

Crist, Krogh & Nord, PLLC

Attorneys at Law

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The Securities Building
2708 First Avenue North, Suite 300
Billings, Montana 59101

September 8, 2016

Via Email Transmission: mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

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

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

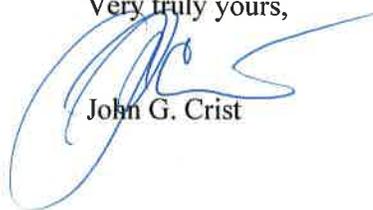
I am writing to express support for Pete Helland for the position of District Court Judge for the 17th Judicial District. I have known Pete since he was a law clerk for Senior Judge Jack Shanstrom. He was unfailingly courteous in his dealings with lawyers who had cases before the court.

I continued my acquaintance with Pete when he worked in Billings and later when he moved back to his hometown in Glasgow. Since then I have worked with him in principally two respects.

First, I have mediated and arbitrated cases for Pete. He is well prepared, thoughtful and reasonable in handling his cases. Pete has had the breadth of experience that is important for a district court judge in Montana. He has handled a wide variety of family law, criminal law and civil law matters and can bring this experience to bear if appointed to the bench.

Second, Pete is my "go-to" person when I want information on a lawyer or judge in northeast Montana. I value Pete's opinions about the local lawyers and judges, because he has never once trash-talked anyone I have inquired about. While he must certainly have had good and bad experiences with local lawyers and judges, he has provided me with thoughtful, insightful comments which have always proved to be quite accurate. One of the most important attributes for a District Court Judge is a basic sense of fairness and evenhandedness in the treatment of lawyers and litigants. I have no doubt that Pete has these qualities and will carry them to the bench if he is appointed by Governor Bullock.

Very truly yours,


John G. Crist

JGC/ckr

L. RANDALL BISHOP
JOHN HEENAN



GENE R. JARUSSI
Of Counsel

September 9, 2016

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

RE: Peter L. Helland
Seventeenth Judicial District

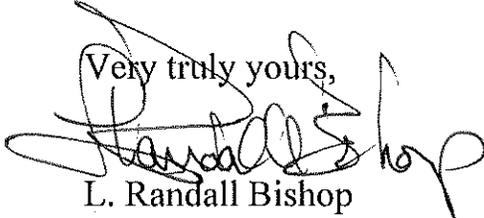
Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

District Judge John McKeon served the Seventeenth Judicial District extremely well during his 23 years on the bench. Upon hearing of Judge McKeon's decision to retire, I was immediately concerned that it would be difficult to find an adequate replacement for such an excellent jurist. This concern was allayed entirely when I learned that Pete Helland had applied for the position.

I have known Pete Helland since 1993, when he arrived in Billings as a law clerk for United States District Judge Jack Shanstrom. While Pete and I have always been on opposite sides of the political fence, I quickly came to respect his commitment to the rule of law and his disciplined approach to the practice.

Pete possesses the temperament, judgment and experience necessary to handle the challenges presented by a state district court judgeship. Of equal importance, his long and successful law practice in his hometown of Glasgow provide the deep understanding of, and connections within, the Seventeenth Judicial District that will enable him to serve the citizens of the district wisely and well.

I strongly urge the Commission to include Pete Helland's name among those it forwards to Governor Bullock.

Very truly yours,

L. Randall Bishop

September 8, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

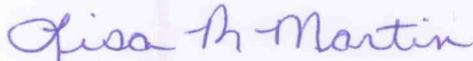
I am writing this letter in support of Peter Helland being appointed to the 17th Judicial District Judge vacancy.

I have known Pete Helland for three years. Recently he represented my daughter in a matter involving her mental health. She was given a public defender who called my daughter when she was in the hospital to do a telephone interview with her and then hung up on her when she became emotional and upset. I called Pete on his cell phone to ask his advice on how to proceed with her matter. He was out of town at the time and took the time to speak with me at length about what might happen next and how things would move through the court system. Pete volunteered to represent her when I told him how the public defender treated her when he called. He came to the hospital to speak with her personally and discuss with her and I what might happen and what she wanted to see happen.

Pete showed a great deal of care & compassion for the situation, not just during the proceedings, but even after when he called to see how she was doing with the treatment plan she was given. He has checked in on more than one occasion to see how she is doing and how things are going with her.

As a person, Peter Helland is a man of integrity, compassion and generally a good hearted person that I have come to know and admire. He treats everyone with respect and graciousness. Peter Helland would be a great asset to the State of Montana's Judicial system based on his experience, his work ethic, and his knowledge of the law and how to administer it in a fair and impartial manner.

Sincerely,



Lisa R Martin



Glasgow School District 1A ~ Home of the Scotties

September 8, 2016

Office of Court Administration
% Lois Menzies
PO Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: PETER L. HELLAND

I would like to endorse Peter L. Helland for the Seventeenth Judicial District Court Judge. I believe Pete is the level-headed, forward thinking person we need in this judicial district.

I have known Pete for 30+ years. He was a classmate of my younger brother and worked a family case for my mother with my older brother. I found him to be smart, thoughtful and mature beyond his years. In our family case, I felt that Pete was well prepared, put in the leg-work necessary, treated my mother with respect and dignity and presented a case that put her in the best possible position.

In dealing with Pete in my current role as Superintendent of Schools, I have seen Pete in a community service role. He has been a leader and has a community first in his approach to service work. He has proven to the people of Glasgow that he is a big picture thinker and places high importance on the greater good.

If you would like to further discuss Mr. Helland's credentials for the Seventeenth Judicial District Court Judge, please contact me through my office, or my personal phone at 406-381-4604.

(Electronically signed)

Bob Connors
Superintendent of Schools
Glasgow School District 1A

BUXBAUM DAUE
— PLLC —

September 9, 2016

DOUGLAS A. BUXBAUM, J.D.
E. CRAIG DAUE, J.D.

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

LAURIE BERSANTI, PARALEGAL
ANN JOHNSON, CP, PARALEGAL
JOAN RHODDA, CP, PARALEGAL

Re: Montana Seventeenth Judicial District Nomination

Dear Commissioners:

I am pleased to recommend my colleague Peter Helland for nomination as District Judge. I first encountered Pete more than twenty years ago when he was plaintiff's counsel in a case I was defending. Across the intervening years I have worked with and against him.

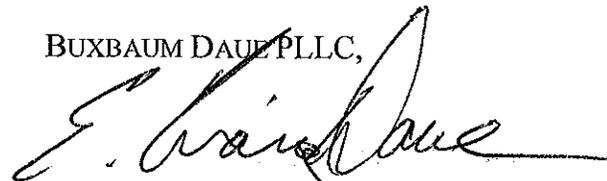
Pete is foremost a straight-shooter. His integrity, both by reputation and my personal experience, is beyond question. I have never needed Pete's signature to feel secure that what he says is true or will be done.

I doubt that you will find a candidate who works harder than Pete. His work is timely and he is thoroughly prepared for depositions and hearings. His briefs and pleadings are clear, concise and thoughtful. I'm certain that few of his opinions, and none of importance, would be written by a clerk.

As a small town lawyer, Pete's practice is diverse. As a Glasgow native, he would bring a lifetime of local knowledge to the bench. As a father, businessman, prosecutor, defender and mediator, Pete's kindness, good humor and sincerity give him the temperament and patience essential to our district judges.

Having practiced trial law across much of Montana for the past forty years, I am sincerely pleased that a lawyer of Pete's integrity and experience is willing to give up a successful practice to serve the citizens of Blaine, Phillips and Valley Counties. I recommend him to you without reservation.

BUXBAUM DAUE PLLC,



E. Craig Daue
ecdaue@bdlawmt.com

ECD/ss

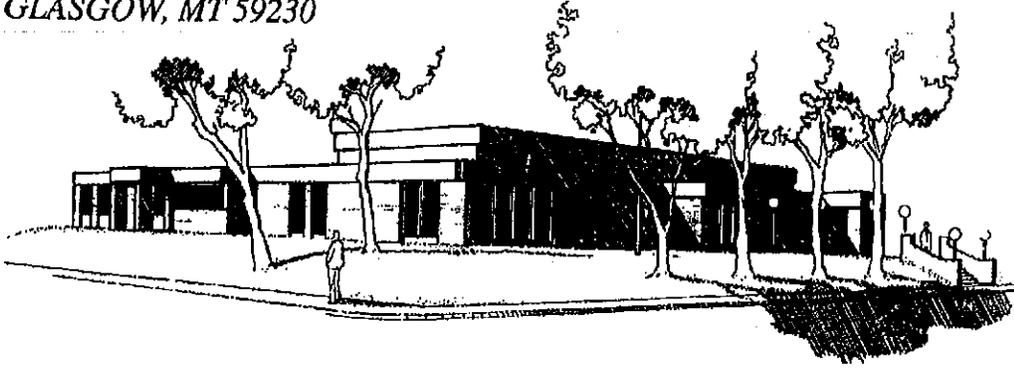
228 W. MAIN ST., SUITE A
P.O. Box 8209
MISSOULA, MT 59807

WWW.BDLAWMT.COM

(406) 327-8677
1-888-771-8677
FAX: (406) 829-9840

Valley County Sheriff's Office

501 Court Square, #10
GLASGOW, MT 59230



Glen Meier
Sheriff

Vernon Buerkle
Undersheriff

Telephone:
(406) 228-4333

Fax:
(406) 228-4601

September 12, 2016

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

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Peter L. Helland for the vacancy as district court judge in the Seventeenth Judicial District. I have known Pete for many years, watching him grow up in Valley County, and grow into a man. As Pete graduated from high school I knew his aspirations of becoming an attorney. I knew the work and dedication it would take, and was not surprised when he met those obligations. I was pleased when he came home to start a practice and go on to serve the good people of Valley County. As the Valley County Sheriff I work with attorneys and have always found Pete to be able and willing to talk and listen for the benefit of the law and how it interacts with our different jobs. The United States and the State of Montana are blessed with our legal system. I believe it is one of the things that make our country great. Pete loves the law and knows the power it can have on people's lives, and how important good decisions are in those lives. I know Peter L. Helland is able to study, contemplate, and execute the law. I know his passion for the law will lead him well.

