

CERTIFICATE

The Judicial Nomination Commission of the State of Montana hereby certifies to the Honorable Steve Bullock, Governor of the State of Montana that it has agreed and approved the qualifications of the following lawyers for appointment as District Court Judge for the Fourth Judicial District.

All of these we now certify are qualified for appointment under the laws of the State of Montana. We hereby certify the same to you, as required by law, and list them in alphabetical order:

Brenda Constance Desmond

Barbara Leslie Halligan

Brian J. Smith

Shane Anthony Vannatta

REPORT

Pursuant to Section 3-1-1010, MCA, the Judicial Nomination Commission provides the following report:

Seven members of the Judicial Nomination Commission were present and participated in the applicant interviews and deliberations. The applications of and public comments regarding the above-listed nominees are attached to this certificate and also may be reviewed at: courts.mt.gov.

Brenda Constance Desmond received seven affirmative votes to recommend her appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Ms. Desmond:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

Barbara Leslie Halligan received seven affirmative votes to recommend her appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Ms. Halligan:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

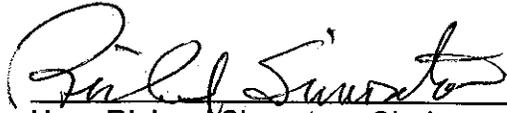
Brian J. Smith received seven affirmative votes to recommend his appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Mr. Smith:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

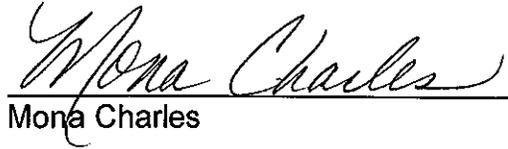
Shane Anthony Vannatta received seven affirmative votes to recommend his appointment. The Commission's reasons for recommending this nominee are that Mr. Vannatta:

1. meets the minimum qualifications for the position of district court judge;
2. appears to be electable to the position within the judicial district;
3. has a depth and breadth of legal experience;
4. demonstrates judicial temperament; and
5. has significant support within the community for serving in the position of district court judge.

Done at Missoula, Montana on the 13th day of April, 2015.



Hon. Richard Simonton, Chairman



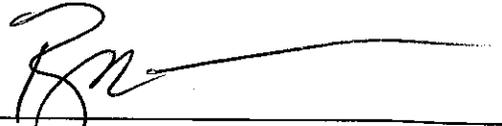
Mona Charles



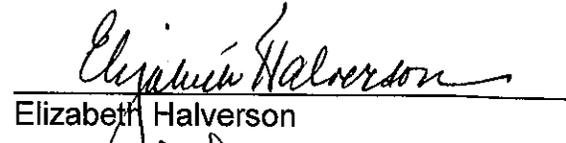
Hal Harper



Nancy Zadick



Ryan Rusche, Secretary



Elizabeth Halverson



Lane Larson