

From: [Alleea Baer](#)
To: [NominateJudges](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for John Hrubes
Date: Tuesday, January 7, 2025 12:46:18 PM

January 6, 2025

Alleea Baer
108 N. Kendrick Ave.
Glendive, MT 59330
Ph. 406.377.6477

Office of the Governor
PO Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620-0801

Dear Governor Gianforte,

I am writing this in support of John Hrubes for the position of District Judge to fill the vacancy left by Judge Katherine Bidegaray. Having had the unique opportunity to work with Hrubes as a colleague at Dawson County Domestic Violence Program (DCDV) and as a client in a personal family law matter, I have observed his qualities from multiple perspectives. During his tenure at DCDV, Hrubes demonstrated commitment to representing victims of domestic violence with both dedication and compassion. His professionalism and diligence were evident in the cases he handled. His ability to balance empathy with the precise application of the law made him an invaluable advocate for those in need.

On a personal level, Hrubes also represented me in a complex family law matter that encompassed a wide range of unique and challenging circumstances. His knowledge of the law, combined with his respect and sensitivity to the nuances of domestic violence, was invaluable during this time. He approached my case with care, ensuring that every detail was addressed timely and thoughtfully. Despite the challenges, his professionalism and dedication provided me with confidence and clarity throughout the process.

Having had the rare perspective of seeing Hrubes both in his professional capacity as a colleague and as my legal representative, I can confidently say that he is a person of great character and integrity. His work ethic is unparalleled, and he consistently demonstrates respect for those he serves and works alongside. His ability to approach complex legal matters with diligence and fairness, coupled with his compassion for others, makes him an outstanding candidate for this judicial appointment. I believe that his appointment would greatly benefit our judicial system. He possesses the legal acumen, temperament, and integrity necessary to

serve as an exemplary judge.

Thank you for considering my recommendation.

Alleea Baer

Executive Director, Dawson County Domestic Violence Program



December 19, 2024

Dear Governor Gianforte,

I am writing this letter to recommend you choose John T. Hrubes to fill the vacancy in the Seventh Judicial District. He has served as the City Attorney for Glendive since just before I became Mayor in 2023. As Mayor of the City of Glendive, I consider myself, and the city, very fortunate to have Mr. Hrubes representing us. He has proven himself to be an honest, hard-working attorney who considers all the facts of a case, always listens, and weighs the evidence.

He has been very helpful as the city has faced a variety of lawsuits. He keeps me informed with the specific details, as the cases move through the judicial system. He is easy to talk to, responds to my many calls and questions, and he has a very calming demeanor.

He does not seek attention or glory but simply does his work. Due to his dedication to his job, you might not see his name in the newspaper or see him on the news. He is sincere and honorable. He is candid, trustworthy, and very reliable. These are all qualities we ask for in a Judge, but I do not know of many people who embody all these traits and can also carry them over into a position as a Judge.

I realize you have other candidates to consider, but you will not find a better qualified candidate than Mr. Hrubes. He is respected by the entire City Council and quickly earns the appreciation of anyone who has had an encounter with him. We certainly value his experience, which he will bring to the position of Judge. He has earned our respect and is highly regarded. He is admired and respected as a fair and honest attorney.

I know he will carry his values into the position of Judge, and you will not find a better qualified candidate. If he is selected, we will certainly miss him! I do feel that he is the very best candidate for the position and the Seventh Judicial District will be fortunate to have him serving as Judge.

If you have questions, you can reach me at 406-377-3318 X11 or email me at mayor@glendivemt.gov. I know you will make the best choice for this position, and I hope that the choice will be John Hrubes.

Sincerely,

Deb Dion

Mayor, City of Glendive

From: [Ryan Archibald](#)
To: [NominateJudges](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter in Support of John Hrubes
Date: Thursday, December 19, 2024 12:42:56 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of John Hrubes for the vacant judgeship for the Montana 7th Judicial District Court.