Glen Meier Sheriff/Coroner

Parker, Heitz & Cosgrove, PLLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

MARK D. PARKER
CASEY HEITZ
SHAWN P. COSGROVE
GEOFFREY T. CUNNINGHAM

401 North 31st St., Suite 805
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Billings, MT 59103-7212
(406) 245-9991
FAX (406) 245-0971

September 14, 2016

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

Re: *Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship*

Dear Ms. Menzies:

My friend, Pete Helland, I notice, has decided to offer his services to the State of Montana as a District Court Judge. I suggest that the State quickly take him up on his offer.

I have known Mr. Helland personally and professionally for decades. He will bring to the task of judging the intellect, industry, and sense of even-handedness that is expected of a Montana District Court Judge. He is very familiar with the law. He has represented individuals in a wide variety of matters over the years. This has not only allowed him to familiarize himself with the law and procedure, but more importantly, familiarize himself with the pressures upon litigants and lawyers. I can never recall him losing his temper, but I can never recall him giving up on a position which he believed to be just except as a part of a humane compromise for everybody.

Very truly yours,



Mark D. Parker

MDP/drs



EDMISTON & COLTON LAW FIRM

310 GRAND AVENUE • BILLINGS, MONTANA 59101
PHONE: 406.259.9986 • FAX: 406.259.1094
WWW.YELLOWSTONELAW.COM

JAMES G. EDMISTON, III
SHANE D. COLTON

September 13, 2016

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

Re: Letter in support of Peter L. Helland for
Montana Seventeenth Judicial District Court Judicial Vacancy

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing to express my support of Peter L. Helland to fill the current vacancy in the Seventeenth Judicial District Court.

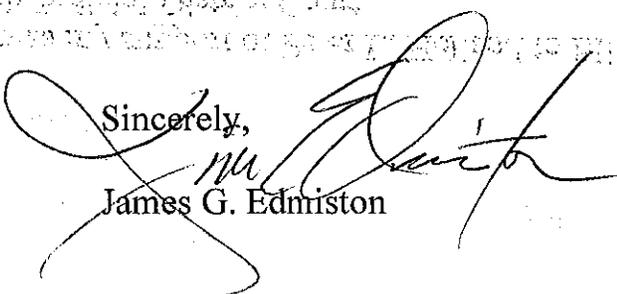
I first met Pete when he was clerking for U.S. District Court Judge Jack Shanstrom. When I decided to hire an associate attorney in 1994, Judge Shanstrom's long time legal assistant, Lee Blazina, highly recommended Pete for consideration as one of the most capable law clerks that she had worked with. I hired Pete in 1994 and he continued to work for me, and then for my law firm of Edmiston & Schermerhorn, until 1999 when he decided to move home to Glasgow.

It has been an honor to know and to work with Pete Helland. He is a very positive can-do type of person. He is always upbeat and optimistic. He is an exceptional family man, which is a trait I believe says a lot about a person. Pete is intelligent, experienced, fair, impartial, and hard working. He has an excellent temperament for a district court judge. In short, Pete has everything the public and lawyers want and need in a judge. He would make a fine district court judge.

I urge the Judicial Nomination Commission to send his name on to Governor Bullock.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


James G. Edmiston

Randy K. Dix
Randy Dix Law Office
320 11th Ave
Helena, MT 59601
406-996-1171 / 406-443-3727 - Fax
randy@randydixlaw.com

September 14, 2016

VIA Email: mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

Judicial Nomination Commission
Office of Court Administrator
PO Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a licensed attorney who has been in practice in Montana for 36+ years. The scope of my practice has been largely devoted to the representation of injury victims as a result of negligence inflicted by health care providers and other members of the medical delivery system.

During the course of this work, I have had the good fortune to become professionally and, to a lesser degree, personally acquainted with Peter Helland. He has sought my association on several medical negligence cases which we brought to conclusion fruitfully for his clients.

I know Mr. Helland to be a lawyer who possesses extraordinary legal skills that are reflected in his firm grasp of esoteric principles of tort law and evidence. His quick ability to appreciate the complex nuances of the cases we worked on together amazed me. These cases involved obscure points of subspecialty medicine that tend to escape the general practitioners with whom I have worked. Not so with Mr. Helland.

Beyond that, he is a lawyer who, in my experience collaborating with him, never loses sight of the best needs of his clients and how to serve them both sensitively and expeditiously. We recently concluded a very tragic case on behalf of an eastern Montana family. Mr. Helland contributed mightily not only to the orderly progress of the case but to a sense of closure that allowed this family to move beyond grief with grace, dignity and a firm belief in the value of our judicial system. That was a gift that few lawyers make to their clients.

I observed Mr. Helland's unusual capacity to engage opposing counsel in respectful, deferential discussions during the course of that litigation. He never yielded to the temptation many younger lawyers cannot seem to resist in attempting to threaten, intimidate or cajole their opponents. In this and many other respects, he possesses an emotional and professional maturity which serves him and his clients exceedingly well.

September 14, 2016

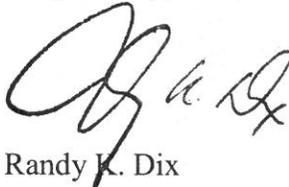
Page 2

In my opinion, there are several indispensable qualities that render a lawyer a good candidate for service on the bench. Among them are an implicit sense of trustworthiness, fairness and practicality in fashioning remedies for people who seek judicial intervention. Mr. Helland has all of these qualities in abundance. In my world where litigation demands intuitive decisions about which judges to retain and which to substitute at the commencement of the process, Mr. Helland would be one I would invariably counsel my clients to retain for the qualities I see in him. Perhaps this speaks most clearly to his character.

Finally, I strongly believe that in this increasingly partisan political environment in which our country seems to be enmeshed, Mr. Helland would be a real credit to the bench because I do not ever feel that he brings an agenda to his caseload.

I am pleased to endorse his candidacy for district judge for the Seventeenth Judicial District. Thank you for your attention and please do not hesitate to contact me should you desire further information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy K. Dix", written in a cursive style.

Randy K. Dix

Helland Law Firm, pllc

Peter L. Helland ~ phelland@hellandlawfirm.com
Gerald T. Archambeault ~ buck@hellandlawfirm.com
Of Counsel

P.O. Box 512
311 Klein Avenue
Glasgow, Montana 59230
Telephone: 406/228-9331
Fax: 406/228-9335

September 16, 2016

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

Subject: Montana Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship

To the Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am presenting this letter in support of Peter L. "Pete" Helland for District Judge of the Seventeenth Judicial District representing Valley County, Phillips County and Blaine County. I am an attorney in Glasgow, Montana, having practiced law for 49 years.

I have known Pete for many years prior to his working for me at my law office in Glasgow. Pete was a clerk at Markle's hardware store and a bartender at Sunnyside Country Club when I first knew him. I had seen him in action several times previously when he was a running back for the Glasgow High School football team. His last exploits in football were winning a football championship against Miles City during the 1983-84 season.

He began working for me in October, 2001, as an associate attorney. He had previously worked for a litigation firm in Billings. In 2003, I sold my practice to Pete and I began working for him as an associate attorney. In all of my years of association, I have found Pete to be competent, considerate and deliberate in all of his actions as an attorney. He is a practicing Christian whom I know would be "fair and impartial" in his deliberations as a District Judge.

Pete has had a diverse court practice in Glasgow, covering areas of jury trials (in Justice Court, District Court and Fort Peck Tribal Court), judge tried matters in all Courts, mediations and arbitration. He also has acted as an impartial mediator in several cases which put Pete in a decision making situation similar to being a District Judge.

On behalf of Pete, I enthusiastically support his appointment as my District Judge and request that his application is given due consideration by the Commission.

Sincerely

GERALD T. ARCHAMBEAULT

**THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF MONTANA**

Gregory R. Todd
DISTRICT JUDGE—DEPARTMENT 4
MARRIS HARRIS, JUDICIAL ASSISTANT
REBECCA BRUBAKER, COURT REPORTER



PO Box 35026
BILLINGS, MONTANA 59107
PHONE: 406.256.2901
FAX: 406.256.2970

September 15, 2016

Lois Menzies
Office of the Court Administrator
PO Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005
mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

Re: Peter L. Helland

Dear Ms. Menzies:

I have known Pete since he arrived in Billings in 1993. He was an outstanding law clerk for Judge Shanstrom and, by the time he left Billings, he was a rising star in private practice. But Pete was drawn to his hometown roots and has established an excellent practice in Glasgow. Pete has the distinct experience of both big city and small town practice in all types of courts.

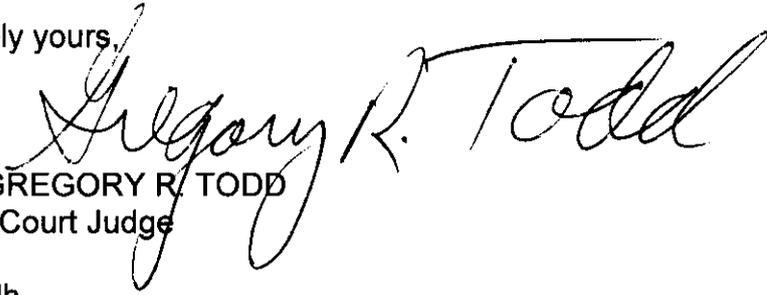
Hard work is no stranger to Pete. From high school through law school, Pete worked in a variety of jobs that helped pay for school but also gave him a keen perspective on life. On a statewide basis, Pete is been involved in the Bar Association and Judicial Nominating Committees. He has obviously been significantly involved in a whole variety of community activities and pro bono work.

