



January 10, 2025

Chief Justice Cory Swanson
Office of Court Administrator
P.O. Box 203005
Helena, MT 59620-3005

Sent via email to rbird@mt.gov

Re: *Appointment of Nathaniel Block as Associate Water Judge*

Dear Chief Justice Swanson:

I am writing to express my support for my friend and colleague, Nathaniel “Nate” Block, for the position of Associate Water Judge in the Montana Water Court. I have known Nate since 2012, when we both entered the University of Montana School of Law as first year students. Our friendship began over a shared love of Southern barbecue, and it quickly progressed into fishing trips exploring Montana’s rivers and streams with our friends and spouses.

After graduation from law school, Nate and I embarked on our legal careers in parallel, first working for Oracle in Bozeman. At Oracle, I began to learn more about Nate’s work ethic, his innate intelligence, and his ability to problem solve.

After Oracle, I had the benefit of working side by side with Nate once again, this time as Associate Attorneys at Guza, Nesbitt, and Putzier, PLLC, in Bozeman. It was at GNP that I really discovered Nate’s profound respect for the law and his unwavering commitment to uphold existing laws. By working alongside Nate, I learned that when he was tasked with something, he would not only get the job done, he would get the job done right. He researched issues tirelessly to make sure that he was arriving at the correct conclusion, even if sometimes that conclusion was not always what the client wanted to hear. Upholding the law was, and always will be, of the utmost importance to Nate. I think this quality is what makes him so suited to work within the judiciary.

Elizabeth T. Musick
P.O. Box 726
Bozeman, MT 59771
(406) 579-9481
elizabeth@mtlawpllc.com

Nate's love of the outdoors, his passion for Montana's rivers and streams, and his absolute respect for the law make him uniquely suited to become an Associate Water Judge in the Montana Water Court. Nate has my full support for this position.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/Elizabeth T. Musick
Musick Law Firm, PLLC

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Bozeman, MT 59771
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elizabeth@mtlawpllc.com