



THE MINNESOTA COURT OF APPEALS
MINNESOTA JUDICIAL CENTER
25 REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD.
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155

CHAMBERS OF
HONORABLE MATTHEW E. JOHNSON
CHIEF JUDGE

(651) 297-1616

September 13, 2013

Honorable Mark B. Dayton
Office of the Governor
130 State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Governor Dayton:

I write to inform you that I do not intend to seek re-appointment as Chief Judge of the Minnesota Court of Appeals following the current three-year term. Accordingly, I respectfully request that you designate another judge of the court to be Chief Judge, effective November 1, 2013, pursuant to section 480A.03, subdivision 1, of the Minnesota Statutes. I look forward to returning to the position of Judge, which I held from 2008 to 2010, and again being fully engaged in the judicial decision-making process.

This letter is a good occasion to provide you with a brief report on the state of the Court of Appeals. In short, the court is in excellent condition, thanks to the hard work and diligence of many judges and staff members, past and present. The court is current on its caseload, having eliminated the backlog that existed for nearly a decade. The court is functioning well within a modest budget, due in part to reductions in expenses that were made two years ago. The court is focusing on the future by implementing ambitious branch-wide initiatives for electronic filing and docketing. The court's staff is efficiently deployed and extremely productive. The judges of the court are issuing opinions of a quality, quantity, and timeliness that are unsurpassed among intermediate appellate courts in the United States. Furthermore, the judges are working together in a collegial, collaborative, and harmonious manner. I am confident that the court will continue to attain these high levels of performance. I will offer my assistance to the newly designated Chief Judge during a transition period and thereafter to help ensure that it is so.

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I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to serve the people of the State of Minnesota in the role of Chief Judge of this court. In addition, it has been a pleasure to work with members of your staff and the Commission on Judicial Selection throughout my term as Chief Judge. I also appreciate the various courtesies you have extended to me during the past three years. Thank you, and best wishes.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Matthew Johnson". The signature is written in dark ink and is centered below the text "Very truly yours,".

cc: Honorable Lorie Skjerven Gildea
Micah M. Hines, Esq.
Lee E. Sheehy, Esq.