I saw Pete in action in a trial in front of me last year. He was extremely well prepared and did not waste any time. He was competent and respectful to everyone. On top of that, he obtained a very good result for his client.

Pete has practiced law for over 20 years and has a requisite amount of experience while still being young enough to have the energy to sit on the bench for many years to come. Not only does Pete have experience in all types of matters that a judge hears, but he has in-depth experience in virtually all of those areas. Pete has prosecuted and defended people in the criminal law area. He has pursued complex civil litigation and cases involving mental commitments and child protective service matters. He is at home in the court room. The breadth and depth of Pete's experience is vitally important as he will not have a steep learning curve when he takes the bench.

Pete Helland has an immaculate reputation in the legal community in Montana. He is fair and trustworthy. Pete has experience tempered with empathy. He has all of the qualities needed to make a fine judge. Pete Helland is an excellent choice to be the next district judge for the 17th Judicial District.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory R. Todd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "G".

HON. GREGORY R. TODD
District Court Judge

GRT/mlh

MITCHELL HUGHES
906 VALLEY VIEW
GLASGOW, MT 5930

September 18th, 2016

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

RE: Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship Vacancy

Dear Members of the Commission:

I am writing this letter to strongly show support for the appointment of Peter L. Helland for the vacant Judgeship in the Seventeenth Judicial District. I encourage you to forward the name of Peter L. Helland to Governor Bullock for consideration.

I've known Pete on both a personal and professional level.

On a personal level I know Pete to be extremely family and community oriented. He is highly respected in the community because he is trustworthy, intelligent, has integrity, has a good sense of humor, plus he is willing to and wants to make a positive impact. For the last two and half years I have worked side by-side with Pete as a committee member and trustee of the Glasgow Elks Lodge. At all the meetings Pete shows objectivity, concern, financial awareness, excellent communication skills and an understanding of integrating old ideas with new ideas. Since Pete's return to Glasgow he has been involved in several local organizations which truly shows his commitment to his community and family.

I have been working in the title insurance and real estate closing business for more than thirty-five years. I appreciate working with attorneys that are clear and concise and provide me with a work product that is detailed and complete. That is what I receive from Pete and his staff.

By working in the title insurance business I have had the pleasure of working with many local attorneys that over time I have gained an appreciation and respect for. One of the common characteristics of these attorneys is they are gentlemen. They are gentlemen who have conducted themselves in a true professional manner. I see that in Pete Helland. In Pete I do not see any arrogance or self-indulgence but rather I see respect, consideration and compassion from a very hard working individual.

I truly believe because of the character, the qualities and temperament of Pete he would be an excellent choice to fill the vacancy in the Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship. Again, I encourage you to forward the name of Peter L. Helland to Governor Bullock for consideration.

Respectfully,



Mitch Hughes

O'TOOLE LAW FIRM
Attorneys at Law
209 North Main Street
P.O. Box 529
Plentywood, Montana 59254-0529

Loren J. O'Toole (1930 - 2013)
Loren J. O'Toole II (Larry)
Brad W. Fjeldheim

(406) 765-1630
Fax (406) 765-2945

September 14, 2016

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

RE: Seventeenth Judicial District Judge

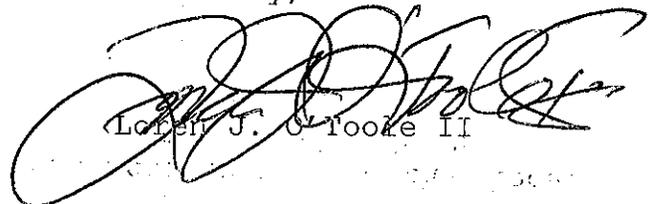
Dear Commission Members:

I am writing to you in support of the application of Mr. Peter Helland to become the next District Judge for the Seventeenth Judicial District. I have known Mr. Helland for his entire legal career beginning with his clerkship for Judge Shanstrom in the United States District Court. I have been involved in several lawsuits in which Mr. Helland also participated.

I believe that Mr. Helland possesses not only the legal knowledge to be a fine District Court Judge, but also he has the common sense and work ethic to make him a quality appointment.

As a lawyer, I believe my clients want a Judge to be fair and to make decisions in a timely fashion. I am confident that Mr. Helland can deliver on both counts. Please give Mr. Helland every consideration as you decide who to nominate for the next Judge of the Seventeenth Judicial District.

Sincerely,



Loren J. O'Toole II

LJO:wmh

cc: Peter Helland

Glasgow City Court

Judge Lynn Gilbert

121 3RD Street South, Suite D Glasgow MT 59230
406-228-2389 Fax 406-228-2375

September 15, 2016

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

Re: Seventeenth Judicial District Court Vacancy

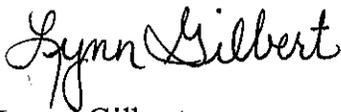
Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am pleased to recommend Peter L. Helland for appointment to the vacancy in the 17th Judicial District Court.

I had the pleasure to work with Pete when he was our City Prosecutor and he has also appeared in my Court as Defense counsel for several defendant's. Pete is thoughtful of others, hardworking, organized, with excellent judgment and integrity. He always has an even temperament for handling any situation that may arise.

The 17th Judicial District Court would be well-served by having Peter L. Helland as a judge.

Sincerely,



Lynn Gilbert
Glasgow City Court Judge

CHRISTOFFERSEN & KNIERIM, P.C.
Attorneys at Law

September 15, 2016

Office of Court Administrator
c/o Lois Menzes
PO Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

RE: Seventeenth Judicial District Court Judge

Dear Administrator:

Pete Helland has applied for appointment as the District Court Judge for the Seventeenth Judicial District Court.

Pete Helland is an excellent attorney who has practiced in Northeast Montana for most of his career. He has volunteered a great deal locally with the bar association and on the State level with the Montana Bar Association. He is a good practitioner who is experienced in many different facets of the law from stints as a city prosecutor to criminal defense, estate planning and personal injury.

I recommend Pete for appointment as District Court Judge.

Sincerely,



LAURA CHRISTOFFERSEN

LC/km

cc: Pete Helland

Offices in Glasgow and Culbertson

Matthew W. Knierim
630 2nd Ave. So., Suite E
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2matt@nemont.net

Katie S. Knierim
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ksknierim@nemont.net

Laura Christoffersen
212 Broadway
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Culbertson, MT 59218
Telephone: (406) 787-5700
Fax: (406) 787-5842
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BROWN LAW FIRM, PC

315 N. 24th Street | PO Drawer 849 | Billings, Montana 59103-0849
Phone: 406.248.2611 | Fax: 406.248.3128

John J. Russell
Michael P. Heringer
Guy W. Rogers
Scott G. Gratton
Kelly J.C. Gallinger
Jeffrey T. McAllister
Jon A. Wilson
Seth A. Cunningham
Shane A. MacIntyre
Adam M. Shaw
Christine M. Cole
Brett D. Jensen*
Davina Attar

Guy W. Rogers
grogers@brownfirm.com

September 21, 2016

Via email to mtsupremecourt@mt.gov and U.S. Mail

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

Re: *Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship*

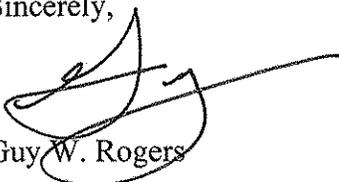
Dear Ms. Menzies and to Whom it may Concern:

I write this letter to recommend Peter Helland for the position of District Court Judge for the Seventeenth Judicial District Court. I have been a practicing civil litigation defense attorney in Montana for over 30 years. During the past 20 years, I have had an opportunity to work with Mr. Helland on a variety of civil litigation matters, including personal injury litigation and insurance coverage disputes. Although Mr. Helland and I usually oppose each other in the civil litigation, I can state without hesitation that Mr. Helland is a fine attorney, particularly with regard to his legal analysis and writing skills.

Besides being a fine attorney, perhaps Mr. Helland's greatest attribute that would make him an outstanding district court judge is his integrity and fair-minded temperament. I have always been impressed with Mr. Helland's demeanor and ability to calmly analyze issues, including opposing points of view. Simply put, I believe Mr. Helland has the proper temperament to be a district court judge. I have no hesitation based on my many years as a defense litigator to recommend Mr. Helland as a district court judge.

Please contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



Guy W. Rogers

GWR:sb

*Also licensed in
North Dakota

Stan Ozark

1004 Valley View Drive Glasgow, MT 59230

406-794-9252

ozarkstan@hotmail.com

September 21, 2016

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

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing to express support for Pete Helland for the position of District Court Judge for the 17th Judicial District. I have known Pete since he moved back to Glasgow in 2001. But, I have known the Helland family for many years and have found them to be a family that is dedicated to community service and making the community they live in a better place.

Pete has followed the family tradition and has thrown himself into community affairs, whether it is serving in the Glasgow Kiwanis Club or serving as the City Attorney for the City of Glasgow.

I personally have served with Pete as a member of the Kiwanis Club, as a board member of Sunnyside Country Club and worked with him as city attorney as I'm a member of the Glasgow City Council.

Whether working with Pete in matters involving the City of Glasgow or serving with him in the Kiwanis Club, I find Pete to be a dedicated public servant. I find him to be a tireless worker who exercises good judgement and keeps an even temperament in even the most stressful situations.