I am an attorney in both Montana and Texas. I understand the need to have highly qualified judges who pride themselves on maintaining impartiality and fairness for all people that may come before them. Mr. Hrubes exemplifies these qualities.

I have never had the privilege of working with or against Mr. Hrubes in my practice, but I have known him for years. He is honest and straightforward. He treats all people with respect and dignity. He desires to give back to the community through public service. I am sure he will uphold the law while striving to make the best decision in each individual case.

Sincerely,

Ryan P.R. Archibald

RE: Support for Judge Applicant John T. Hrubes, 7th Judicial District

It is with great honor to support John T. Hrubes for the vacancy in the 7th Judicial District. Working with John over the past 10 years, has been a pleasure as he unwaveringly stood by our local law enforcement prosecuting crimes in Fallon County. Even though John was the temporary stand in County Attorney he worked diligently with all the Officers and the Court. Whenever he was needed, he asked no questions and assisted where he could. John has stepped in and stepped-up multiple times and has been a real asset to the Fallon County Sheriff's Office and the Fallon County Attorney's Office. I believe that he would be a solid pick for the judgeship as his demeanor, commitment, and professionalism have led to the outstanding service to not only his community, but the citizens of those counties in need. I appreciate this opportunity to advocate for John as the new District Judge of the 7th Judicial District.

Sincerely,

Trenton Harbaugh

Sheriff Trenton Harbaugh

Fallon County Sheriff's Office

10 W. Fallon Ave. / PO Box 899

Baker, MT 59313

December 19th, 2024

Adam Forslund
PO Box 281
Miles City, MT 59301

December 20, 2024

Governor's Office
Attn: Hannah Slusser
PO Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Ms. Slusser

I am an attorney practicing in eastern Montana since October 2018. During my time in practice, I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. John T. Hrubes.

Mr. Hrubes and I have worked on various issues, primarily family law. Mr. Hrubes is fair, reasonable, and friendly. He firmly advocates for his clients while always being congenial and professional. Mr. Hrubes has also been a great sounding board and experienced resource in county attorney matters.

Mr. Hrubes' evenhandedness would be an asset to the people of Montana. I firmly believe that he would carry his equitable mindset to the bench. For these reasons, I support Mr. Hrubes for the Seventh Judicial District Judge.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AF', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Adam Forslund

December 18, 2024

Hannah Slusser
Governor's Office
PO Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Judicial Vacancy in Seventh Judicial District

Ms. Slusser, Governor Gianforte, and Lt. Governor Juras,

Please find this letter of support for John Hrubes in his application for the vacant judge position in the Seventh Judicial District. I had the pleasure of working with John while I was a member of the Glendive City Council and he been hired as the Glendive City Attorney. I found John to be professional, approachable, and knowledgeable as the Glendive City Attorney, and I feel these same qualities are what would make him a terrific District Court Judge. John also made a point of personally making as many Council meetings as he could, which was quite a breath of fresh air compared to our previous City Attorney, who I understand is also applying for the judge position.

I have also interacted with John outside of his professional capacity over the past few years, and can attest to his high quality of character. The Seventh Judicial District would benefit greatly by having John Hrubes as judge. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions. Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leon Baker".

Leon Baker
(406) 939-2707
lbaker@midrivers.com

To: Governor Greg Gianforte, Governor of Montana

From: Rev. Guy Pontoriero, M.Div, Pastor, since 1999, for
First Congregational Church, 120 W. Power St., Glendive, MT 59330

Charlene Pontoriero, CFNP, BA, BSN, MSN
Family Nurse Practitioner

12/28/24

Dear Sir,

We are contacting you regarding John T. Hrubes, who is being considered for an appointment as Judge in Dawson County, MT. We first met Mr. Hrubes when he was about 13 years old. We were impressed by what a mannerly and intelligent young man he was at that time.

We lost track of him during his high school and college years. However, about 15 years ago, he and his wife started attending First Congregational Church, and have continued to do into the present time.

