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

December 18, 2024

**Subject: Support for Madeleine (Maddy) Weisz for the
Montana Associate Water Court Judge**

Dear Chief Justice:

I enthusiastically write in favor of Madeleine (Maddy) Weisz for the Montana Associate Water Court Judge position. Being both an attorney and a part of a Montana family whose state lineage goes back to at least the 1860s, I am well aware of the necessity and tensions of adjudicating Montana water rights and the implications of that adjudication. As the old Montana saying goes, “Whiskey is for drinking, and water is for fighting.” While I can’t attest to her whisky-drinking abilities, having had the opportunity to get to know Maddy over the last decade in a professional manner, I know that she will ensure that any fight coming before the Court is a fair fight that is decided in accordance with the law and facts – and nothing else. She’ll call balls and strikes equally for all sides, which is what we should want and receive from any judge or adjudicative body.

Maddy has also shown dedication to Montana water law and is an active fixture in the Montana community. She already has over a decade of experience at the Water Court. She won’t need to learn on the job – ensuring that her time spent on the job will be spent doing the job, not learning how to do it by trial and error while endangering the critical rights of Montanans in the process. She has traveled across the

state educating Montanans on water rights. She has a history and reputation of fairly adjudicating and mediating water rights – getting through the noise and distractions and resolving the matter on the merits. She has shown her ability to handle the caseload and get things done. She serves on the Gallatin County Bar Association. She volunteers time at Montana State University, helping college students further develop their writing skills. She returned from law school to raise kids in the Bozeman community where she grew up. Maddy's a Montanan through and through and an asset to the state and water law community.

In short, Maddy's background, dedication to fairness and the law, and keen ability to resolve complex water issues in a commonsense manner (that is otherwise too often lacking in bureaucracy) make her an ideal nominee for the Montana Associate Water Court Judge position. I strongly write in support of her nomination for that role.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



Anthony Jackson