

**STATE JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION
AND OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JOINT JUDICIAL APPLICATION**

Please complete this application by placing your responses in normal type, immediately beneath each request for information. Requested documents should be attached at the end of the application or in separate PDF files, clearly identifying the numbered request to which each document is responsive. Completed applications are public records. If you cannot fully respond to a question without disclosing information that is confidential under state or federal law, please submit that portion of your answer separately, along with your legal basis for considering the information confidential. Do not submit opinions or other writing samples containing confidential information unless you are able to appropriately redact the document to avoid disclosing the identity of the parties or other confidential information.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. State your full name.

Gretchen Elizabeth Witte Kraemer

2. State your current occupation or title. (Lawyers: identify name of firm, organization, or government agency; judicial officers: identify title and judicial election district.)

Attorney Supervisor, Iowa Attorney General's Office, DHS Division

3. State your date of birth (to determine statutory eligibility).

September 29, 1971

4. State your current city and county of residence.

Johnston, Polk County

PROFESSIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

5. List in reverse chronological order each college and law school you attended including the dates of attendance, the degree awarded, and your reason for leaving each school if no degree from that institution was awarded.

Villanova University School of Law and MCP Hahnemann University joint degree program in Law and Psychology.

Villanova School of Law – 8/94-5/99, JD awarded 5/99.

MCP-Hahnemann – 8/94-8/2000, Masters in clinical psychology awarded 5/97, Ph.D. in clinical psychology awarded 8/2000.

University of Richmond, Virginia. 8/89-5/93. Bachelors of Arts in Psychology

- 6. Describe in reverse chronological order all of your work experience since graduating from college, including:**
- a. Your position, dates (beginning and end) of your employment, addresses of law firms or offices, companies, or governmental agencies with which you have been connected, and the name of your supervisor or a knowledgeable colleague if possible.**
 - b. Your periods of military service, if any, including active duty, reserves or other status. Give the date, branch of service, your rank or rating, and present status or discharge status.** I have not served in the military.

Iowa Attorney General's Office, DHS Division. 1305 E. Walnut, Des Moines, Iowa.
1/2007-8/2016 Assistant Attorney General. Supervisor Diane Stahle.
8/2016-present Attorney Supervisor. Supervisor Eric Tabor.

Whitfield & Eddy, P.L.C. 699 Walnut Street, Suite 2000, Des Moines, Iowa.
1/2003-1/2007. Associate Attorney. Knowledgeable partners John Fatino and Jaki Samuelson.

Drake University, Department of Psychology. Olin Hall, Des Moines, Iowa 50311
9/2002-12/2012 Adjunct professor, 1 course per year Forensic Psychology,
Abnormal Psychology. Supervisor Dr. Maria Clapham.

Orchard Place, Child Guidance Center, 808 5th Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa. 2004-2007
(very part time) Psychologist. Supervisor Dr. Keri Kinnaird.

Hon. George G. Fagg, Judge, Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. 5/2001-12/2002. Law
Clerk. Supervisor Hon. George G. Fagg (deceased). Colleague Tami Logsdon.

Fourth Circuit Office of Staff Counsel, Richmond, Virginia. 8/2000-5/2001. Staff
attorney. Supervisor Robert W. Jaspén.

University of Richmond, Richmond Virginia. Spring 2001. Adjunct Faculty for
Research Methods. Supervisor Dr. Craig Kinsley (deceased).

Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas. Predoctoral intern in general clinical
psychology. 8/1999-8/2000. Supervisor Dr. Lois Friedman.

Federal Bureau of Investigation, Quantico, Virginia, August 1998-September 2000.¹
Visiting Scientist. Summer 1996, Honors Intern. Supervisor Dr. Wayne Lord.

¹ For the purposes of any required background investigation, I had top secret security clearance.

Villanova School of Law, Villanova, PA. Legal Writing Research Assistant. August 1998-May 1999 (part-time). Supervisor Sheilah Vance-Lewis.

