

April 7, 2017

U.S. Senator Steve Daines
320 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Daines:

I am most honored to be able to write this letter of recommendation in support of Kurt Alme for the position of U.S. Attorney for the District of Montana. I have known Kurt for over two decades, and have worked with him in several different capacities.

I first met Kurt when he was an attorney at the Crowley firm in Billings in the mid-1990's, and I was a Deputy County Attorney at the Yellowstone County Attorney's Office. We worked together on several criminal matters, as his firm participated in a program to have their attorneys assist in criminal prosecutions to gain trial experience. We also served together on the Board of Directors of St. John's Lutheran Ministries in Billings for a number of years. But my longest and most rewarding relationship with Kurt was when we both worked together in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Montana. We were colleagues for over seven years there, where he first served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, then as the Co-Appellate Coordinator, and finally as the First Assistant before leaving for his current position as the President/General Counsel of the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation. Thus, I have worked with Kurt as a supervisor at the County Attorney's Office, as a working colleague, and then with him as my supervisor at the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Kurt is, above all else, truly one of the most honest, ethical, principled people that I have ever known. His integrity, work ethic and competency in all areas that he has handled is truly amazing. I have had the pleasure of watching him in multiple settings and with varied audiences, including in meetings with attorneys and other professional people, with law enforcement officers, with victims and with the community. I've seen him and been beside him in grand jury, in motions hearings and arguments in court, and in trials. His preparation for legal matters, and his organization of what needs to get done for a successful outcome is truly outstanding. I always aspired to be able to write appellate briefs as he did, and his editing of mine always made a huge difference. But it was also his skill at managing the difficulties of the U.S. Attorney's office as the First Assistant, especially in a time when our U.S. Attorney was in an acting capacity in another office in Washington, D.C., that was really the cornerstone of who Kurt is. He handled hugely long hours, personnel issues, difficult charging decisions, and many other tricky political issues with his usual calm, courteous and yet nurturing manner. Simply put, things got done, and got done well. Kurt has the respect of all those who worked with him and for him: attorneys, support staff, law enforcement and other related community groups. He has both the criminal and civil background on all the issues that a U.S. Attorney must have to

effectively run a District. Being born and raised in Montana, and having worked his entire legal career in his home state, Kurt “gets” Montana and what the unique and distinct needs are for a U.S. Attorney’s Office there. It is critically important that the new U.S. Attorney be well-versed in both criminal and civil matters, but also understand the system so that no time will be wasted in transition.

Senator Daines, you could not find a better person who is more well-suited to leading the U.S. Attorney’s Office in the District of Montana through this new administration. I am still employed by the Department of Justice, having transferred to the Office of Tribal Justice in Washington, D.C., and I understand very well the complexities of an administration change and the hard work that is ahead for the person selected to serve as U.S. Attorney. I encourage you strongly to consider Kurt Alme as the person who can lead that work. I guarantee you that you will not regret that decision.

If you have any questions, I would be delighted to speak to you or members of your staff about Kurt’s qualifications or my recommendation. I look forward to hearing from you.

Marcia Good

Marcia Good

Senior Counsel to the Director

Office of Tribal Justice

U.S. Department of Justice

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