We have at times consulted him for legal advice, and in doing so, we have found him to be moral, honest, intelligent, knowledgeable about the law, reasonable, and able to communicate concepts well. In our opinion he is highly qualified and experienced. Anyone who might appear before him could expect fair treatment.

We would also add he is a good father and husband. Therefore, we can, with the highest regard, recommend John T. Hrubes to you for an appointment to the position of Judge. We thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Rev. Guy Pontoriero, & Charlene Pontoriero

Governor Gianforte and Lt. Governor Juras

ATTN: Judicial Nominations Committee

C/O Hannah Slusser

PO Box 200801

Helena, Montana 59620

Dear Governor Gianforte and Lt. Governor Juras,

I am sending this to you as my official nomination for John Tyson Hrubes to fill the recently vacated seat for the Seventh Judicial District. I have watched Mr. Hrubes' career from the time he attended the University of Montana Law School. Mr. Hrubes has served Eastern Montana addressing Family Law since he started his practice. More importantly, I have watched his service as the County Attorney for McCone County and as he has assisted in Richland County, Wibaux County, Dawson County and Prairie County. He has selflessly assisted with case overload for the last eight to ten years, while maintaining his own case load in McCone County.

There is a serious shortage of quality attorneys and judges in Eastern Montana and I am very impressed with his willingness to step forward and fill this significant gap in the judiciary as one of the best. Mr. Hrubes has served with integrity in a nonpartisan interpretation of the law. I am confident that Mr. Hrubes will oversee his court duties using the Constitution without regard to political agendas.

This is a man who will work hard and utilize his considerable talent as an attorney for the benefit of Eastern Montanans and Montanans in general. I believe Mr. Hrubes is the single most qualified applicant for this position.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Parry

House District 35

HOPE COUNSELING AND CONSULTING SERVICES

Share Your Journey

Hope Counseling and Consulting Services

204 N. Kendrick., Suite 201

P.O. Box 276

Glendive, MT 59330

December 22, 2024

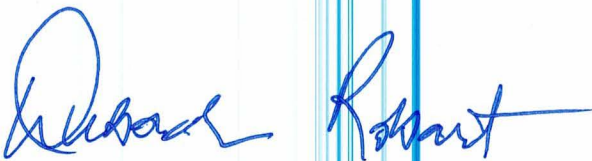
Hello,

This letter is intended to provide support for the nomination of John Hrubes for judge. John and I served on the 7th District Treatment Court together for several years. I have worked with John professionally in the community while he has been in his position as a prosecutor and in private practice as an attorney. I am also familiar with John and his family as we attend the same church, and I teach his children at Sunday school.

John has played an active and respected role in the professional role of attorney and prosecutor. I have found John to be straight forward and considerate of the people he has been working with. He has been able to examine the facts and his actions I have witnessed have been ethical, thoughtful, and professional. I believe his wisdom, experience and calm demeanor will enhance his ability as a judge to make the hard decisions, as well ethical and thoughtful decisions.

I highly recommend John Hrubes' nomination, and I am happy he would like to serve as judge.

Respectfully Submitted,



Deborah Robart, MA, LCPC #22305
Hope Counseling and Consulting

406.377.3370

Fax: 406.377.3333

www.hopecounselingconsulting.com

204 N. Kendrick, Suite 201

P.O. Box 276

Glendive, MT 59330



McCone County

Circle, Montana 59215



Dear Governor Gianforte

December 23, 2024

COMMISSIONERS
Box 199
485-3500
485-2689 (Fax)

We would like to recommend John Hrubes, Attorney, for selection as the new District Court Judge. He is a smart, hardworking, and dedicated County Attorney that will excel as a Judge.

CLERK & RECORDER
Box 199
485-3505
485-2689 (Fax)

John served as the McCone County Attorney since 2015 and has helped McCone County through some challenging times. He served our constituents, worked with Law Enforcement, and found time to help our Senior Citizens at our local Senior Center.