Holcomb Associates. West Chester, Pennsylvania. Life skills trainer/counselor. December 1994-June 1996, June 1997-November 1998. (part-time) Supervisor Chris Filippone.

City of Philadelphia Law Department, Department of Health and Human Services. Philadelphia, PA. Legal Intern. May 1998-August 1998. Supervisor Vernetta Dow.

Center for Children's Support, 42 E Laurel Road, Stratford, NJ. Psychology Practicum Student. September 1997-August 1998. (part-time) Supervisor Dr. Julie Lippmann.

Defenders Association of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA. Legal Intern, May 1997-May 1998. (summer and part-time) Supervisor Ned Levine.

Sam Bookbinder's Grill, 140 Moorehead, Conshohocken, PA. Hostess. August 1994-February 1995. (part-time). Supervisor Mary Jo Graham.

Kirkland Institute for Child and Family Study, Burns, Oregon. June 1993-August 1994, Summer 1995. Supervisor Dr. Donna Smith.

7. List the dates you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses or terminations of membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse or termination of membership.

Maryland, 12/1999. Currently inactive. I have no need of an active Maryland license. Iowa, 5/2001. Active

8. Describe the general character of your legal experience, dividing it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years, including:

- a. A description of your typical clients and the areas of the law in which you have focused, including the approximate percentage of time spent in each area of practice.**
- b. The approximate percentage of your practice that has been in areas other than appearance before courts or other tribunals and a description of the nature of that practice.**
- c. The approximate percentage of your practice that involved litigation in court or other tribunals.**
- d. The approximate percentage of your litigation that was: Administrative, Civil, and Criminal.**
- e. The approximate number of cases or contested matters you tried (rather than settled) in the last 10 years, indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel, and whether the matter was tried to a jury or directly to the court or other tribunal. If desired, you may also provide separate data for experience beyond the last 10 years.**

- f. **The approximate number of appeals in which you participated within the last 10 years, indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel. If desired, you may also provide separate data for experience beyond the last 10 years.**

Current practice – Iowa Attorney General’s Office 2007-present

- a. I represent the Department Human Services in civil matters and have done so for the past twelve years. My work includes defending matters in federal court, primarily constitutional torts raised under 42 U.S.C. 1983, preparing appeals for involuntary hospitalizations, preparing termination of parental rights responses on appeal, representing the Department on petitions for restoration of firearms rights, guardianship actions, revocations of conditional release (release with supervision and transitional release) for patients committed to the Civil Commitment Unit for Sexual Offenders, and representing the Department on administrative law matters including child abuse registry appeals, appeals of DIA findings, mental health billing disputes, and judicial reviews. My current position also involves supervisory responsibilities for the DHS Division of the Attorney General’s Office. The DHS Division includes 50 attorneys and several support staff.
- b. c. d. My practice is litigation before civil and administrative tribunals. Although the exact mix varies over time, the majority of the practice is in state and federal court, with approximately 20 percent in administrative tribunals.
- e.

Type of trial	Total # of trials	# as sole counsel	# as chief counsel	# as associate counsel
Tried before a jury	1	1		
Full trials Tried before a judge	3	2	1	
Smaller matters tried before a judge	70 (gun rights, revocations)	70		
Administrative hearings	47	47		
Column Total	121	120	1	

Because of the availability of qualified immunity in constitutional torts, of my 50 cases in federal court, most were resolved on motion or appeal.

f.

Appellate court	Total # of appeals :	# as sole counsel	# as chief counsel	# as associate counsel	# in which you presented oral argument
Iowa Supreme Court	6	5	1		4
Iowa Court of Appeals	136*	136			4
Federal Circuit Court(s)	14	14			4
Total	156	155	1		13

**Based on reported opinions in Westlaw. There are additional cases pending and cases dismissed on motion.*

Associate at Whitfield & Eddy, P.L.C. 2002-2006

- a. The practice was general litigation, primarily for the defense. I handled a few Plaintiffs matters. The types of law included insurance defense, products liability, employment, with lesser experience in family law, criminal law, and other matters.
- b. c. d. The practice was litigation oriented. Most of the litigation was civil. I handled several criminal matters.

e. Two jury trials as associate counsel.

f.

