

Dan Vierthaler

1904 Wentworth Drive
Billings, Montana 59105
(406) 698-1787
vier@bresnan.net

March 30, 2017

Senator Steve Daines
United States Senate
30 West 14th Street, Ste. 206
Helena, Montana. 59601

Senator Daines,

This letter is written in support of Kurt Alme's nomination for U. S. Attorney for the District of Montana. By way of introduction, I am a 26 year veteran of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) who spent my entire career in Montana. I recently retired to start a second career as the District Supervisor of court security for all federal courthouses in Montana.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Kurt for the past 14 years. In addition to our professional relationship, we served together as members of community service organizations. Without question, Kurt is one of the most impressive individuals I have had the opportunity to work with during my professional career. He is an extremely intelligent individual with a fierce work ethic, yet he also understands the importance and value of strong interpersonal relationships.

During my tenure in the FBI, I worked with Kurt as both a Special Agent and as the Senior Supervisory Resident Agent (SSRA) of Eastern Montana. At the time, Kurt was an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) and the First Assistant for the U.S. Attorney's Office in Montana. During that time our respective offices enjoyed a very strong work relationship that was built on mutual respect and trust. The end result of that relationship was a very productive and efficient work environment that well served the citizens of Montana.

As an AUSA, Kurt was extremely thorough and attentive to detail. Nothing was ever left to chance, and he thoroughly understood the nuances of each case. Conversely, Kurt made a deliberate effort to forge productive and healthy relationships with the investigators of the cases he prosecuted. Due to his effort and ability in that regard, success was achieved within and outside the courtroom.

As the First Assistant of the U. S. Attorney's Office Kurt brought much needed structure and organization to an office that had previously struggled in that regard. More

importantly, the leadership team assembled by Kurt and then U. S. Attorney Bill Mercer brought a level of accountability to the U. S. Attorney's Office that I had not previously experienced or have seen since. In my view, it was an era during which the U. S. Attorney's Office and federal law enforcement in Montana were at peak performance. In part, this unprecedented success could be attributed to Kurt's integrity, work ethic and leadership by example. But equally important in that equation was Kurt's ability to forge long-term relationships built on trust.

Although Kurt separated from federal service in late 2010, he is still well known, admired and respected throughout the law enforcement community in Montana. And because of those ongoing relationships and his strong intellect, Kurt remains keenly aware of the challenges facing law enforcement and the citizenry of Montana. These qualities, combined with his positions of leadership, vast work experience and love for the state of Montana make Kurt uniquely qualified for the position of U. S. Attorney for the District of Montana.

Kurt's nomination is truly an opportunity for Montana. As a working professional, and as a peer, I have deep respect and admiration for Kurt and the values that he represents. Knowing that an individual of his Kurt's caliber is under consideration for such an important position bodes well for the leadership of Montana. I extend my complete support for Kurt's nomination as U. S. Attorney for the District of Montana.

If I can offer any additional assistance please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Vierthaler", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dan Vierthaler