CLERK OF THE COURT
Box 199
485-3410
485-3436 (Fax)

One of John's best strengths is his skill as a mediator. He can work with people from all walks of life, over difficult issues, and help them reach consensus.

COUNTY ATTORNEY
Box 58
485-3530
485-2306 (Fax)

John displays a strong grasp of the law and is always well prepared for daily events and during court sessions. He worked with Judges and Justice's of the Peace so he knows what it would take to serve as a Judge.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Box 192
485-3548
485-2689 (Fax)

Part of our recommendation acknowledges the fact that when John has to run for the office he will be able to talk to people and gather people who will look forward to voting for him. He will be a strong candidate that can continue to serve this area.

SHERIFF
Box 201
485-3405
485-3464 (Fax)

John would be missed dearly by our county, but he can serve more people by serving as District Judge for this area.

**TREASURER/
SUP. OF SCHOOLS**
Box 180
485-3590
485-2689 (Fax)

We strongly recommend John Hrubes for District Judge. Please feel free to contact us at (406) 485 3500.

The McCone County Commissioners


Ty Taylor, Presiding Officer


Lonny Jensen


Alan Stempel

Tranquil Trails Legal, PLLC

Nathalia G. Collins, Esq.

Phone: (406) 200-8510

Email: NGC@TranquilTrailsLegal.com



**Tranquil
Trails
Legal,
PLLC**

"Breaking Up Shouldn't Break The Bank"

January 6, 2025

Greg Gianforte, Governor of Montana

PO Box 200801,

Helena, MT 59620-0801

Dear Governor Gianforte,

I am writing today to express my strong support for Mr. Brett Irigoin, Ms. Charity McLarty, and Mr. John Hrubes for the 7th Judicial District Judgeship. During my tenure as Law Clerk for Judge Simonton and Judge Rieger from 2016 to 2021 in Glendive, I had the distinct privilege of observing Mr. Irigoin, Ms. McLarty, and Mr. Hrubes in court.

All three candidates consistently demonstrated exceptional qualities, including thorough preparation, humility, patience, kindness, ethical integrity, and a tireless work ethic. They possess the requisite experience, legal knowledge, intelligence, research skills, attention to detail, and judicial temperament necessary to excel in this important role. Additionally, their deep connection to the local community and its support underscores their ability to maintain the trust of the people they serve and to be re-elected in the future.

I am confident that any of these three individuals would understand the importance of managing an efficient docket and serving the people of the 7th Judicial District with distinction. I have no doubt that they would bring honor, dignity, and fairness to the bench, making a meaningful and positive impact on the judiciary.

In contrast, I am unable to provide a recommendation for Mr. Herring. During my eight years of service with the Judicial Branch, I have not met Mr. Herring or observed him in court. Additionally, the writing samples he submitted—dated 1994, 1995, and 2017—do not reflect recent or relevant engagement with District Court work. By comparison, Mr. Irigoin, Ms. McLarty, and Mr. Hrubes have demonstrated far more substantial and timely experience in this arena.

Thank you for considering my perspective as you make this important appointment. Should you require any additional information or insights, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Nathalia G. Collins, Esq.

From: [Cari Pisk](#)
To: [NominateJudges](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter of Nomination Support
Date: Friday, January 10, 2025 1:18:59 PM

To Hannah Slusser,

I am writing you this email to nominate John T. Hrubes to the position of District Court Judge for Richland and McCone Counties.

I have known John for over 20 years, and he is one of the most reliable, high-principled, and understanding people I have ever had the opportunity to meet.

His track records with the work he has done previously in Dawson and McCone Counties speak for themselves as it shows his great abilities of determination, knowledge, legal skill, dedication, and integrity. He is an impressive person which fits perfectly with his legal prowess; he would be a great asset to any jurisdiction he presides over.