Appellate court	Total # of appeals :	# as sole counsel	# as chief counsel	# as associate counsel	# in which you presented oral argument
Iowa Supreme Court	1			1	1
Iowa Court of Appeals	3			3	
U.S. Supreme Court	1			1	
Total	5			5	1

Law Clerk to Hon. George G. Fagg and Staff Attorney to Fourth Circuit 2000-2002

Both positions were federal appellate positions involving support to the court. A majority of the practice was criminal on direct and collateral review with the remainder comprised of civil matters.

9. Describe your pro bono work over at least the past 10 years, including:

- a. Approximate number of pro bono cases you've handled.**
- b. Average number of hours of pro bono service per year.**
- c. Types of pro bono cases.**

I completed limited pro bono work while at Whitfield & Eddy, but that was more than 10 years ago.

10. If you have ever held judicial office or served in a quasi-judicial position:

- a. Describe the details, including the title of the position, the courts or other tribunals involved, the method of selection, the periods of service, and a description of the jurisdiction of each court or tribunal.**

I have not served as a judge or in a quasi-judicial position.

- b. List any cases in which your decision was reversed by a court or other reviewing entity. For each case, include a citation for your reversed opinion and the reviewing entity's or court's opinion and attach a copy of each opinion.**

Not applicable.

- c. List any case in which you wrote a significant opinion on federal or state constitutional issues. For each case, include a citation for your opinion and any reviewing entity's or court's opinion and attach a copy of each opinion.**

Not applicable.

11. If you have been subject to the reporting requirements of Court Rule 22.10:

- a. State the number of times you have failed to file timely rule 22.10 reports.**

Not applicable.

- b. State the number of matters, along with an explanation of the delay, that you have taken under advisement for longer than: Not applicable.**

12. Describe at least three of the most significant legal matters in which you have participated as an attorney or presided over as a judge or other impartial decision maker. If they were litigated matters, give the citation if available. For each matter please state the following:

- a. Title of the case and venue,**
- b. A brief summary of the substance of each matter,**
- c. A succinct statement of what you believe to be the significance of it,**

- d. **The name of the party you represented, if applicable,**
- e. **The nature of your participation in the case,**
- f. **Dates of your involvement,**
- g. **The outcome of the case,**
- h. **Name(s) and address(es) [city, state] of co-counsel (if any),**
- i. **Name(s) of counsel for opposing parties in the case, and**
- j. **Name of the judge before whom you tried the case, if applicable.**

Significant legal matter #1:

- a. In re the Detention of Matlock, 860 N.W.2d 889 (Iowa 2015); Iowa Supreme Court, Iowa District Court for Dubuque County.
- b. Mr. Matlock was committed to the Civil Commitment Unit for Sexual Offenders and released on release with supervision, a form of conditional release.
- c. A case of first impression, this case affirmed the constitutionality of release with supervision. Gradual release, such as the CCUSO Release with Supervision program, is empirically supported to reduce risk and planfully reintegrate persons into the community. Retaining this program is important for community safety reasons. This was also a case of first impression nationally.
- d-e. I represented DHS in the preparation and defense of the Release with Supervision Plan and in the challenge on appeal.
- f. October, 2013-2015.
- g. The constitutionality of the statute was affirmed, and the case was remanded in part for the preparation of a revised plan.
- h. John McCormally of Des Moines, IA represented the State of Iowa on the question of commitment. He tendered representation to me once release with supervision was ordered.
- i. Steve Addington and Jill Eimermann for the State Public Defenders Office, Des Moines, Iowa, were opposing counsel.
- j. The matter was tried before Judge Michael J. Shubatt. The Supreme Court opinion was authored by Justice Wiggins.

