

Julia J. Nordlund recommendation

Chief Justice

Montana Supreme court

Helena Mt 59601

Honorable Chief Justice:

It is my honor to speak to the abilities and experiences that Julia Nordlund will bring to the position of Associate Water Judge on the Montana Water Court. Having grown up in an arid area which has access to Irrigation gives her firsthand experience how important water rights are. Even as a youth you learn fast the ups and downs of just how important water is to the landscape and production potential. Of course, along with this comes the cost of irrigation water and the fact that it isn't always there when you need it most. I expound on this because it is so critical to survival in Agriculture and the importance of water. You don't learn or experience this, reading and studying in a book or working in an office somewhere. The fact that she experienced this through her upbringing gives her credibility to think through, with a clear mind, the many challenges she will face on the job. That gives us as landowners real assurance that even if we don't agree with some of the judgments that comes forth at least we had a fair evaluation of all the facts and components of the case.

When working with Lund Law in Bozeman both Hertha and Julia were at our place along with our neighbors and helped us come to a conclusion by offering good advice and helping us understand the law side of all the issues involved. This was very important to a quicker outcome and resolution.

I am impressed with all the education and experiences practicing law Julia will be able to draw from, when on the job as Associate Water Judge. I hope you will give her full consideration when deciding. I feel she would come ready to tackle the most complicated cases from the very start.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Bruce "Butch" Gillespie

Senate District 9

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