

Chief Justice  
Montana Supreme Court  
215 N. Sanders St  
Helena, Mt 59601

Dear Chief Justice,

My name is Chad Larson. I am the owner of Home 40 Development group in Bozeman, Montana. I am writing in support of Julie Nordlund's appointment as an Associate Judge to the Montana Water Court. I have known Julie and the Brown family for 20+ years. We both grew up in the Hi-line area of Montana and are both products of small Montana family farms. I attended Montana State University with Julie and her brother Shawn. Throughout my time knowing Julie she has demonstrated many of the qualities commonly associated with a childhood growing up on a family farm, hard work, determination, perseverance, a sense of morality and kindness just to name a few.

Later in life, after starting my development business in the Gallatin Valley I turned to Julie with many water rights questions and clarifications when it came to the law. I grew up on a dryland farm, so the subject of ground and surface water rights connected to historically agricultural land was a new situation for me. She was knowledgeable and professional in her approach to water law. Julie demonstrated a balance when looking at how water law affects developing areas of Montana while also understanding the ramifications development has on surrounding agricultural water users. Her counsel and advice were invaluable.

I strongly believe that Julie possesses a unique combination of applicable real-world experience and a depth of water law knowledge that lends itself to the appointment as Associate Judge to the Montana Water Court. I have no doubt that Julie will excel in this position just as she has in all her life's undertakings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Larson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chad Larson

Home 40 Development group.