

## CERTIFICATE

The Judicial Nomination Commission of the State of Montana hereby certifies to the Honorable Steve Bullock, Governor of the State of Montana that it has agreed and approved the qualifications of the following lawyers for appointment as District Court Judge for the First Judicial District.

All of these we now certify are qualified for appointment under the laws of the State of Montana. We hereby certify the same to you, as required by law, and list them in alphabetical order:

**Christopher David Abbott**

**Marc George Buyske**

**DeeAnn Gribble Cooney**

**Daniel Mark Guzynski**

**Donald Ford Jones**

## REPORT

Pursuant to Section 3-1-1010, MCA, the Judicial Nomination Commission provides the following report:

Seven members of the Judicial Nomination Commission were present and participated in the applicant interviews and deliberations. The applications of and public comments regarding the above-listed nominees are attached to this certificate and also may be reviewed at: <http://www.courts.mt.gov>.

**Christopher David Abbott** received seven affirmative votes to recommend his appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Mr. Abbott:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

**Marc George Buyske** received four affirmative votes to recommend his appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Mr. Buyske:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

**DeeAnn Gribble Cooney** received four affirmative votes to recommend her appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Ms. Cooney:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

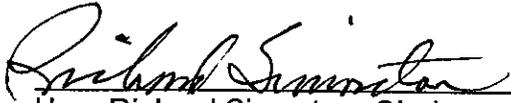
**Daniel Mark Guzynski** received seven affirmative votes to recommend his appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Mr. Guzynski:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

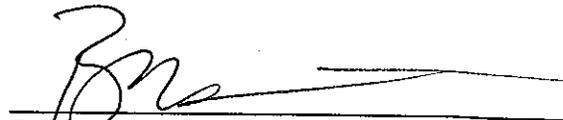
**Donald Ford Jones** received seven affirmative votes to recommend his appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Mr. Jones:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and,
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

Done at Helena, Montana on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2015.



Hon. Richard Simonton, Chairman



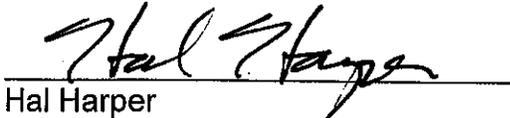
Ryan Rusche, Secretary



Mona Charles



Elizabeth Halverson



Hal Harper



Lane Larson



Nancy Zadick