

Androlewicz, Kathleen

To: McLaughlin, Beth
Subject: RE: Letter of Support for Stephen R. Brown

From: Dana Pepper <dana@riverandrangelaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2024 11:11 AM
To: McLaughlin, Beth <bmclaughlin@mt.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter of Support for Stephen R. Brown

Your Honor:

I am writing in support of Associate Water Judge Stephen R. Brown's application to be Chief Water Judge for the State of Montana. Over the course of the last five years, Judge Brown has proven himself to be a thoughtful, fair, and objective judge. He has provided the water bar of this state with well thought through, consistent, legally grounded orders. It is clear that Judge Brown's career in private practice has led to an understanding of the importance of well-reasoned opinions based on the law. I am confident Judge Brown will be an exceptional Chief Water Judge.

Additionally, as evidenced by the letter of support he has received from both members of the Water Court and water lawyers throughout the state, Judge Brown is well liked and respected. His quiet, but strong leadership style will make him an effective leader of the Water Court. As the Chief Water Judge he will not only have his own case load to manage, but he will also be responsible to manage an office of water masters and staff. With his superior management skills and his experience as a judge, a private practice attorney, and managing partner of a large law firm, Judge Brown will be an effective leader of the Water Court.

Best Regards,

Dana Elias Pepper

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