My hope is that whomever is selected to be the next Judge of the 17th Judicial District, that this person would exhibit the characteristics that Pete Helland brings to the table each and every day.

Very truly yours,



Stan Ozark



United States District Court
District of Montana
Billings, Montana 59103-0985

CHAMBERS OF
JACK D. SHANSTROM
SENIOR U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE
POST OFFICE BOX 985
406-247-7011

September 15, 2016

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

RE: Peter L. Helland - Seventeenth Judicial District

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I write today to express my support for Pete Helland for the position of the District Court Judge for the Seventeenth Judicial District for the State of Montana. I first met Pete in 1993 when he was completing his third-year of law school at University of Montana. I interviewed him for a federal law clerk position for the 1993-1995 term. At that time, I was the U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Montana, Billings Division. Prior to my tenure as a Federal Judge, I was the State Court Judge for the Sixth Judicial District, Park County for 18 years. As such, I am most humbly aware of the responsibilities and character necessary to be a good judge.

To this day, I still recollect interviewing Pete at the law school. As you can imagine, there were a number of well-qualified applicants seeking employment with the federal court then. What made Pete stand out was his academic ability, his calm presence and his professional demeanor. Upon his employment with me, I had the first hand opportunity to observe Pete's use of his analytical skills, his thoughtful and compassionate approach to legal issues as well as his professional interactions with attorneys, court staff and other judges. His work quality as well as time-management skills were always of the highest level even in the face of a daunting court docket and a heavy administrative workload.

As with any of my previous law clerks, I intentionally placed a great deal of responsibility on Pete to prepare him for the rigors his future legal career. Not only did Pete eagerly take these responsibilities on, he did so with good humor and integrity. This is reflected by the many comments I recollect having received from other attorneys and non-court staff.

I have always found Pete to be an articulate, thoughtful and motivated person with a strong work ethic. Having a keen understanding of the compassion, integrity and intellect required to be a judge, I cannot think of a person more qualified than Pete to take on the rigors of that role. I know he would be an excellent candidate for the bench, and I enthusiastically endorse him to you.

Jack D. Shanstrom

Honorable Jack D. Shanstrom
United States District Court Judge, Ret.



P.O. Box 1156 | Billings, MT 59103-1156 | 406.867.0007 | bannerhughes@180com.net

September 21, 2016

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

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing to express support for Pete Helland for the position of District Court Judge for the 17th Judicial district. I have known Pete, personally and professionally, for over 20 years. Over the years I have watched Pete grow and mature from a fellow law student to a fine attorney.

Throughout, Pete has been courteous, thoughtful and reasonable. In the past few years I have litigated against Pete and found him to be well-prepared and a strong advocate for his client. Throughout that case, he was always honest and willing to work toward a solution that was beneficial to his client, while being fair to all parties.

My dealings with Pete over the years, starting here in Billings while he clerked for Judge Shanstrom and then worked with a local law firm, have all had a positive impact on my opinion of Pete's abilities and work ethic. As a result of these experiences, whenever I have been approached for a referral regarding a case in Northeast Montana, I have referred people and attorneys to Pete.

I believe Pete Helland will make a great district court judge. He has the attributes that all judges should possess – honesty, an even temperament, and a sense of fairness. Pete's sense of humor will serve him well in this position too.

I am encouraging this commission to forward Pete's name to the Governor so that he may serve the State of Montana in this position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Roberta Anner-Hughes'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a horizontal line.

Roberta Anner-Hughes



Office: 406-654-1203
Fax: 406-654-1206
Email: 21perry@ttc-cmc.net
Troy: 406-654-7462

P.O BOX 1288, 266 INDUSTRY ROAD MALTA, MT 59538

September 19, 2016

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

Via E-mail: mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

RE: Peter Helland – Nomination District Judge

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

This is in reference to Peter Helland's nomination as District Judge. 21 Construction Inc. is a family owned excavation (dirt moving) company; which has been in business for over forty years.

A few years ago we required the services of an Attorney. Our regular Attorney, ironically, had just been appointed District Judge in Hill County and he recommended Helland Law Firm in Glasgow.

We contacted Mr. Helland, and outlined our case; Mr. Helland was up front and honest. He told us he was not up to par with the contracts and laws of the construction industry. Needless to say; Mr. Helland was a very fast and efficient learner; not without many hours of combing through construction law books.

By the time we got to the arbitration, (our legal system takes a long time), we got to know Mr. Helland 'very' well. Every 'T' had to be crossed and every 'I' dotted, not once but twice. He was very efficient and very organized before we went to arbitration.

Mr. Helland represented our Company and presented our case with dignity and style and we not only respected Mr. Helland, but we were proud that he was our Attorney. Mr. Helland became our Attorney for personal matters also.

During this time, we found that Mr. Helland is very family oriented and very community minded. He also has compassion for people and is considerate of others and is definitely not a 'trash' talker.

With Mr. Helland being born and raised on the high-line, he already knows the life style of the people that live here. Peter Helland would represent the people of the high-line and the Judicial System of Montana with dignity and integrity. 'Peter Helland would make a good District Judge'.

Yours truly,

Darlene Perry/for
21 Construction Inc.
Perry Family

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

September 20, 2016

To the Montana Judicial Nomination Commission,

It is my pleasure to write this letter of support for Peter L. Helland for the Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship. I have known Pete for approximately 20 years. Pete is a prominent, upstanding professional in our community and I've had the pleasure of serving with him on a couple of local/civic clubs throughout the years.

I find the fact that Pete is pursuing this judgeship to be somewhat fated. Pete has always been a very serious and methodical thinker. I've never known Pete to be subversive or mean-spirited. While I have not utilized Pete's legal acumen personally, I have heard many good things about Pete around the community as he is one of our most respected lawyers. I think that Pete would make an excellent judge and highly recommend him for this appointment.

Respectfully,

Thomas E Schultz, CRNA, PhD
Director of Anesthesia and Pain Management
Frances Mahon Deaconess Hospital
621 3rd Street South
Glasgow, MT 59230
406.228.3667

Janet Christoffersen
410 5th St. SE
Sidney, MT 59270
(406) 433-2505

SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

The Montana Judicial Nomination Commission
Office of Court Administrator

c/o Lois Menzies
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Dear Commissioners,

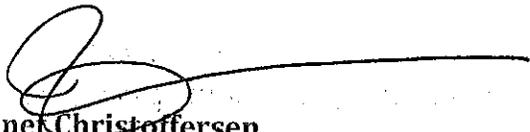
I am pleased to write this letter recommending Peter Helland for nomination for District Court Judge for the 17th Judicial District. I first met Pete when I opened a private practice in 2004. Pete was operating his own practice in Glasgow and we had several cases against each other. While practicing family law matters can be excruciating, especially if opposing counsel is unreasonable, I thoroughly enjoyed any case in which Pete was opposing counsel. Additionally, as a new attorney, I found Pete was an amazing role model to emulate. He never once made me feel like the inexperienced lawyer that I was, and patiently and respectfully provided me with guidance and advice when I asked.

Pete is a great candidate for this position because as a small town practitioner he is well-versed in a wide variety of the law. He is hardworking, organized, efficient, and above all reasonable and pleasant to work with. I do not think you could find another candidate as qualified as Pete.

Finally, Pete is thoroughly invested in his district and community. A good judicial candidate needs to understand the values and beliefs of his or her district. Having come from and practiced in the Seventeenth Judicial District for numerous years, Pete represents the values and beliefs of those constituents.

I strongly encourage the Commission forward Pete's name to Governor Bullock, and am hopeful he will be the next 17th Judicial District Judge.

Sincerely,



Janet Christoffersen

RICHLAND COUNTY DEPUTY ATTORNEY

D&G Sports and Western
215 4th Street South
Glasgow, MT 59230
(406) 228-9363

September 22, 2016

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

RE: Peter L. Helland
Seventeenth Judicial District

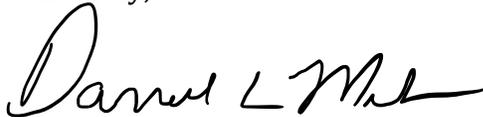
Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing this letter in support of Pete Helland being appointed to the 17th Judicial District Judge vacancy.

Pete Helland has been a major asset to Glasgow and the surrounding communities. Since his return to Glasgow, he has been operating a successful law firm and is heavily involved in the community. He is extremely family orientated and respected within the community. One of the main contributions that I have also been involved with is reviving our local Elks Club. He has been appointed to the Board of Trustees and has brought great ideas and insight to our meetings.

I strongly urge the Commission to elect Pete Helland to the judgeship of the Seventeenth Judicial District.

Sincerely,



Darrell L. Morehouse
President

September 23, 2016

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

Re: Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship

Dear Ms. Menzies and Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing in support of Peter L. Helland for the 17th Judicial District Court Judge.

We have been very fortunate to have Pete as a member of our community.

Pete is hard working, conscientious, and community minded. He is always professional, courteous, and respectful to everyone.

Pete would represent the 17th Judicial District very well as Judge.

Sincerely,



Paul Tweten

Valley County Commissioner

TELEPHONE (406) 228-4364
FAX (406) 228-2011



MEMBER
FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORP.

110 6th Street South
P.O. Box 511
Glasgow, Montana 59230

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

RE: Peter L. Helland
Seventeenth Judicial District

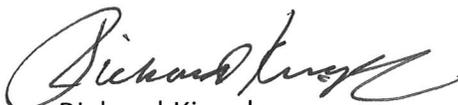
Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing to endorse Peter L. Helland for the position of Seventeenth Judicial Court Judge. I have known Pete for 15 years in both personal and professional capacities.

