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

Re: Support for Madeleine Weisz for the Montana Associate Water Court Judge

Dear Chief Justice Swanson:

My name is Haley Jackson, and I am an attorney in Bozeman, Montana. I am honored to support Madeleine (“Maddy”) Weisz for Associate Water Court Judge. I have known Maddy for several years and think she would make an outstanding judge.

My practice over the past ten years has focused on appellate law, which requires I spend most of my time dissecting lower court records and identifying where judges erred. Through this work, I developed a keen insight into lower court proceedings and an acute awareness of what qualities make a good judge: a sharp mind and profound understanding of the law; a commitment to justice; an ability to listen to and consider conflicting opinions; strong communication skills; and integrity.

I can confidently say—and as reflected by her impressive resume—that Maddy possesses all these qualities. Her decade-long experience at the Montana Water Court made her an expert in water law and prepared her for the position of Associate Water Court Judge. She has travelled throughout the state to educate Montanans on water rights and mediate and adjudicate disputes. In this role, she has demonstrated an impressive ability to truly listen to different positions, problem-solve, and effectively and concisely communicate with parties to secure a just result. She is even-tempered and fair, and she is driven by a deep desire to help people. I cannot think of more important qualities for a judge to possess.

In addition to my professional relationship with Maddy, she is a neighbor and a good friend. Whether it be at a professional gathering or a social event, Maddy is always eager to discuss water law topics and answer questions with detail, thoughtfulness, and clarity.

Maddy's passion for and commitment to adjudicating water rights and helping water users resolve disputes is undeniable, and I have no doubt that when combined with her expertise in the law and strong work ethic, Maddy will thrive on the bench. Finally, Maddy's outstanding reputation among lawyers and Montana water users reveals that she is an attorney with great integrity who would be respected in this position and serve it honorably.

I believe Maddy would be an asset to the judiciary, and I strongly support her for the Associate Water Court Judge position. Please feel free to reach out with any questions.

Respectfully,

Haley Jackson