight to have equally important branches of the government, Legislative, Executive and Judicial. It is so important to have level minded persons in the Judicial branch when the Legislative and Executive branches have failed so many people like they did in the South Avenue property theft case and in my case. But in closing I will say Tom Orr will be a defender of property rights, fairness, justice, and the Constitution of the United States. He is a good person and will do the right thing to help those in need.

JeffreyJames Halvorson

Here are some of the comments on the petition to save Orange Acres and letters printed in the missoulian

<https://www.change.org/petitions/help-orange-acres>

www.facebook.com/orangeacres

www.orangeacresmontana.blogspot.com

Until recently, I enjoyed living out West (in Wyoming and Montana) and really miss the friendliness, honesty, and genuine hard work ethic of the local people that I came to know and love. I believe that Jeff of Orange Acres projects the spirit of what "Westeners" should be: there to help through work and creating a close community, which he has done by inviting all, whether they live close by or far away, to stay Orange Acres. In addition, "The West" that I know places emphasis on individual rights and I believe that what the Missoula County Commissioners have done to Jeff and Orange Acres is an abomination to our American rights to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness. The Commissioners appear to have a power hungry mentality that ignores the fundamental rights of the members of their community and when people who hold such positions become as selfish and corrupted, as the Commissioners appear to be, they must be stopped. Because of this, I gladly sign the petition in support of Orange Acres to have their Property Improvement Permits reinstated and to fight against the frivolous lawsuit that the "Missoula County" has imposed on Jeff and Orange Acres.

Marci Olsen ELDORADO AT SANTA FE, NM

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 6:52 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment

From: bryant reber [<mailto:cbreber@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2015 4:53 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Appointment of Judge for the 4th Judicial District

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing in support of Thomas Charles Orr's application for appointment to the position of Judge for the 4th Judicial District. I am a member of the Montana and Colorado Bars (retired) and I have known Tom for over twenty five years both personally and professionally. As a lawyer, I know Tom to have the qualities that are required to be a good judge. He is bright, fair minded and patient. He has the right temperament to be a good judge and has a love of the law. I had occasions to use Tom as my personal lawyer regarding several business matters and found him to be prompt, knowledgeable and highly capable of understanding and dealing with complex issues effectively.

As a friend, I know Tom to be a good husband and father. He is caring and compassionate, a good listener and has a great sense of humor. All of these are characteristics that I believe also translate into being a good judge.

Quite simply Tom would an excellent choice to fill the vacancy as Judge of the 4th Judicial District.

Respectfully,

C. Bryant Reber
3328 Shoshone St
Denver, Co. 80211

Udo Fluck, Ph.D.

5210 Mainview Drive
Missoula, Montana 59803
Tel: 406.251.2133
E-Mail:
fluckfamilymissoula@gmail.com

March 21, 2014

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

RE: District Court Nomination for Thomas C. Orr

Dear Ms. Menzies,

This letter of support is in regard to the seat that has opened in the Fourth Judicial District Court. I have known Tom Orr since 1989, when I came to Missoula to begin my undergraduate studies at the University of Montana. He was completing his education in the School of Law and I was beginning mine. Tom was incredibly helpful in my cultural adaptation, not only to campus life, but also to American culture. I was impressed with his supportive attitude and his kind and caring nature, which has been a source of comfort and strength during the past 25 years. Throughout the decades, Tom has been fair and open-minded on decisions and I trust him wholeheartedly.

Tom has been a practicing attorney since 1990 and has made many significant contribution to the legal profession and the Missoula community, serving on the Missoula County Public School board and in many other capacities over the years that as a devoted volunteer for organizations in Missoula, such as Mountain Line public transit agency, providing service to Missoula and other notable charitable work.

Tom is very knowledgeable about the law, with a wealth of experience in the area of business transaction law, family law and real estate law. As a foreign individual, not overly familiar with real estate law, I have asked for Tom's expert legal counsel when my wife and I bought our first house in Missoula.

