



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Stanley L. Garnett, District Attorney

March 27, 2014

Via Email and Regular U.S. Mail

Helen Stone, Chair
20th Judicial District Judicial Performance Commission
4710 Table Mesa Drive, Ste. B
Boulder, CO 80305

Re: Judicial Evaluation of Judge Ingrid Bakke

Dear Ms. Stone:

It is my pleasure to provide observations and comments to the Judicial Evaluation Commission as part of the evaluation process of Judges of the 20th Judicial District. As I have mentioned many times, Colorado has an excellent judiciary and the 20th Judicial District, in particular, has an excellent set of judges dispensing justice in both civil and criminal matters. The intent of my office in providing written comments about each judge is to make certain that the point of view of my deputies who appear in front of many of these judges several times a day is included in the evaluation process undertaken by your Committee. Also, I believe, as District Attorney, part of my job involves providing input to the public about our judges and passing along helpful suggestions to the bench. Although occasionally, every judge issues a legal ruling with which my staff does not agree, those are matters for the appellate courts, not for the Judicial Evaluations Committee.

This year, there are nine judges up for evaluation. We will provide separate, written comments on each one addressed to you, with copies to the reviewed Judge and to the Chief Judge.

Judge Ingrid Bakke was appointed to the bench in 2011. She has served in a civil docket and most recently in Juvenile Court including Juvenile ITC. Additionally, Judge Bakke has handled several criminal trials on an overflow basis and has handled them well. We have especially appreciated Judge Bakke's commitment to Juvenile Court where she has served with distinction.

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She has a judicial demeanor that is especially effective with juveniles: tough, but caring and she is obviously very committed professionally to juvenile jurisprudence which inspires everyone who appears in her court. She runs an efficient docket and makes prompt and reasonable decisions. She has also facilitated efforts to improve the juvenile system on issues such as shackling, student attendance and student achievement. Her leadership on these sorts of issues is invaluable.

It is a pleasure to have Judge Bakke on the bench and she should be retained.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stan Garnett', written over a horizontal line.

Stan Garnett

SLG/psm

cc: The Honorable Ingrid Bakke
The Honorable Maria Berkenkotter