Pete has represented the Bank and provided legal expertise many times in different situations such as mediation, bankruptcy, as well as trials in Tribal and Civil Court. In each case Pete has handled himself very professionally, researching the fact and the law and has been prepared for each case. I found him to be knowledgeable and capable.

Personally, I have observed that Pete interacts very effectively with the community and its leaders. He is involved in civic and fraternal organizations and has demonstrated leadership and has a sincere concern for our community.

I believe Pete is a thoughtful, honest and fair person who acts with integrity. These are qualities and attributes that I believe would make Pete a great judge.


Richard Kingsley
President/CEO

SOLUTIONS
Not Problems



P.O. Box 191
Glasgow, MT 59230
Telephone 406-228-8231
Fax 406-228-4130
1-800-645-5739

Office of Court Administration
c/o Lois Menzies
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59260-3005

September 22, 2016

Dear Ms. Menzies:

It is a pleasure to submit this recommendation for Pete Helland for the position of Seventeenth Judicial District Judge. I have had the opportunity to work with Pete as a member of the community since he moved back to Glasgow in 2001. He has been involved in many organization in the community which I feel is of great importance when dealing with the community's needs that our laws govern.

Pete maintains a well respected law practice here in Glasgow. His twenty three years of experience in law gives him a great foundation for performing the duties of the Judgeship. His fifteen years of practicing law in the area the Judgeship serves gives him even greater insight into the needs for strong and fair law enforcement in the communities he will serve.

Pete's dedication to this area is well demonstrated by his return to north east Montana to establish his law practice. It is that kind of commitment and his years of experience would make him an excellent choice for District Judge for the Seventeenth District.

Sincerely

Samuel D Waters
President
First Community Bank

4269 Lone Eagle Drive
Billings, MT 59106
September 22, 2016

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

RE: Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship

Dear Ms. Menzies:

The purpose of this letter is to support Peter L Helland for appointment to fill the vacancy as district court judge in the seventeenth Judicial District.

I have known Pete for many years and had numerous opportunities as both a practicing lawyer and a trial judge to observe and experience his many attributes and abilities as a lawyer. I can state, without hesitation, that he would be an outstanding trial court judge for the Seventeenth District Court. Pete is very knowledgeable and experienced in the law. He has an exceptional ability to discuss and solve complex legal issues and can make decisions fairly, correctly and expeditiously. Most important is that Pete understands as a judge, he must treat the lawyers in his courtroom with the same degree of respect that he expected from a judge during his practice.

Pete has a reputation for honesty, fairness and trustworthiness; all qualities essential to a judge.

I highly recommend and endorse his selection for the bench in the Seventeenth Judicial District.

Sincerely,



Richard F. Cebull
406 656-5516

LAW OFFICES OF
TERRANCE L. TOAVS, PLLC
TELEPHONE: (406) 653-1624

September 26, 2016

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

Re: Application of Pete Helland for District Judge
Seventeenth Judicial District Vacancy

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing this letter to convey my strong support for Pete Helland as the next judge of the Seventeenth Judicial District. Pete has the expertise and experience to be an excellent judge.

My office is located in Wolf Point, Montana, and I have been practicing law on the High Line for approximately 20 years. My interest in writing this letter is that the Seventeen Judicial District is a neighboring district to mine, and I handle many, many cases there.

I have probably had more civil cases with Pete Helland on the opposing side than any other attorney I encounter in my practice. Pete has built an excellent private practice, and is widely respected in the community and surrounding areas. Pete is hard working, knowledgeable, and very experienced in civil litigation. In cases where he is not involved as an attorney, myself and other members of the local bar often seek out Pete's services as mediator. Pete has a way of communicating honestly and openly and people easily trust him.

In addition to being technically well qualified, Pete has an even temperament and is always professional. He has earned and maintained good relationships with community leaders and the community at large. In my opinion, Pete Helland is an excellent choice for the position of Seventeenth Judicial District Judge, and I support his appointment wholeheartedly.

Sincerely,

/s/ Terrance L Toavs
Terrance L. Toavs

Cook, Kevin

From: MT Supreme Court,
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 4:24 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Helland

From: Rod Karst [<mailto:karst@mail.glasgow.k12.mt.us>]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 3:45 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship recommendation

54271 US Hwy 2 #28

Glasgow, MT 59230

September 25, 2016

Office of Court Administrator

c/o Lois Menzies

P.O. Box 203005

Helena, MT 59620-3005

Members of the Judicial Nomination Commission:

As part of the Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship selection process, Mr. Peter "Pete" Helland has asked me to write a letter of reference on his behalf. I, without reservation, have accepted his request.

My acquaintance with Mr. Helland dates back to the days of Pete playing Little League baseball in Glasgow; therefore, I can honestly say I have a well-rounded knowledge of his professional background. You are familiar with his educational background and general work experience; so, I won't repeat those credentials. Since Mr. Helland has returned to Glasgow, I have had ample opportunity to work with him in a few capacities. The first is as a member of the Glasgow Recreation Board. For approximately ten years, Pete has been a dynamic member of the board. He is an active member of the Glasgow Recreation Department (Pete works out nearly every day); thus, it is vital to our board to have members who have a working knowledge of the facility. Pete

has freely given his time to serve on the board; he assists the director with ideas to streamline the operation of the facility; he supports fundraising activities; he promotes our numerous activities; and he has offered suggestions for new programs.

Mr. Helland is City Attorney for the City of Glasgow. As I am the president of the Glasgow City Council, I work hand-in-hand with Mr. Helland. At all times, Mr. Helland has a professional demeanor. He works tirelessly to make sure the best interests of the city are met. If he is unfamiliar with something, he will tell us and then he researches the item. He returns to the council/board with an informed recommendation. His work with the city has been mostly on the side of reviewing contracts, ordinances, etc. He has also done some prosecution work for us, but that is not his main focus for the city. The current mayor believed the job needed to be split between two attorneys; thus, Mr. Helland kept the most time consuming part of the job. The working relationship Pete has with the members of the city council, Public Works Director, Chief of Police and City Clerk is excellent. On a weekly basis, he meets with these officials, and, as needed, takes calls/visits from these members. We have a regular scheduled time set up to handle city business, but Pete works beyond the time frame. He has been able to handle our business and his private practice without any conflicts. (Note: Pete has always made the time to see me on all city matters.)

As a friend of Pete Helland, I believe he has the qualities needed to be an excellent judge for the Seventeenth Judicial District. He is knowledgeable, patient, ethical, level-headed, hard-working and goal-oriented. Pete's goal since he returned to Glasgow has been to be a District Judge. Mr. Helland is also compassionate, a family man, a community leader (he serves on a Glasgow Elks restructuring committee), and detailed in his work. I cannot think of a better person to appoint as the next District Judge for the Seventeenth District. It is for these reasons and more, I highly recommend Mr. Peter "Pete" Helland for your consideration as the new Seventeenth Judicial District Judge.

Sincerely,

Rod Karst

Glasgow High School teacher



SALLY K HICKOK, ATTORNEY AT LAW

PO Box 375 CIRCLE, MT 59215 Office: 406-939-3932 Fax: 406-485-2771 email: sally1@middrivers.com

September 24, 2016

Office of the Court Administrator
c/o Lois Menzies
Via email: mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

Dear Judicial Nomination Committee:

I highly recommend Pete Helland as the choice for the next Seventeenth Judicial District Court Judge. Not only have I known Pete all of our lives, I have had the privilege of working with him both in my private practice since he returned to our hometown of Glasgow in 2001 and in the McCone County Justice Court where I am the Justice of the Peace, since 2012.

Our families lived directly across the alley from each other in a neighborhood that has produced a number of attorneys including my friend, my former classmate and former co-worker at Buttrey Foods in Glasgow, the Hon. Jim Rice of the Montana Supreme Court. Also, both Pete and I spent a number of years working at Markle's while in school in Glasgow, though not together, as Pete is a few years younger than I.

Pete was a third year law student at the University of Montana when I was a first year, and he was always available to offer advice and encouragement to me, as well as to others. He has always had an even temperament, and he embodies the civility that we all should strive for as attorneys. Pete has a reputation in the legal community as a straight shooter; he is responsible and trustworthy in all his dealings, while ardently representing his clients.

We are very fortunate in our neighborhood that is Eastern Montana to have intelligent, caring, and community minded local people who choose to come home to our area to practice law. Pete will make a fine judge, and I encourage you to forward his name to Governor Bullock for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally K. Hickok".

Sally K. Hickok

DAVID L. IRVING
ATTORNEY AT LAW
DRAWER B • 110 5TH STREET SOUTH
GLASGOW, MT 59230-1191

(406) 228-2554
Facsimile: (406) 228-4344

September 26, 2016

JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
P. O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Re: Peter L. Helland
Montana Seventeenth Judicial District Nomination

To the Members of the Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing to express my support of Peter L. Helland for the position of District Court Judge for Montana's Seventeenth Judicial District. Pete and I grew up in the same community. Both he and his family, who are long-time residents, are well known and respected in Northeast Montana.

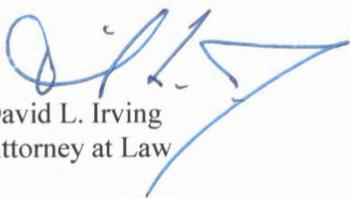
In my litigation practice over the past 34 years, I have known and worked with exceptional attorneys and judges, including several attorneys who have advanced to serve on the bench. These advocates and jurists who make a sole practitioner's tasks rewarding all exhibit similar traits: hard working, even temperament, knowledge on a wide range of subjects, common sense, experience in the courtroom, some humor, and a sincere respect for the process and the law. Pete exhibits these traits.

