

# Helland Law Firm, pllc

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Jason Thielman  
Chief of Staff  
Office of U.S. Senator Steve Daines  
30 West 14<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 206  
Helena, MT 59601

Via e-mail: Jason\_Thielman@daines.senate.gov

Re: *Kurt Alme*

Dear Jason:

Kurt Alme would be a terrific choice for nomination as Montana's U.S. Attorney. Kurt and I first met in the early-1990's while he was a law clerk for U.S. District Court Judge Charles Lovell in Helena and I was the law clerk for U.S. District Court Judge Jack Shanstrom in Billings. After finishing his clerkship, Kurt moved to Billings to work at the Crowley law firm, a well-known and respected regional law firm.

Once Kurt came to Billings, he and I became good friends personally as well as well-acquainted colleagues professionally. Having known Kurt Alme personally and professionally since the beginning of his legal career, I can confidently state he has both the professional and personal qualifications to be Montana's next U.S. Attorney.

Also, while getting to know each other, Kurt and I shared a keen interest in politics, especially what I refer to as "judicial politics," by which I mean the politics of appointing people to positions in the federal legal system, especially judges and the U.S. Attorney. Based on my experience in knowing Kurt and closely following the federal legal system for the last 20+ years, Kurt Alme is the most qualified applicant to be considered for Montana's U.S. Attorney position I have seen. I highly recommend Kurt for nomination and have great confidence in Senator Daines' ability to make the best choice.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss Kurt's application further, please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,

  
Peter L. Helland

Helland Law Firm, pllc

PLH/hdm