

State Of Montana

FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

Musselshell County Courthouse
Musselshell, Golden Valley, Wheatland, Meagher Counties

RANDAL I. SPAULDING
DISTRICT JUDGE

506 Main Street
Roundup, MT 59072



Derinda Hazelton
COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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To whom it may concern,

I am the current district judge for Montana's Fourteenth Judicial District and have been for 24, years. Among my duties I am also the local judge overseeing enforcement of water decrees within basins 40 and 40A which include the Musselshell River and its tributaries and the North Fork of the Smith River from approximately Lennup to Fort Peck lake. I have also been serving as the judge on Rock Creek in Park County as the district judge in that jurisdiction has a ranch on that body of water. I have been in charge of what has become known as the Musselshell River Distribution Project since becoming the judge in 2000. At any given time I have had up to seven water commissioners that I oversee. I believe the project has been very successful and looked to as a model for similar water projects across the State. It is due in no small part to Julia Nordlund's efforts at the Montana Water Court.

Julia has always promptly responded to my questions with very sound advice. She has ensured, among other things, that we have updated water tabulations for enforcement purposes every spring, updated address labels, and anything else we require to ensure we have a successful season from year to year.

Aside from being very knowledgeable about everything water in the State, Julia is always professional, personable, and prompt which are all-important attributes as a judge. I understand that she has applied for a vacant Associate Water Judge position at the Water Court. I can think of no one more qualified and wholeheartedly recommend her to you. Should you have any questions or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randal I. Spaulding".

Randal I. Spaulding
District Judge