Since 2001, when Pete returned to live and practice in the Seventeenth Judicial District, I have gotten to know and work with him. Generally we have been on opposite sides, but Pete leaves politics outside the courtroom.

The Seventeenth Judicial District is fortunate to have had two exceptional jurists known throughout the State: first, the Honorable Leonard H. Langen and now the Honorable John C. McKeon. I believe Pete Helland would continue in their tradition of excellence.

I support Peter Helland's application and recommend that the Commission submit his name for appointment by Governor Bullock.

Sincerely,



David L. Irving
Attorney at Law

DLI:dsi

Joann Hesel
Court Reporter/Secretary
Roosevelt County Courthouse
Wolf Point, MT 59201
(406) 653-6272
Fax (406) 653-6207

DAVID CYBULSKI

District Judge
Fifteenth Judicial District
100 West Laurel
Plentywood, MT 59254
(406) 765-3457

Norma Paulson
Judicial Assistant
100 West Laurel
Plentywood, MT 59254
(406) 765-3457
Fax (406) 765-2602

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to give you my two cents worth on some of the candidates for Judge in the 17th Judicial District, John McKeon's position. I have been the District Judge in the adjoining district for over 20 years. I am interested in your selection because the substitution rule, and how parties react to the choice for District Judge, will affect my workload. Likewise, because of that rule I have done a lot of work over the years in that district, and have some familiarity with the lawyers there.

I have done cases there and in my own district involving attorney Pete Helland of Glasgow. He does his work, is reasonably prepared, and has both common sense and an understanding of the law. I have never seen him take an unreasonable position, or otherwise try to distort the facts or the law. He has always been professional, prepared, courteous, and competent.

Likewise, I have had some work involving Dan O'Brien, although since he is in Malta, he has done less work in my district. Like Pete Helland, he has always been professional, prepared, courteous, and competent.

Both of these Gentlemen would be acceptable choices in my view.

I have not had enough to do with any of the remaining applicants to form an opinion, other than to comment that if I haven't seen them over the years, they probably haven't done enough rural Montana courtroom work to be best for the position.

Sincerely,



David Cybulski
District Judge – 15th Judicial District



CHMS, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

741 Third Avenue South
Glasgow, Montana 59230
406-228-9391
FAX: 406-228-2063
1-800-755-2467
E-MAIL: glasgow@chmspc.com

Richard A. Wiens, CPA
Doris M. Leader, CPA
Diana W. Mattfeldt, CPA

September 28, 2016

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

RE: Peter L Helland, Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship

I wholeheartedly recommend Peter Helland for the position of Seventeenth Judicial District Judge. Since 2001, I've had the privilege of working with Peter Helland on a number of clients. Peter always impresses me as a compassionate, reasonable and objective attorney. Peter has worked with our firm on many joint clients including the elderly, corporate clients, partnerships, estates and trust. I always have confidence that Peter will effectively represent my clients. The State of Montana can rest assured that Peter will effectively represent the Seventeenth Judicial District.

Peter has been very involved on both the professional and civic levels in Glasgow. He has provided our firm and our clients with sound legal advice during this period of time. He is always very hard working and performs his legal responsibilities promptly and accurately. He always goes to great lengths to make sure the client understand the legal issues and the choices available to them for each decision they are about to make.

Peter has very strong legal skills. He handles himself in a very professional manner. His presentations are always very well prepared and accurate, and deal with complex issues very easily. He possesses strong writing skills and Peter can produce correspondence, documents and briefs with ease. He does his homework and makes sure that whatever he does is very well prepared. Peter also possesses the ability to make a decision and stand behind his decision.

I know Peter to be an honest man with high morals. He is a man of integrity and his compass never waivers from his strong character. Please consider my letter and the countless others you are receiving and understand that Peter L. Helland is the kind of person I would recommend for The Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship.

Thank you,

Richard A Wiens CPA

Joel G. Krautter, Esq.
703 6th St. SE
Sidney, MT 59270
(406) 560-5952
Joel.krautter@gmail.com
September 24, 2016

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

Re: Montana Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship

Dear Commission Members:

I am writing today in strong support of the appointment of Peter L. Helland to the Montana Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship.

My recommendation of Mr. Helland for this position is based on my interactions with him since I moved to eastern Montana to begin my legal career. I currently work at the Netzer Law Office, P.C. in Sidney, Montana, which is a small general practice law firm, and I also serve as the city attorney for Sidney.

I moved to eastern Montana in 2014 wanting to follow my passion that led me to law school of using the law to help make a difference for people in underserved areas, and also with an interest in personal injury law, that was fostered under the mentorship of Professor Greg Munro in Missoula. While the law firm I work at in Sidney did not traditionally do much with personal injury law, when I did eventually have a few clients who had been injured, I wanted to associate with a competent, sharp, well-regarded personal injury attorney who would be willing to mentor me in this area of the law: that attorney was Mr. Helland.

In the past few years of working with Mr. Helland, and associating with him on a number of cases, Mr. Helland has been a tremendous help to me in learning more about this area of the law. I have found him to be a very knowledgeable legal practitioner, who is not only compassionate when helping injured people, but is also compassionate in helping young lawyers like myself with his knowledge and practical experience: all of which speaks to Mr. Helland's excellent integrity and outstanding character.

September 24, 2016

Page 2

My experiences with Mr. Helland are not solely limited to associating and working together with him on personal injury cases; we've also been on opposite sides of a civil case. This experience provided another context for me to evaluate his legal work in. Even when we were on opposite sides of a case, and Mr. Helland was zealously representing his client's interests, he was still the same professional, straight-forward, pull-no-punches, attorney I grew to know through our shared commitment in personal injury cases.

Having witnessed Mr. Helland's professionalism, steady temperament, sense of fairness, legal skills, legal reasoning, knowledge of the law, and commitment to justice, in my opinion, there is no one more qualified to be a Montana district court judge than Mr. Helland. I firmly believe that Mr. Helland would be an excellent jurist and would serve the 17th Judicial District with integrity, competency, compassion, understanding, and distinction. For all of these reasons, he has my full support and endorsement.

I hope you will give him serious consideration in this most worthy process of considering his appointment to the Montana Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joel G. Krautter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right. Below the signature, the name "Joel G. Krautter, Esq." is printed in a standard serif font.

Joel G. Krautter, Esq.

September 27, 2016

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

Re: Peter Helland; Applicant for 17th Judicial District Court Judge

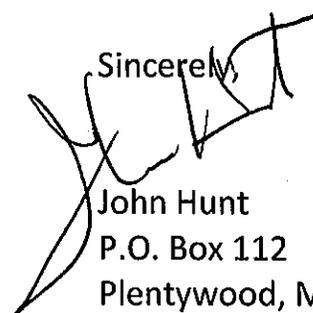
Dear Members of the Commission,

Thank you for this opportunity to express my support for Peter Helland who has applied for the appointment as District Judge for Montana's Seventeenth Judicial District Court.

It is as Plentywood City Attorney that I have become acquainted with Pete who is City Attorney for Glasgow. In recent years, we have often conferred with each other about legal matters pertaining to municipal government. I have very much enjoyed and benefitted from our conversations. Pete approaches legal problems in a questioning, critical manner that makes our discussions worthwhile. He just isn't satisfied with the quickest and easiest answers. I appreciate Pete's thorough and thoughtful way of addressing issues.

I have no doubt that Pete will have due respect and humility for the responsibilities of a calling to this office. I'm sure he is prepared to learn and grow as the challenges of the job unfold. Pete will serve the ideals of the law and the expectations of the people of the District and not be afraid to make these loftier concerns a part of his daily commitment to his work.

Sincerely,



John Hunt
P.O. Box 112
Plentywood, MT 59254

CHRISTOFFERSEN & KNIERIM, P.C.
Attorneys at Law

September 26, 2016

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

Subject: 17th Judicial District Judgeship

Dear Ms. Menzies:

I have no hesitation in supporting the nomination of Peter Helland to fill the judge's position being vacated by John McKeon. Pete is local, knows the area, and I think would be fair and honest in handling the court's business.

Sincerely,


MATTHEW W. KNIERIM

MWK/dd

Offices in Glasgow and Culbertson

Matthew W. Knierim
630 Second Avenue South, Suite E
P. O. Box 29
Glasgow, MT 59230
Telephone: (406) 228-2487
Fax: (406) 228-2460

Katie S. Knierim
630 Second Avenue South, Suite E
P. O. Box 29
Glasgow, MT 59230
Telephone: (406) 228-2487
Fax: (406) 228-2460

Laura Christoffersen
212 Broadway
P. O. Box 650
Culbertson, MT 59218
Telephone: (406) 787-5700
Fax: (406) 787-5842

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

September 26, 2016

Judicial Nomination Commission:

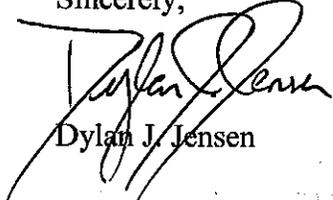
I am writing to express my support for Pete Helland, a candidate for the 17th Judicial District Court Judge. I am the Valley County Attorney and have worked with Pete for some time now, and believe he would be a worthy selection for judge.

My interactions with Pete largely involve cases I am prosecuting, in which he acts as defense counsel. Those interactions have been consistently positive, and Pete repeatedly demonstrates his ability to zealously represent his clients while also finding ways to settle their cases without the need for trial. Pete is courteous, prompt, and ultimately pragmatic, all qualities that would serve him well as judge.

