CROWLEY FLECK

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VIA E-MAIL ONLY

Jason_thielman@daines.senate.gov Senator Steve Daines 1 Russell Senate Courtyard Washington, DC 20510

Re: Kurt Alme

Dear Senator Daines:

It is my honor to write this letter in support of Kurt Alme for the position of United States Attorney for the District of Montana. Kurt has proven himself to be an intelligent, ethical, and humble leader throughout his professional life. Kurt will be an excellent United States Attorney and we are fortunate to have a person of Kurt's caliber and integrity seek this important job.

Kurt and I became acquainted in 1995, when we were young associate attorneys at Crowley, Haughey, Hanson, Toole & Dietrich, which is now known as Crowley Fleck PLLP. I have been a partner at Crowley Fleck PLLP since January, 2002. While in private practice at the Crowley firm, Kurt was an excellent, dedicated practitioner. However, Kurt's professional development was not limited to cultivating his private practice. Kurt is and has been a dedicated community leader, which is something he viewed as both a personal and professional obligation. In his first year of private practice, Kurt became a board member of the Friendship House of Christian Service, which was the first of many non-profit and charitable entities Kurt has served over the last 23 years. Professionally, Kurt provided pro bono guardianship services to indigent individuals and families in Yellowstone County. I've always admired the fact that Kurt was able to develop his practice as a young attorney while at the same time devoting significant energy to charitable causes.

Kurt's work history proves that he is qualified to serve as Montana's United States Attorney. He is familiar with the law enforcement community and the resources available to crime victims. Perhaps more importantly, Kurt has first-hand experience with different elements of our justice system. He has prosecuted cases as an Assistant United State Attorney. As an employee he of the Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation, he has directed programs

that serve kids, including programs that treat kids struggling with substance abuse. Thus, Kurt understands the balance between prosecuting violations of the law, protecting victim's rights, and seeking rehabilitation of criminal defendants before they re-enter society.

The United States attorney must exercise good judgment in a way that is thoughtful, fair, and ethical with respect to both the victim of the crime and the criminal defendant. Kurt's academic, professional, and personal life prove he will bring these characteristics to the job. Thank you for this opportunity to recommend Kurt Alme for the position of United States Attorney for the District of Montana.

Sincerely,

CROWLEY FLECK PLLP

David M. Wagnet

DMW/srk