Significant legal matter #2:

- a. *Scott v. Benson*, 742 F.3d 335 (8th Cir. 2014); *Scott v. Benson*, No. 11—4055, 2016 WL 1048050 (N.D. Iowa Mar. 11, 2016); *Scott v. Benson*, No. 16-1910 (8th Cir. Jan. 10, 2017)
- b. In this constitutional tort, CCUSO patient Mr. Scott claimed he received constitutionally deficient medical care, resulting in development of gangrene and amputation of his leg. Mr. Scott also raised numerous emergency claims for injunctive relief during the pendency of this matter.
- c. This case confirmed deliberate indifference as the standard for reviewing medical claims for CCUSO patients under the 14th Amendment and 42 U.S.C. § 1983. There was a prior Eighth Circuit case applying the deliberate indifference standard by agreement. The district court applied the professional judgment standard. This case furthered the development of the law by clarifying the standard for analysis of deliberate indifference claims for patients in the 8th Circuit. Additionally, I am proud of this case because of the compliments Judge Bennett

included in the final decision on the ability of opposing counsel Mr. Parry and I to work together professionally, minimizing the acrimony between our clients, and focusing on the disputed elements of the claims. *Scott v. Benson*, No. 11—4055, 2016 WL 1048050 (N.D. Iowa Mar. 11, 2016). The collegiality and professionalism of Iowa lawyers are a highlight in the practice of law.

d. I represented CCUSO Defendant ARNP Mary Benson throughout the case.

e. As sole legal counsel, I prepared motions and briefs, conducted depositions of the Plaintiff and of treating experts, argued the interlocutory appeal, tried the matter, and briefed the second appeal. I also handled many emergency hearings for injunctive relief.

f. The case began in 2012 and ended in 2017.

g. The standard of review was clarified and reversed on interlocutory appeal. A defense verdict at trial was affirmed by per curium opinion on appeal.

h. No co counsel.

i. Pat Parry of Sioux City, Iowa was opposing counsel.

j. The matter was tried to Judge Donald E. O'Brien initially, then to Judge Mark. W. Bennett in the Northern District of Iowa on remand. The trial resulted in a defense verdict which was later affirmed on appeal. The panel on interlocutory appeal included Judge Raymond Gruender, Judge James Loken, and Judge Beth Phillips, sitting by designation, with an opinion by J. Gruender. The panel on appeal affirming the judgment of the district court per curium included Judge Shepherd, Judge Arnold, and Judge Kelly.

Significant legal matter #3:

a. *Fisher v. Foxhoven*, No. 17-cv-0208, Southern District of Iowa.

b. This putative class action claimed the Medicaid program under managed care was reducing or denying services in violation of the Constitution, the Medicaid Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Rehabilitation Act. The lawsuit filed the Complaint and motion for class certification simultaneously. A motion for injunctive relief was filed shortly thereafter, significantly front-loading the case.

c. This case was significant in its success at retaining the discretion of the Department to continue to serve the more than 600,000 persons who receive Medicaid benefits without the complicating constraints of litigation.

d. I represented Governor Reynolds and Director Foxhoven.

e. I drafted the motions presented to the court. Co-counsel and I divided presentation of evidence and oral argument on the motions.

f. June 2017-February, 2018.

g. The defense was successful at defeating class certification, defeating the claim for injunctive relief, and moving to dismiss.

h. Co-counsel included Anagha Dixit and Matthew Gillespie also of the Attorney General's Office in Des Moines.

i. Opposing counsel included Roxanne Conlin of Des Moines, Jane Hudson and Cindy Miller of DRiowa, Des Moines, Elizabeth Edwards and Abigail Coursolle of National Health Law Program in Carrboro, North Carolina.

j. The matter was tried to Judge Rebecca Goodgame Ebinger in the Southern District of Iowa.

