

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 Bruce Langer

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 these judges day in and day out, I've decided to follow the example of other elected district attorneys and communicate directly with the Judicial Performance Commission both orally at the public hearing and in writing. The District Attorney develops a unique understanding of each judge's skill level and docket management expertise and it is in the public interest for me to take the time to lay out my office's observations to the Performance Commission during the evaluation process. Virtually every significant event in court is reported to me and my senior staff, often within moments, giving us a unique perspective on the strength and weaknesses of each judicial officer.

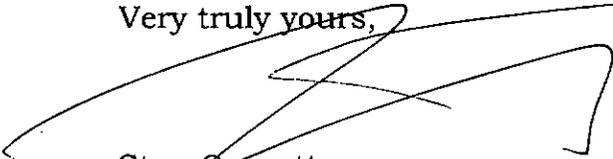
Every judge will occasionally issue rulings that my office believes are legally incorrect and when it is in the interest of the People, we raise legal issues on appeal. However, the focus of this evaluation is not on legal issues but on day to day performance and management of the courtroom. I have solicited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

Bruce Langer was appointed to the Bench in 2013 after he had worked for many years in this office as both a deputy and chief deputy district attorney. Judge Langer has yet to serve a full rotation with a criminal docket, so my office's experience with him on the bench has been limited. However, he has handled several overflow criminal trials for deputies from my office and he has

Graham Billingsley, Esq.
Chair, 20th Judicial District
Judicial Performance Commission
April 21, 2016
Page 2

handled them professionally and well. Judge Langer has a calm, neutral demeanor as a judge, knows the rules of evidence and procedure and applies them fairly to the litigants appearing in front of him. His pleasant and thoughtful style brings dignity to the Courtroom. Additionally, he is appropriately decisive and keeps his courtroom under control. Judge Langer has performed admirably as a trial judge and he should be retained.

Very truly yours,



Stan Garnett

SLG/psm

cc: Honorable Bruce Langer
Honorable Maria Berkenkotter