OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Stanley L. Garnett, District Attorney

April 21, 2016

Graham Billingsley, Esq.
Chair, 20th Judicial District
Office of Judicial Performance Evaluation
Ralph L. Carr Judicial Center
1300 Broadway, Suite 220
Denver, Colorado 80203

Re: Periodic Evaluation of 20th Judicial District Judge Andrew Hartman

Dear Mr. Billingsley,

In the 20th Judicial District, we are fortunate to have an excellent bench. Due to the experience that my 30 deputies have in front of the three judge up for retention this year, day in and day out, I've decided to communicate directly with the Judicial Performance Commission both orally at a public hearing and in writing. The District Attorney develops a unique understanding of each judge's skill level and docket management expertise. Virtually every significant event in court is reported to me or my senior staff, often within moments, giving us a unique perspective on the strength and weaknesses of each judicial officer.

Every judge will occasionally issue rulings that my office believes are legally incorrect. Where it is in the interest of the People we will challenge those legal issues on appeal. However, the focus of this evaluation is not on legal issues but on day to day performance and management of the courtroom. I have solicited opinions from all of the Deputy DA's who have appeared in front of Judge Hartman, which is most of them.

Judge Andrew Hartman was appointed to the Bench in August of 2013. Judge Hartman took the Bench after an impressive career in private practice and as a professor at the University of Colorado School of Law. As expected, Judge Hartman is a very intelligent, capable man and we are fortunate to have him as a District Court Judge. I have personally tried a long felony trial in front of Judge Hartman so I have significant experience with him, as do many of office deputies. However, Judge Hartman has yet to serve a full criminal rotation in

BOULDER OFFICE: JUSTICE CENTER, 1777 6TH ST., BOULDER, COLORADO 80302 303.441.3700 FAX: 303.441.4703
LONGMONT OFFICE: 1035 KIMBARK, LONGMONT, COLORADO 80501 303.441.3700 FAX: 303.682.6711
WWW.BOULDERCOUNTYDA.ORG EMAIL: BOULDER.DA@BOULDERCOUNTY.ORG TDD/V: 303.441.4774

District Court. Judge Hartman is an excellent judge with a friendly and appropriate demeanor. He occasionally, in the opinion of my staff, defers too much to the lawyers in front of him which can make proceedings lengthier than necessary and creates an atmosphere of slight uncertainty in the Courtroom. Though this appears to be because Judge Hartman wants to be respectful of the points of view of those appearing in front of him, he should not hesitate to exercise firm control of the courtroom. Judge Hartman is an excellent judge and should be retained.

Very truly yours,

Stan Garnett

SLG/psm

cc: Honorable Andrew Hartman
Honorable Maria Berkenkotter