13. Describe how your non-litigation legal experience, if any, would enhance your ability to serve as a judge.

Throughout my career, I have had the good fortune to blend my professional interests in psychology and law. The additional domain of expertise allows me to understand legal issues involving mental health and psychology in a fulsome and nuanced way. Because many issues in the justice system involve mental health from criminal matters to child welfare to child custody, this additional expertise would assist me to reach just results.

14. If you have ever held public office or have you ever been a candidate for public office, describe the public office held or sought, the location of the public office, and the dates of service.

I have neither held nor been a candidate for public office.

15. If you are currently an officer, director, partner, sole proprietor, or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise or nonprofit organization other than a law practice, provide the following information about your position(s) and title(s):

- a. **Name of business / organization.**
- b. **Your title.**
- c. **Your duties.**
- d. **Dates of involvement.**

I am not an officer, director, partner, sole proprietor or otherwise engaged in the management of any business or entity.

16. List all bar associations and legal- or judicial-related committees or groups of which you are or have been a member and give the titles and dates of any offices that you held in those groups.

National Association of State Public Mental Health Directors, Attorney Division.

Executive Committee 2011- present.

Iowa Board for the Treatment of Sexual Abusers, 2016-present.

Temporary Bar Examiner, intermittently since 2011.

Iowa State Bar Association.

American Psychology-Law Society, Division 41 of the American Psychological Association. 1994-present.

Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys. CLE Chair 2006.

Polk County Women Attorneys 2006-2008. Past CLE chair, publication chair, treasurer.

American Bar Association. 2002-2006.

Commitment Process Review Workgroup. Sept-Dec 2018.

Civil Commitment Task Force. 2011

Invited Attendee, FBI's serial Homicide Symposium. August 2005.

Invited Attendee, FBI's Child On-Line Victimization Symposium, June 2004.

- 17. List all other professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed above, to which you have participated, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation and indicate any office you held. "Participation" means consistent or repeated involvement in a given organization, membership, or regular attendance at events or meetings.**

American Psychological Association. 2017-present. Committee on Legal Issues Member 2018-12/2020 (appointed to a three year term).

Johnston Tree Board, 2013-2016.

St. Paul Presbyterian Church. Sunday School Teacher 2014-2016; Christian Education Elder 2015-16. Pastor Nominating Committee 2012-13.

Animal Rescue League volunteer 2002-2007.

Valley Synchronized Swim Club, Assistant Coach, Spring 2002.

Octopi Synchronized Swim Club, Assistant Coach 2002-01.

University of Richmond Alumni Recruitment Committee, 1995-2001; 2005-06.

- 18. If you have held judicial office, list at least three opinions that best reflect your approach to writing and deciding cases. For each case, include a brief explanation as to why you selected the opinion and a citation for your opinion and any reviewing entity's or court's opinion. If either opinion is not publicly available (i.e., available on Westlaw or a public website other than the court's electronic filing system), please attach a copy of the opinion.**

Not applicable.

- 19. If you have not held judicial office or served in a quasi-judicial position, provide at least three writing samples (brief, article, book, etc.) that reflect your work.**

Provided.

OTHER INFORMATION

- 20. If any member of the State Judicial Nominating Commission is your spouse, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister, state the Commissioner's name and his or her familial relationship with you.**

I have no relationships with any member of the State Judicial Nominating Commission.

- 21. If any member of the State Judicial Nominating Commission is a current law partner or business partner, state the Commissioner’s name and describe his or her professional relationship with you.**

I have no law practice or business relationships with any member of the State Judicial Nominating Commission.