Personally, I am born and raised in Dawson and Prairie Counties; I understand that the local area populations appreciate, accept, and understand the importance of having a local community/area/county representative that they feel is one of their own, which is exactly what this Richey, MT raised nominee is.

John T. Hrubes is a homerun for any county he works with. He will willingly and lawfully protect the community members of the counties he presides over.

Thank you for your time,



FABIAN PISK | Agent

301 N. 31st St Suite 220 | Billings, MT 59101

O: 406.601.1222 **C:** 406.749.4106 **F:** 866.556.2135

Letter of Recommendation

January 13, 2025

Tandi Kassner

McCone County Ag & 4-H Agent

Box 483, Circle MT, 59215

(406) 485-2605

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to enthusiastically recommend John T. Hrubes for consideration for a judgeship position. I have had the privilege of knowing John personally for over 20 years and have witnessed his professional growth and contributions as a County Attorney for the past decade.

John embodies the qualities essential for a judicial role: integrity, impartiality, deep legal knowledge, and a steadfast commitment to justice. Throughout his tenure as a County Attorney, he has consistently demonstrated sound judgment, legal expertise, and a dedication to serving the community. His ability to analyze complex cases, maintain fairness, and navigate the nuances of the law with precision has earned him the respect of colleagues, peers, and community members alike.

On a personal level, I can attest to John's exceptional character and strong moral compass. Over the years, I have seen his unwavering commitment to upholding ethical standards in both his personal and professional life. John approaches every situation with a calm demeanor, respect for others, and a focus on solutions that reflect fairness and compassion.

I am confident that John T. Hrubes will excel as a judge. His extensive experience as a County Attorney, combined with his personal integrity and professional acumen, makes him uniquely qualified to serve in this esteemed role. I wholeheartedly support his application and am certain that he will make meaningful contributions to the judiciary and the community it serves.

Should you require further information or wish to discuss John's qualifications in greater detail, please do not hesitate to contact me at 406-485-2605 or tandi.kassner@montana.edu.

Sincerely,

Tandi Kassner

Ross W. McLinden, Esq., CRCM
Billings, MT

January 13, 2024

Emailed: nominatejudges@mt.gov

Governor Gianforte
Montana Governor's Office
P.O. Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620

Re: 7th Judicial District Vacancy
Support for John Hrubes

Dear Governor Gianforte & Lt. Governor Juras:

Please accept this letter of support/recommendation regarding John Hrubes' application to fill the current judicial vacancy in the 7th Judicial District comprising Dawson, Richland, McCone, Wibaux, and Prairie Counties.

As a former State Bar Trustee, and someone I have known since he was five years old, I can think of no one better suited to serve the fine people of Eastern Montana as a Judge. John has deep roots in Eastern Montana and has demonstrated his commitment to serving rural Montana by returning home and practicing law since graduating from Blewett School of Law.

John's dedication to public service in his present capacities as County Attorney for McCone County and City Attorney for Glendive, Montana has given him the unique perspective to understand the legal needs of the citizens he now seeks to serve as a judge.

It is a rare occasion to come across an attorney who has that magical blend of sharp wit, sense of humor, and compassion – John is one such attorney. It is even rarer still to find such an attorney who is servant of the people. I admire that John and his wife (who serves the people of eastern Montana as school teacher) have chosen to raise their three children in the same area that both he and I grew up. He has already set an example for all the kids in rural Montana that you can go off and chase your dreams and still come home.

Judicial appointments are one of the most important functions of the Governor's office. Their consequences will reverberate longer than most. I know you will give John just consideration. Thank you.

With Utmost Sincerity,

Ross W. McLinden



Prairie Hills Recovery Center

P. O. Box 626, 623 N. Central Ave, Sidney, MT 59270

Phone: (406) 488-3001

Fax: (406) 488-3003



January 6, 2025

Hannah Slusser
Montana Governor's Office
PO Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Judicial Vacancy in Seventh Judicial District

Ms. Slusser, Governor Gianforte, Lt. Governor Juras, and Nomination Committee:

It is with great honor that I write to you in support of Mr. John T. Hrubes for the District Judge position. I am a substance use disorder counselor in Eastern Montana. I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Hrubes for 10+ years in his role as an attorney.