I work at UM as a cross-cultural researcher and faculty member and oversee the Global Gateway program. Even after all these years as a resident in Montana, I consult with Tom on many issues, ranging from legal guidance to advice in daily life and I am impressed by Tom's very objective assessment of situations, his fair judgment and his strive for the highest standards of integrity. He is an excellent listener and likes to help others in need, whenever he has the opportunity. Over the years, when a situation demanded a firm stand, I have observed Tom's unyielding stand, but always fair and reasonable.

I am convinced that Tom Orr has the character traits and the legal expertise to serve the Fourth Judicial District Court with sound judgment, making informed decisions that will stand up to close scrutiny. As an individual, who has known Tom for a quarter of a century, I believe that Tom will be given the opportunity to serve the Fourth Judicial District Court, he will ask questions that get to the heart of the issue and serve his position with integrity and dignity.

Please feel free to contact me by phone, or e-mail, if you have any questions, or if you like additional detail on the points mentioned above.

With high regards,

Udo Fluck

Udo Fluck, Ph.D.

Cook, Kevin

From: Menzies, Lois
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2015 7:40 AM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Orr -- Public Comment

From: integrativetherapies [<mailto:integrativetherapies4u@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 4:49 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Mr Tom C. Orr for fourth judicial court seat

March 24, 2015

To Whom this concerns:

I write this letter to ask that Mr. Thomas C. Orr, Attorney at Law, be selected for the fourth judicial court seat. I appreciate this opportunity to support him on behalf Missoula and Montana. I am specifically interested in him being chosen in order to give our State the best opportunity for the future.

I have been a resident of Montana for nearly thirty years and have yet to meet a Law professional who compares with Tom Orr. I am sure that if the selection process is fairly based on qualifications of all aspects of what it takes to successfully hold his seat, Tom will be a, if not the, top candidate. Professionally known to me for three years, and much longer by those who recommend him for representation in Law, his name surfaces over and over In this community as one of its best citizens in support of justice.

Tom is a person of broad interest and vast experience in the depths of working in Law with a fair mind. His heart shows true to the truth in matters as I witness that he has no personal agenda to push. He has skillfully demonstrated handling of difficult situations and does not waste time on inconsequential information. He excels in competence, His work shows that he is committed to the core to issues of justice and impartiality. A man of true, sound and fair character he is.

We are fortunate that this fifth generation Montanan is willing to make the necessary sacrifices to take on this new challenge. If you are looking for a deeply knowledgeable person with strong common sense and high standards of character, do not hesitate to choose Tom.

The counties and State under his service cannot afford to bypass this strong, extremely competent and fair man. it would be a loss for all if he is not chosen. Tom is the one who can provide the level of vigilance and attentiveness such a position will demand. Chose Tom to help us protect justice in Montana's counties.

Thank you for considering this comment.

Yours truly,
Clare Urban
1811 Missoula Ave
Missoula, MT 59802
Ph 406-273-8378

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

March 25, 2015

Judicial Nomination Commission,

I wanted to take a moment to offer my support for Thomas C. Orr for the open judicial position of District Court Judge in Missoula. When I heard Tom was applying for the post I immediately believed that he would be an excellent candidate and was compelled to speak on his behalf. I am not a person involved in the legal profession and so I offer my opinion from my observations of knowing Tom as an acquaintance for over 20 years. The outstanding qualities that Tom possesses that would lend him to be a good judge are many. He has the obvious important legal knowledge, ability and experience, in addition to a great reputation for hard work and good character. He is an active member of the community and enjoys a great family life. What I really appreciate, and I believe helps him separate him from many others in his field, is his temperament. He is naturally measured, kind, thoughtful with just enough directness to offer an opinion without making it a personal attack. I have observed him relate to individuals who were not deserving of his patience yet he managed to keep any ego out of equation and manage the situation with his characteristic calm. At those times I was impressed enough to make a mental note that it was a quality I appreciated and perhaps needed to work on for my own character growth. He has obviously made a positive impression on me which prompted me to take the effort to write to you. I am acquainted with a few of the other candidates and they are great individuals as well however I believe whole heartedly and without reservation that Tom would be the best person for the position.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my input and I wish you luck in this process. It is an important decision that impacts those of us that live here in the Missoula valley.

Sincerely,

Ginny Miller
Missoula, MT