- 22. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, blog posts, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited.**

Kraemer, G. (2006). Help or hindrance: Protecting Testing Data in Iowa. Defense Update: The Iowa Defense Counsel Association Newsletter, 15, 1-4.
Kraemer G., Lord, W.D., Heilbrun K.S. (2004) Comparing Single and Serial Homicide Offenses. Behavioral Sciences & the Law, 22, 1-19.
Fanter, R.L., Kraemer, G. (2004). Out of Time: Dispositive Motions based on Time in Products Liability Defense – A Refresher Course. Defense Update: The Iowa Defense Counsel Association Newsletter, 18(2), 1, 6-9).
Heilbrun, K.& Witte, G. (2000). Treating Expert v. Evaluating Expert in Family Law. The Family Advocate, 23.
Heilbrun, K., Brock, W., Waite, D., Lanier, A., Schmid, M., Witte, G., Keeney, M., Westendorf, M., Buinavert, L., & Shumate, M. (2000). Risk Factors for Juvenile Criminal Recidivism. Criminal Justice and Behavior, 27, 275-291.
Witte, G., (1999). Internet Indecency and Impressionable Minds. Villanova Law Review, 44, 745-780.
Heilbrun, K. & Witte G. (1999). The MacArthur Risk Assessment Study: Implications for Practice, Research, and Policy. Marquette Law Review, 82, 723-757.
Panzarella, C., Wasserman, A., Barnett, B. & Witte, G. (March 1999). Internet Adventures in Doctoral Education in Clinical Psychology. The Behavior Therapist.

- 23. List all speeches, talks, or other public presentations that you have delivered for at least the last ten years, including the title of the presentation or a brief summary of the subject matter of the presentation, the group to whom the presentation was delivered, and the date of the presentation.**

Title of Presentation	City, State	Event Sponsor	Month & Year
Vicarious Trauma and Attorney Self Care	Des Moines,	Iowa Attorney	November,

as an Ethical Issue (co presenter)	Iowa	General's Office Administrative Law Judges	2018 April, 2019
Panel Presentation on Serving Elderly Adults (panelist)	Des Moines, Iowa	Iowa State Association of Counties	August 2018
Involuntary Civil Commitments	Des Moines, Iowa	Mental Health Advocates	October, 2017
Involuntary Civil Commitments	Okoboji, Iowa	County Attorney's Association	June, 2017
Petitions for Relief of Disabilities	Des Moines, Iowa	Rep. Mary Wolf	February, 2017
Issues with Release with Supervision	Des Moines, Iowa	Community Based Corrections	Aug. 2015
Legal Issues for the EMS Provider	Johnston Bondurant	Johnston Fire Department, Bondurant Fire Department	Aug. 2015 Feb. 2015
Serial Killers: Fact and Fiction	Des Moines, Iowa	Iowa Association of County Medical Examiners	Nov. 2013
Balancing Confidentiality	Cherokee and Des Moines, Iowa	Cherokee MHI, Iowa Psychological Association	2013, 2009
HIPAA and Confidentiality	Des Moines, Iowa	Community Based Corrections	2007
Mental Disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act	Des Moines, Iowa	Whitfield & Eddy, P.L.C.	April, 2005
Appellate Case Law Update	Des Moines, Iowa	Iowa Defense Council Association	Sept 2004
Multiple and single homicide: A comparison	New Orleans, LA	American Psychology-Law Society	March 2000
Serial Homicide: Differential Offense Characteristics	Reno, Nevada	American Academy of Forensic Sciences	Feb. 2000
Epidemiological Perspective on Serial	Quantico, VA	National Center for	Dec. 1998

Homicide		the Analysis of Violent Crime	
Effects of Hindsight Bias on the Duty to Protect	Philadelphia, PA Redondo Beach, CA	Allegheny University Research & Scholarship Conference; American Psychology Law Society	March 1998
Risk Factors in Juvenile Criminal Recidivism	Various	Allegheny University Research & Scholarship Conference	Aug. 1997
Age and Personality Difference in Choice of Mnemonic Strategy	Richmond, VA	University of Richmond	April, 1993

- 24. List all the social media applications (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, LinkedIn) that you have used in the past five years and your account name or other identifying information (excluding passwords) for each account.**