My clients have had the chance to work with Mr. Hrubes who were seeking services through Domestic Violence when he was an attorney for them, when he was a prosecutor, and also with the 7th Judicial Adult Treatment Court, where we both served on the team. In all these instances Mr. Hrubes has been timely, fair, and considerate of others and their situations. He has taken the time to listen to the clients he works with to get the whole story. He has excellent knowledge of the law that has aided him in working with individuals who are involved with Department of Child & Family Services as well as Montana Probation & Parole.

Mr. Hrubes has been an irreplaceable asset on our Eastern side of the state. He is always up for a challenge, accessible, and reliable. I believe he would make a great judge. Mr. Hrubes would be an ethical and straight forward judge and that is what we need more of in Eastern Montana.

I have also known Mr. Hrubes and his wife personally since I was in college. They have strong family ties and morals. They believe in hard work and the betterment of our Montana communities.

I would highly recommend Mr. John Hrubes for the 7th Judicial District Judge.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kayla Anderson, LAC

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.
CITY OF GLENDIVE
300 S. MERRILL AVE
GLENDIVE, MT 59330**



**PHONE (406)-377-3318
FAX (406)-377-6873**

Frank Ceane
Public Works Director
City of Glendive
300 S. Merrill Ave.
Glendive, MT 59330

January 15th, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As the Public Works Director for the City of Glendive, I am writing to offer my strong endorsement of John Hrubes for the role of District Court Judge. My interactions with Mr. Hrubes, in his role as a legal advisor for municipal matters, have consistently highlighted his exemplary qualities and professional dedication.

John has displayed a profound understanding of legal intricacies combined with a practical approach to resolving complex issues that affect our local government operations. His ability to discern key legal principles and apply them effectively has facilitated significant improvements in our municipal management, ensuring compliance and enhancing our service delivery.

Mr. Hrubes's ability to communicate effectively with diverse groups and his commitment to fair legal practice make him an ideal candidate for the judiciary. His integrity, professionalism, and impartiality in handling legal matters have gained him immense respect among his peers and the community.

I am confident that John Hrubes's dedication to justice, combined with his sharp legal acumen and community-focused perspective, will greatly benefit our judicial system. He possesses the right qualities to uphold the law with fairness and a deep sense of responsibility.

Thank you for considering my endorsement of John Hrubes for District Court Judge, a recommendation I make with great respect for his abilities and his potential impact on our community.

Sincerely,

Frank Ceane
Public Works Director
City of Glendive

From: [Susan Edwards](#)
To: [NominateJudges](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] John Hrubes 7th Judicial District Judge Appointment
Date: Thursday, January 16, 2025 8:29:21 AM

Dear Governor Gianforte:

We would like to express our support for John Hrubes as 7th Judicial District Judge. We feel he is the best candidate to serve the people of Eastern Montana. Please consider appointing him to this important position.

Susan Edwards
Bill Edwards

STATE OF MONTANA

OLIVIA RIEGER
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Phone: (406) 377-2666 • Fax: (406) 377-7280
Olivia.Rieger@mt.gov



Dawson County Courthouse
207 W. Bell Street, PO Box 1249
Glendive, MT 59330

DISTRICT COURT SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

January 15, 2025

RE: Letter of Support, John Hrubes

Governor Gianforte:

I previously wrote a letter in support of Mr. Brett Irigoin. As the candidates are aware, I do support Mr. Irigoin to be appointed to the vacancy in Department 2 of the Montana Seventh Judicial District Court.