In addition, Pete is a community leader and active in several local organizations. Pete dedicates his free time to serving the town of Glasgow and its surrounding communities, and has spent his years here working to better Valley County. If appointed as judge, Pete would have the opportunity to continue serving and bettering the community in a new sphere, and I have no doubt he would take full advantage of that opportunity.

I think Pete has the qualities, education, and experience necessary to serve as an effectual and just judge, and again respectfully encourage the commission to give him due consideration during the nomination process.

Sincerely,



Dylan J. Jensen

9/28/2016

Office of Court Administrator
c/o Lois Menzies
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, Mt. 59620-3005

RE: Recommendation Letter Judge Nominate Peter Helland

To Whom it May Concern,

I have had the pleasure of knowing Pete Helland for over 35 years. During the years of our acquaintance, I have known him in many capacities. Pete and I went to high school together and were teammates on the 1983 Montana Class "A" State Championship football team. As a teammate, he was someone that you could rely on and he had a very strong work ethic. He always wanted to better himself, as well as the team.

I have also had dealings with him in a business capacity. He has always displayed the utmost integrity, honesty, and talent. I have always thought of him as a very intelligent person ever since high school and through college into his practicing of law.

It seems Pete is very compassionate towards the communities he currently serves. He has been very involved in community and civic organizations trying to better the communities in eastern Montana.

I would trust Pete to be an excellent judge, I believe he would do what's right and abide by what the law requires him to accomplish in different circumstances. I know he would be fair to the Seventeenth Judicial District and do what is right for the district.

Also, I understand that the Seventeenth District is comprised of Valley, Blaine, and Phillips counties and that Glasgow has the majority of the cases in the three county areas. It seems it would an excellent decision that a judge from Valley County and a competent person such as Peter Helland should be chosen for the Seventeenth District Court position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gil Johnson", written over a horizontal line.

Gil Johnson
90 Heather Lane
Glasgow, MT. 59230

Dan Carr
14 Heather Place
Glasgow, MT 59230

September 30, 2016

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

Dear Court Administrator:

I would like to recommend Peter L. Helland in his application for appointment to replace Judge John McKeon in the Seventeenth Judicial District Court.

In my years as a City Council member and as a business manager, I have always found Mr. Helland to conduct himself in a very professional manner. He is courteous, on time and knowledgeable on all points of the law. He worked with the City Council as the City Attorney for the last several years and everyone found him very easy to work with.

In summary, I believe that Peter L. Helland is the best person for the Judgeship for the Seventeenth Judicial District Court.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

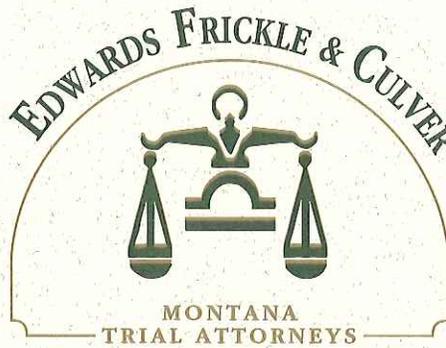
Dan Carr



A. CLIFFORD EDWARDS
ROGER W. FRICKLE
TRIEL D. CULVER *
A. CHRISTOPHER EDWARDS
JACKIE S. SHIELDS **
JOHN W. EDWARDS
JARED C.B. FRICKLE

* ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA

** ALSO ADMITTED IN WYOMING



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BILLINGS, MT 59102-1704
406 / 256-8155
FAX 406 / 256-8159
1-800-556-8155
www.edwardslawfirm.org

October 3, 2016

SENT VIA EMAIL and US MAIL: mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

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

Re: Pete Helland

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing in support of Pete Helland for the position of District Court Judge for the 17th Judicial District. I have known Pete for over 26 years. We were both graduating members of the class of 1993 from the University of Montana School of Law. In law school, I was continually impressed by Pete's ability to balance the needs of his family with the demands of law school. Pete was a smart, hard worker, and extremely organized.

An example of Pete's work ethic, discipline, and motivation occurred immediately upon graduation from law school. As an alternative to the commercial bar examine study course, Pete had designed and structured his own bar review course with another classmate. He invited me to join it which I did. Thanks to Pete's efforts, all three of us successfully passed the bar.

Throughout my 23 year legal career, I have maintained a friendship and professional legal relationship with Pete. I have followed his career as a federal law clerk, a plaintiff's attorney in Billings, and a general practitioner in his hometown of Glasgow, Montana. I would often seek advice and guidance on legal issues in my cases as well as general legal matters confronting the state of Montana. I am presently co-counsel with him on a couple of cases including a mass tort case in Multidistrict Litigation (MDL) in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Pete understands the state and federal legal system and, in particular, how it impacts the ordinary citizen and business from Eastern Montana. His legal skills and well-rounded experience make him an incredibly qualified candidate. Moreover, his integrity, judgment, and temperament are the perfect match for a judge in Blaine, Phillips and Valley counties. This is a great opportunity for the 17th Judicial District and I strongly recommend that Pete Helland be nominated to be the next judge.

Sincerely,



Triel D. Culver

A. CLIFFORD EDWARDS
ROGER W. FRICKLE
TRIEL D. CULVER *
A. CHRISTOPHER EDWARDS
JACKIE S. SHIELDS **
JOHN W. EDWARDS
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* ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA

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October 3, 2016

SENT VIA EMAIL and US MAIL: mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

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

Re: Pete Helland

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I have a right to express, in the strongest terms possible, my support behind Pete Helland for appointment to the 17th Judicial District judgeship vacancy starting December 1.

I have read all of the letters posted, to date, in his support.

It would be redundant, and a waste of everyone's time, to add much but my heartiest agreement with them.

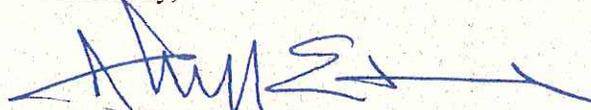
Now on my 43rd year of active practice all across Montana, I have seen and been in front of scores of Judges. Pete would rapidly join the ranks of the very most competent of them, and bring continuing honor and dignity to the Montana Judiciary, which we practicing lawyers, and the public who appear in front of the courts, expect and deserve.

I know Pete well, starting when he was law clerk to Judge Jack Shanstrom in Billings, and throughout his legal practice in Billings and back in Glasgow, for these past many years. I know Pete, as a committed family man and active community member in Glasgow. He is extremely well liked and respected in that whole area, and a number of my friends in Valley and Phillips Counties have expressed to me hope that he will become their next Judge, because they know he will continue their tradition of a fair Court, which attends to business and in timely fashion issues decisions.

I close by requesting Pete's name be sent to Governor Bullock.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



A. Clifford Edwards

(signed electronically to prevent delay)

Judicial Nomination Commission,

I would like to add my support, for Peter Helland, to replace Judge John McKeon, to the Seventeenth Judicial District. I feel he would serve us well in these counties, as a wonderful, compassionate, fair judge.

Mr. Helland, was my lawyer a few months ago, he was very compassionate to what we were dealing with. I was trying to get full guardianship of my grandson.

I feel, we need more lawyers and judges {I hope} like Mr. Helland, in our courts today.

Thank You

Janice Fakler

313 4th Ave. S.

Glasgow, Mt. 59230

Any questions please call 406-263-4858

Honorable Nickolas C. Murnion
Rosebud County Courthouse
PO Box 107
Forsyth, Montana 59327
(406) 346-6109
Fax: 346-6160



Honorable Michael B. Hayworth
Custer County Courthouse
1010 Main Street
Miles City, Montana 59301
(406) 874-3335
Fax: 874-3442

Sixteenth Judicial District Court

September 30, 2016

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

RE: 17th Judicial District Court Vacancy – Letter of support for Dan Raymond O'Brien and Peter L. Helland

Dear Commission Members:

I am writing this letter in support of the Applications of Dan Raymond O'Brien and Peter L. Helland to fill the vacancy in the 17th Judicial District (Blaine, Phillips, and Valley counties). I am supporting both candidates because I consider both of them to be my friends and to possess the qualifications to be great judges for the Seventeenth Judicial District. I also want to note that both candidates will have big shoes to fill in filling the vacancy created by the resignation of the honorable John McKeon. I had the pleasure of practicing before Judge McKeon for 6 ½ years and was impressed with his diligence, intelligence, fairness, impartiality and work ethic. He will be missed and I hope that the citizens of Blaine, Phillips and Valley Counties appreciate his hard work.

Mr. Helland has practiced law for the last 15 years in Valley County with his office located in Glasgow, Montana. He also clerked for Judge Shanstrom in 1993 which would be great experience to be a District Court Judge. In my previous experience as Valley County Attorney I believe Valley County had the busiest docket of the three counties. Pete has experience in family law, criminal law, personal injury law and general civil matters. In addition to his practice as a criminal defense attorney, he was also the city prosecutor for Glasgow for a period of time and handled the criminal matters in Glasgow City Court. He has appeared in court in Dependent and Neglect matters and is familiar with that area of the law as well. My dealings with him in criminal matters were always professional and he was always prepared and well versed in the law applicable to each case. I believe he possesses the personality, decisiveness, integrity, work ethic and passion to do the right thing to be a great district judge.

Mr. O'Brien has practiced law for over 22 years as the Deputy County Attorney for Phillips County and has also maintained a busy private practice. His office and residence is located in Malta, Montana which is the middle county in the Seventeenth Judicial District and the county where Judge McKeon also resided. Although Valley County has the busiest docket, Blaine County was a close second in filings and travel would be easier from Malta if Mr. O'Brien was selected. I have known Dan for most of his 22 years of practice having met him at County Attorney functions when he was first appointed Deputy Phillips County Attorney. I always found Dan to be very knowledgeable about the county attorney matters which probably comprise over fifty per cent of what a District Judge does. He also has a private practice with experience in family law including dissolutions, parenting plans, adoptions, and guardianships which probably take up another twenty five per cent of a District Judges time because of all of the pro se litigants. When I began my appointment as the 16th Judicial District Court Judge on March 17, 2016, Dan agreed to provide services to Valley County as Interim County Attorney until they were able to appoint a successor. I believe that Dan also would be great District Judge because of his integrity, temperament, honesty, experience and common sense.