Facebook – Gretchen Kraemer
 LinkedIn – Gretchen Kraemer
 Snapchat – Gretchen Kraemer
 Twitter – Gretchen Kraemer

- 25. List any honors, prizes, awards or other forms of recognition which you have received (including any indication of academic distinction in college or law school) other than those mentioned in answers to the foregoing questions.**

Outstanding Graduate in Clinical Psychology, May 2001.
 Order of the Coif, Villanova, May 1999
 Law Review

- 26. Provide the names and telephone numbers of at least five people who would be able to comment on your qualifications to serve in judicial office. Briefly state the nature of your relationship with each person.**

Name	Address	Telephone number
Attorney General Tom Miller Elected Official, supervisor	1305 E Walnut; Hoover Bldg, Second Floor Des Moines, Iowa 50319	281-5164

Hon. Mark W. Bennett Judge before whom I practiced	Director, Institute for Justice Reform and Innovation; Drake University School of Law 2507 University Ave Des Moines, Iowa	515 271-2908
Diane Stahle Former supervisor	3213 Southern Woods Drive Des Moines, Iowa 50321	287-3933
John Fatino Partner at W&E Kara Sinnard Colleague and friend	Whitfield & Eddy, P.L.C. 699 Walnut Street, Suite 2000 Des Moines, Iowa	288-6041
Jay Denne Opposing counsel	600 4 th Street, Suite 303 Sioux City, Iowa 51101	712 233 3635
Richard Shults Client	Mental Health and Disabilities Services Administrator 1305 E. Walnut, 5 th Floor Des Moines, Iowa 50319	515-281-8580
Jill Eimermann Opposing counsel	State Public Defender's Office 401 E. Court, Suite 150 Des Moines, Iowa	288-0578

27. Explain why you are seeking this judicial position.

The central role of the legal system is to help citizens resolve disputes they cannot resolve on their own – to be a problem solver. To be of service to others in this way is humbling and a true honor. It has been my privilege to serve Iowans as a member of the Attorney General's Office for the past 12 years. Although I have a great job, I am seeking this judgeship to further serve others and the rule of law. A well-crafted opinion from the court resolves the dispute at bar, gives broader understanding to the legal community, provides analytical tools for future dispute resolution, and makes the litigants feel heard. I am seeking this position because I am fair and committed to the rule of law, because I value the role our judicial system plays in the lives of Iowans, and because I would like to assist in resolving disputes in a different role – as that of a judge.

28. Explain how your appointment would enhance the court.

The Commission will undoubtedly have a number of highly qualified, excellent lawyers from whom to choose, and I would be honored to be included among them. I have enjoyed working on a variety of matters, from evidentiary hearings with pro se parties to defending several class actions and negotiating modification and closure of a consent decree. I practice regularly before federal district and appellate courts, district and

appellate state courts, and before the Department of Inspections and Appeals. Each experience brings with it its own challenges and unique rewards and contributes to the breadth of experience that would inform decision-making as a judge. Working for the State, I've had the opportunity to work on a number of questions of first impression. This variety of experience, and being dually trained as an attorney and psychologist, would bring an added perspective to the bench.

29. Provide any additional information that you believe the Commission or the Governor should know in considering your application.

Moving to Iowa as young professionals was one of the best decisions my husband and I have made. We have lived in Iowa for 18 years and are raising our two daughters. Reviewing the dates of various activities reported on this form, there is an ebb and flow that reflects our family activities as a whole. My husband has served as paid on call firefighter or fire investigator throughout our marriage in addition to his full-time work. As other families with on-call spouses know, this impacts the family as a whole. When I stopped teaching because our girls were starting activities, he started teaching paramedic students. The answer to many questions, why did you stop a particular activity, is because of family. As my children grow older, I look forward to their new activities, and options for new activities myself, meeting new people and solving new problems in whatever role I am in.