

# State of Montana



First Judicial District Court

Lewis and Clark County

Hon. Jeffrey M. Sherlock

Hon. Dorothy McCarter

Hon. Kathy Seeley

January 2, 2009

Mr. Shahid Haque-Hausrath  
312 N Ewing St, 2nd Floor  
Helena, MT 59601

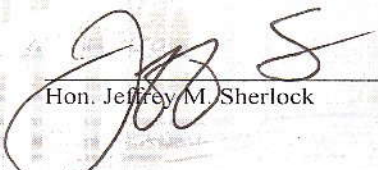
Dear Mr. Haque-Hausrath,

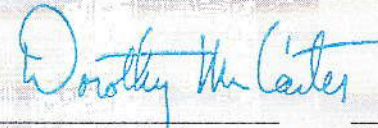
You are among the 61 attorneys or mediators in the First Judicial District who assisted a client on a pro bono basis during the last year through the official program of this district. We are writing to commend you for your exceptional service.

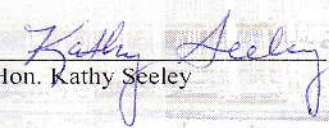
In our adversary system of justice, assistance by representation and mediation is so important. When a non-attorney tries to navigate the legal system on his or her own, it often leads to frustration and disappointing results. As you may know, a significant portion of the population of Lewis and Clark and Broadwater Counties has household incomes below 125% of the federal poverty level (which is \$26,500 for a family of 4). These families struggle to make ends meet, and cannot afford to hire an attorney or mediator for their legal needs. Your pro bono contribution has significantly enhanced access to justice for these families and individuals.

We greatly appreciate the dedication of your time and considerable talents to assist those who cannot afford to pay for such assistance. We hope that your pro bono experience has been rewarding, and that you will continue to contribute toward this effort in the future.

Best regards,

  
Hon. Jeffrey M. Sherlock

  
Hon. Dorothy McCarter

  
Hon. Kathy Seeley

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