As a newly appointed District Court Judge for the past 6 ½ months I have a bit more insight into the qualities that a good judge needs. I believe that Dan O'Brien and Pete Helland both possess those qualities and that both candidates would make great judges. I urge you to forward both names to Governor Bullock for his consideration.

Sincerely,



Nickolas C. Murnion
District Judge



TWO RIVERS ECONOMIC GROWTH

www.growValleyCounty.com

313 Klein Avenue | Glasgow, Montana 59230 | trg2@nemont.net

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

RE: Peter L. Helland
Seventeenth Judicial District

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Two Rivers Economic Growth in support of Peter L. Helland for the vacancy of the Seventeenth Judicial District Judge.

Pete has lived in Valley County\Glasgow for most of his life and reflects the values of the Northeast Montanan's. Pete is respected within the community and his professional background exemplifies his strong work ethic as well as his character. His demonstrated integrity and perseverance for justice are indicative of a strong community leader.

Hiring locally is important to Two Rivers and it's mission of making Valley County the best place to live, work and play. We hope that you will consider the qualities and values mentioned above and forward the name of Peter. L. Helland to Governor Bullock for the position of Judicial District Judge.

Sincerely,

TeAra M. Bilbruck
Executive Director
Two Rivers Economic Growth



Glasgow Police Department



238 2nd Avenue South
Glasgow, MT 59230

Phone: 406-228-8050
Fax: 406-228-8996
E-mail: glasgowpd@nemont.net

Bruce Barstad
Chief of Police
bbarstad@nemont.net

Brien Gault
Assistant Chief
bgault@nemont.net

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

Re: Recommendation for Peter L. Helland to the Seventeenth Judicial District Court

Greetings to the Nomination Commission:

As the Chief and an officer of the Glasgow Police Department for the past 28 years I have had the occasion to observe Mr. Helland in his role as a civil and defense attorney, as well as working closely with him during his time as the Glasgow City Prosecutor. What has always been apparent in our department dealings with Mr. Helland is his honesty, integrity and unwavering personal ethics. He has always been approachable and immensely knowledgeable when our department has needed to reference his expertise on issues.

As the local-born chief of police in a small Montana community, I have had the opportunity to be acquainted with Mr. Helland and work with him in professional and personal capacities for much of our lives. This relationship affords the advantage of reinforcing all of the attributes that our department sees in dealings with Mr. Helland with a deeper foundation of knowledge of his vast capabilities. He is a constant presence in our community and active on many boards and local organizations. Mr. Helland is a leader in our community and commands a very deserving respect for his service to Eastern Montana, Valley County and the City of Glasgow. Mr. Helland has always been an extremely intelligent, thoughtful and sincere gentleman.

Upon reflection of this nomination, I feel that Mr. Helland would make a remarkable District Court Judge. He exemplifies the characteristics of a successful judiciary nominee and I have no reservations about putting forth my recommendation of Peter L. Helland as the Seventeenth Judicial District Court Judge. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bruce Barstad
Chief – Glasgow Police Department

STATE OF MONTANA
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

Chouteau, Hill and Liberty Counties
Hill County Courthouse
315 Fourth Street, Havre, MT 59501
Phone 406.265.5481 • Fax 406.265.0160

HON. DANIEL A. BOUCHER
District Judge



ERIK RATHIE
Law Clerk

BETH HANNAH
Judicial Assistant

October 3, 2016

Ladies and Gentleman:

I am offering my support for Pete Helland and/or Dan O'Brien for the position of Judge in the 17th Judicial District Court – John McKeon's position.

Both of these gentlemen do their work, are prepared, and have both common sense and an understanding of the law. I have never seen either of them take an unreasonable position or otherwise try to distort the facts of the law. They are professional, prepared, courteous, and competent.

Either of these gentlemen would be an acceptable choice in my opinion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Boucher", written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Daniel A. Boucher
Twelfth Judicial District Judge



RossbachLawPC

William A. Rossbach, Attorney at Law
401 North Washington Street
P.O.Box 8988, Hellgate Station
Missoula MT 59807-8988

Rossbach Law, P.C.
406-543-5156 | office
406-728-8878 | fax
bill@rossbachlaw.com

Shelley M. Young, Paralegal
Michelle Netzer, Paralegal

October 2, 2016

Montana Judicial Nomination Commission
c/o Lois Menzies
Office of Court Administrator
Box 203005
Helena, Montana 59620

Re: Seventeenth Judicial District Vacancy

Ms. Menzies and Commission Members:

I write to recommend Pete Helland for the Seventeenth Judicial District vacancy.

In the time that I have known Pete he has always been a dedicated and conscientious advocate for his clients, with the perfect temperament to serve as a state district judge. Pete impresses me with his careful and thoughtful approach to issues and his willingness to dig in and research what would be best for his client.

Pete has been an active participant in trial lawyer functions and has shown a keen interest in working with others to become the best lawyer he can be.

Although Pete clerked in federal court for U.S. District Court Judge Jack Shanstrom, who obviously thinks very highly of Pete's qualities as a lawyer and potential judge, Pete's resume shows that he has the experience needed to be a successful state district court judge. The breadth and depth of his experience in the types of cases that will likely make up a substantial part of his caseload as a state trial judge makes him especially qualified for that position.

Lastly, but importantly, Pete grew up in the district and on his return home has been deeply involved in his community in many volunteer public service and leadership roles. His knowledge of, and respect in, the community will stand him in great stead if he is appointed to serve as the district judge.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William A. Rossbach

A. CLIFFORD EDWARDS
ROGER W. FRICKLE
TRIEL D. CULVER *
A. CHRISTOPHER EDWARDS
JACKIE S. SHIELDS **
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* ALSO ADMITTED IN NORTH DAKOTA

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October 3, 2016

SENT VIA EMAIL and US MAIL: mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

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

Re: Pete Helland

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I am writing in support of Pete Helland for the position of District Court Judge for the 17th Judicial District. I have known Pete for over 26 years. We were both graduating members of the class of 1993 from the University of Montana School of Law. In law school, I was continually impressed by Pete's ability to balance the needs of his family with the demands of law school. Pete was a smart, hard worker, and extremely organized.

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Sincerely,



Triel D. Culver

A. CLIFFORD EDWARDS
ROGER W. FRICKLE
TRIEL D. CULVER *
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October 3, 2016

SENT VIA EMAIL and US MAIL: mtsupremecourt@mt.gov

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

Re: Pete Helland

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

I have a right to express, in the strongest terms possible, my support behind Pete Helland for appointment to the 17th Judicial District judgeship vacancy starting December 1.

I have read all of the letters posted, to date, in his support.

It would be redundant, and a waste of everyone's time, to add much but my heartiest agreement with them.

Now on my 43rd year of active practice all across Montana, I have seen and been in front of scores of Judges. Pete would rapidly join the ranks of the very most competent of them, and bring continuing honor and dignity to the Montana Judiciary, which we practicing lawyers, and the public who appear in front of the courts, expect and deserve.

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I close by requesting Pete's name be sent to Governor Bullock.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Clifford Edwards', is written over a horizontal line.

A. Clifford Edwards
(signed electronically to prevent delay)

Robert J. Savage
Admitted in Montana
& North Dakota

Diane E. Savage
Admitted
in Montana

Luke R. Savage
Admitted
in Montana

October 3, 2016

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

Re: Seventeenth Judicial District Judgeship

Dear Judicial Nomination Commission:

In my years of practicing law in Eastern Montana, I have practiced against many attorneys and in front of many judges. I can honestly say that Mr. Helland is one of the finest attorneys I've had the pleasure of practicing with. Although he has always been an adversary, he has been the consummate professional at every level. His focus on the law and equitable resolutions is second to none; thus making him a highly qualified candidate for a Montana District Judge.

Mr. Helland not only has the legal intelligence and temperament to serve as a district judge, he understands the people he will serve and the nature of the legal practice in Eastern Montana. Furthermore, Mr. Helland's vast legal experience has touched upon almost all areas of law, which allows him the ability to fairly, intelligently and timely decide all matters before the court, not just singular and specific areas of the law.

In closing, I hope that the Commission sees that Mr. Helland is the most qualified candidate and makes such recommendation.

Sincerely,

THE SAVAGE LAW FIRM



Luke R. Savage

Cook, Kevin

From: MT Supreme Court,
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2016 3:02 PM
To: Cook, Kevin
Subject: Public Comment -- Helland

From: christina hillman [<mailto:mymillie06@gmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, October 03, 2016 4:35 PM
To: MT Supreme Court,
Subject: Peter L. Helland

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my public comment regarding the appointment of the Seventeenth Judicial District Court Judge.

I believe that Peter Helland is a highly qualified candidate for this position. I began working for Mr. Helland in June of 2006 as a legal assistant. His understanding of the law and moral standing had always fascinated me. He has gained the trust of his clients through his strong ethical views. I have come to know Peter and his family and have great admiration for how he and his wife, Allison, have raised their family. Working for him had also fostered my vast interest of the law which led me to run for the Valley County Justice of the Peace and ultimately become elected.

In all, I want to say that I believe Peter Helland would be the right choice to take the bench of the Seventeenth Judicial District Court.

Sincerely,
Christina M. Hillman