

February 28, 2025

The Honorable Steve Daines
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tim Sheehy
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Montana U. S. Attorney - Letter of Support for Kurt Alme

Dear Senator Daines and Senator Sheehy:

During my tenure as both Montana Group Supervisor and Resident Agent in Charge with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), I had the pleasure of working closely with former U.S. Attorney and current candidate, Kurt Alme, during the years of 2017 and 2020. As a team, we were able to accomplish goals that had not been achieved since my arrival in Montana in 2014.

In 2017, Montana federal law enforcement and the U.S. Attorney's office developed a strong partnership. During this time frame, President Trump mandated the Department of Justice (DOJ) focus on Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), a nationwide initiative that brought together federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officials, prosecutors, community leaders, and other stakeholders to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in a community and developed comprehensive solutions to address them. Two Montana cities were identified as areas of high crime, Missoula and Billings. During this time frame, Mr. Alme championed law enforcement to work together, scheduled regular meetings, and held law enforcement accountable. Because of this effort, the teams were able to reverse the escalating crime trend in Missoula and stabilize Billings' crime.

Another priority of Mr. Alme's was to prioritize drug investigations. DEA Montana, under my leadership, started identifying high level drug traffickers to include those trafficking on the Indian Reservations and reducing opioid deaths. Mr. Alme was instrumental in developing the Healthcare Fraud Task Force in order to focus on pill diversion. Because of the positive relationship between the two offices, investigations were developed by DEA and successfully prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Enforcement was not the only area where Mr. Alme dedicated his time. He strived to make his community safer and teamed with different organizations such as the United Way and Rimrock Foundation to build The Yellowstone Substance Abuse Connect. Mr. Alme arranged partnerships between parties that worked in prevention, treatment, and enforcement in order to reduce substance abuse and substance abuse related crime. This group's goal was a multi-prong project developed to intertwine resources for the public. It mapped the flow of those with SUD and Mental Health Disorder thru all the many services in our community, identified gaps and overlapping services, and it prioritized improvements.

The above are just a few examples of Mr. Alme's outstanding work as the Montana U.S. Attorney and the timing is right for the return of Mr. Alme. Currently, Montana is inundated with rising crime, higher illegal drug use and in-fighting among law enforcement personnel. It is time again for a true leader to be chosen for the position of U.S. Attorney. The community deserves it, and Montana deserves it.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacy Zinn".

Stacy Zinn

Former Montana Resident Agent in Charge of DEA