Alternatively, I want to offer support for Mr. Hrubes who I feel would be an excellent candidate for appointment to the vacancy on the bench. Mr. Hrubes has served as a Treatment Court prosecutor for several years and now has taken a role within our Steering Committee. Of great concern for me is the ability of the candidate appointed to assume the Treatment Court in Department 2. Whomever is appointed will essentially inherit the Treatment Court and a team of individuals who have dedicated time, resources and many efforts into rehabilitation of criminal defendants within our community. Mr. Hrubes has served this role and knows in detail the Treatment Court goals and mission.

Mr. Hrubes has handled many complex cases, served as the McCone County Attorney, the Glendive City Attorney and has previously represented victims and survivors of domestic abuse and sexual assault. John has exposure to various types of cases and also understands the demands of this work, knowing the sometimes-short deadlines to meet, dedication and work ethic necessary take to serve in the position. John has also demonstrated his ability to listen to various arguments, has navigated several strong personalities and was able to stay the course and maintain extreme professionalism.

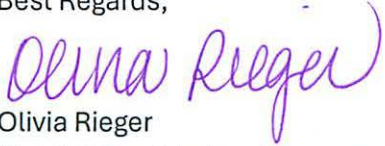
Mr. Hrubes has an excellent temperament, is patient and much like Mr. Irigoin, has an ability to protect an individual's rights despite his own role in the litigation. Mr. Hrubes has strong ties to the District as a whole, growing up in rural Dawson County and raising his family in this community. Mr. Hrubes steps in and assists various prosecutors when conflicts arise and does so without question.

I believe Mr. Hrubes to be an individual who would like to do his job to the best of his ability and work very, very hard. I have never had a reason to question John's integrity or truthfulness to the bench or as an attorney. I find John prepared when he appears in Court and always wanting to

follow the law as written. Should Mr. Irigoin not be chosen, I would strongly encourage appointment of Mr. Hrubes to fill the position.

I would also make time to discuss Mr. Hrubes and his application.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Olivia Rieger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "O" and a long, sweeping "R".

Olivia Rieger

District Court Judge, Department 1

Montana Seventh Judicial District Court

January 15, 2025

The Honorable Governor Greg Gianforte
Attn: Hanna Slusser
Montana Governor's Office
PO Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Letter of opposition for the appointment of Mr. John T. Hrubes for Seventh Judicial District Judge

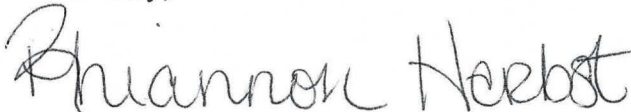
Dear Governor Gianforte,

I am writing to oppose the appointment of Mr. John Hrubes for the vacant position of Seventh Judicial District Judge. I had the opportunity to experience working with Mr. Hrubes while he was working with the Domestic Violence Coalition in Richland County, and I was seeking a divorce with their assistance. Mr. Hrubes was my attorney and to say it was a disaster would be a gross understatement! I found him hard to get in contact with and only met with him in person one time during this process. I had to settle on custody arrangements I was not comfortable with, my reasoning and concerns went on deaf ears. I was told "if we don't do it this way, you'll never get your divorce granted." I was awarded someone else's vehicle from another divorce he was working on at the time. When I pointed this out, I was told "Oh it's fine. We can fix it later." To the best of my knowledge, it still has not been corrected. I contacted Mr. Hrubes after my divorce was finalized to ask a few questions about some of the terms and conditions regarding medical bills and such for my children that he had included in the divorce and parenting plan. Mr. Hrubes made it very clear that he was not my attorney anymore and to seek council elsewhere. He could not care less that he wrote and submitted these papers on my behalf, it was clear that his job was done.

It is my opinion that Mr. Hrubes does just enough work to get by. I personally don't think someone who has this kind of work ethic would be a good fit for a position as important as District Court Judge.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rhianon Herbst". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rhianon" being more prominent than the last name "Herbst".

Rhianon Herbst
Lambert, Montana 59243
406-478-4463
Mrspeebs13@gmail.com