

ERIN MENDENHALL
Mayor



KATHERINE LEWIS
Office of the City Attorney

November 25, 2020

Mr. Jerry Howe
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Utah State Capitol
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Senate President Stuart Adams
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Senator Todd Weiler
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Dear Senate President Adams, Senator Weiler, and Mr. Howe,

I am writing this letter in unqualified support of Governor Herbert's appointment of Margaret D. Plane as a Utah Court of Appeals judge. Margaret and I worked together in the Salt Lake City Attorney's Office for almost seven years. She was an exceptional Salt Lake City Attorney and she will be an exceptional Court of Appeals judge.

Margaret is a consummate public servant. She views each assignment, no matter how large or small, as an exercise in critical thinking to achieve the most fair, legal, and ethical result. She never shies away from hard decisions or cuts corners. Her commitment to public service is supported by her tireless work ethic. I have seen Margaret regularly work a full day serving the public and masterfully advising on diverse legal topics, and then take the time to prepare for an oral argument, mentor a young attorney, and manage subordinate employees. She is committed to doing every job as well and completely as possible and to serving everyone around her with fairness and equality.

Margaret has an unparalleled intellect. She has an exceptional talent for grasping complicated concepts and distilling them in an understandable, digestible way so lawyers and non-lawyers alike understand the legal concepts and implications. Margaret is a consummate learner and will excel at the Utah Court of Appeals where she will focus her fierce intellect on each case that comes before her. I have no doubt she will be fully committed to understanding and mastering each subject before issuing a decision.

Margaret has a strong sense of integrity and ethics. As the Salt Lake City Attorney, Margaret often faced complicated ethical issues and competing political interests. Regardless of the political pressures, she always remained resolute in her integrity. This integrity, more than any of her other qualities, is what I admire most and try to emulate each day as I follow in her footsteps as the Salt Lake City Attorney.

Margaret is a consummate mentor and a leader. In my time working with her, I watched her mentor attorneys, non-lawyer colleagues, and law students. She gives freely of her time and makes each person feel important and truly heard. She has impacted countless people's lives with her leadership and mentorship.

Margaret's character, experience, and flawless integrity will make her a perfect fit as a judge at the Utah Court of Appeals. I know she will excel as a judge and I highly recommend her for the position.

Sincerely,


Katherine Lewis (Nov 25, 2020 11:59 MST)

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