**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**

**Mary Elizabeth Cochenour**

**David Ole Olson**

**REPORT**

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

On October 12, 2020, the members of the Judicial Nomination Commission participated in applicant interviews and deliberations through videoconferencing. 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 six 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.

**Mary Elizabeth Cochenour** received five affirmative votes to recommend her appointment. The Commission’s reasons for recommending this nominee are that Ms. Cochenour:

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.

**David Ole Olson** received seven affirmative votes (unanimous) to recommend his appointment. The Commission’s reasons for recommending this nominee are that Mr. Olson:

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 by videoconferencing on the 12thday of October, 2020.

Hon. John C. Brown, Chair Elizabeth Halverson, Secretary

Janice Bishop Karl Englund

Hal Harper Lane Larson

Nancy Zadick