STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

C9-85-1506

In re Public Hearing on Vacancies in Judicial Positions in the Fifth Judicial District ORDER

WHEREAS, the provisions of Minnesota Laws 1990, Chapter 594, Article 1, Section 38, require the Supreme Court to determine whether a judicial position which is vacated by the failure of an incumbent judge to file for election should be continued, transferred or abolished;

WHEREAS, Judge Charles C. Johnson has notified the judges of the Fifth Judicial District of his intention not to file for re-election and to retire at the end of his current term of office;

WHEREAS, the judges of the Fifth Judicial District have requested that the Supreme Court conduct a hearing in Blue Earth County to receive testimony from judges and attorneys regarding the need for that judicial position;

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court intends to consider weighted caseload information, which indicates that there currently exists a surplus of judicial positions in the Fifth Judicial District, and to receive relevant supplemental information regarding judges and judicial resource needs from attorneys and other interested persons of the Fifth Judicial District in determining whether to continue, transfer or abolish the above judicial position;

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a public hearing be held in the courtroom of the Blue Earth County Courthouse, in Mankato, Minnesota at 10 a.m. on July 10, 1990;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that persons wishing to have the Supreme Court consider information concerning the continuation of the judicial vacancy described above shall file ten copies of a written summary of such information and, if applicable, their desire to make an oral presentation at the hearing, with the Supreme Court by July 9, 1990 at the following address: Clerk of Appellate Courts, 230 State Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that persons who wish to obtain information concerning the weighted caseload analysis and its application to the vacancy in the Fifth Judicial District shall direct their inquiries to: Mr. Wayne Kobbervig, 1745 University Avenue W., Suite 302, St. Paul, Minnesota 55104.

Dated June **22**, 1990

BY THE COURT

Peter S. Popovich

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OFFICE OF APPELLATE COURTS

JUN 2 2 1990

FILED

Rep. Don Ostrom

District 23B



Minnesota House of Representatives

COMMITTEES: EDUCATION; HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES; GENERAL LEGISLATION, VETERANS AFFAIRS AND GAMING

July 7, 1990

Honorable Peter S. Popovich, Chief Justice Minnesota Supreme Court State Capitol St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Mr. Chief Justice:

I am in support of the efforts to retain the position of the Fifth Judicial District held by retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson. The 1985 "sunset and transfer" law is of controversial origin, since it never received a hearing in either the House or Senate Judiciary committees. Also, with an additional twelve judgeships now being available to the metropolitan area I believe we should not be transferring away another position from the Fifth District.

I will be present at the hearing on July 10 at the Blue Earth County Courthouse.

Sincerely,

Don Ostrom

State Representative

copy: Rep. Terry Dempsey

Richard H. Fasnacht

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Minnesota will conduct a hearing to determine whether there is a need to continue the judicial position of Judge Charles C. Johnson of the Fifth Judicial District, and

WHEREAS, Redwood County constitutes a portion of the said judicial district and the Board of County Commissioners of Redwood County, Minnesota, are directly interested in the operation of the courts in Redwood County and also in the entire Fifth Judicial District, and

WHEREAS, in the opinion of the Board of County Commissioners the Court in Redwood County has a substantial caseload and is occupied on a continuous basis with matters being brought before the court, both criminal and civil, and it would appear to the Board of County Commissioners that the same situation exists in the other counties in the Fifth Judicial District. and

WHEREAS, judges in rural areas are required to travel which involves time not reflected in the actual caseload and the reduction of the number of judges will only result in further time spent for travel which can only aggravate the problem.

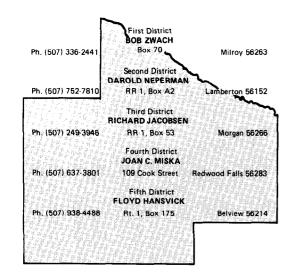
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Redwood County, Minnesota, that the Supreme Court of Minnesota is hereby urged to continue the position now held by Judge Charles C. Johnson and to request that a replacement judge be appointed for the Fifth Judicial District.

PASSED. APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 3rd day of July. 1990.

Chairman, Redwood Younty Board

of Commissioners

heur M. Dansor Redwood County Coordinat



Board of

Redwood County Commissioners

REDWOOD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

July 5, 1990

OFFICE OF APPELLATE COURTS

JUL 0 9 1990

FILED

The Supreme Court of Minnesota ATTENTION: Clerk of Appellate Courts

230 State Capitol St. Paul, MN. 55155

TO: The Honorable Judges of the Supreme Court of Minnesota

Enclosed please find copies of a written resolution adopted by the Redwood County Board of Commissioners at their July 3, 1990 meeting.

The Commissioners would ask that you consider this resolution as their input regarding the judicial vacancy in the Fifth Judicial District.

Due to their own meeting schedule for July 10, 1990, the Redwood County Board will not be making an oral presentation at the hearing to be held that day in Blue Earth County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Redwood County Board of Commissioners

By: Cheryl M. Hanson

Redwood County Coordinator

Cheyl M. Danson

CMH/jks cc:file

In Re Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

PETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of June 22, 1990, your Petitioner informed the Court as follows:

- I. That she had been a licensed practicing trial attorney for ten years;
- 2. That she has served as an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Mankato in the Fifth Judicial District since September of 1987;
- 3. That she was appointed to be the City Attorney for the City of Mankato in July of 1989 and as such supervises two Assistant City Attorneys who routinely appear before the judges of the Fifth Judicial District chambered in Mankato:
- 4. That she respectfully requests permission to make an oral presentation to the Court at the hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota, on July 10, 1990 in favor of allowing retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson's judgeship to be filled by election.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 9, 1990

Eileen M. Wells City Attorney

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CITY OF MANKATO, MINNESOTA

202 East Jackson Street
Box 3368, Mankato, MN 56001
Telephone: 507-625-3161
FAX 507-388-7530

July 9, 1990

Hon. Peter S. Popovich Chief Justice Minnesota Supreme Court State Capitol St. Paul, MN 55101

Hon. Glenn E. Kelley, Justice Minnesota Supreme Court State Capitol St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chief Justice Popovich and Justice Kelley:

As the City Attorney for and on behalf of the citizens and the staff of the City of Mankato, I ask that you decide in favor of allowing Judge Charles C. Johnson's position to remain in the Fifth Judicial District.

The City Attorney's Office is responsible for prosecuting approximately 1500 cases per year. This number is only the cases that we charge by formal complaint and by citation when the defendant pleads not guilty. It does not include the large number of defendants who appear on citation and plead guilty at the arraignment hearing. There are two Assistant City Attorneys who work full time on these files. We attempt to be discriminate, but diligent in prosecution of misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors occurring within the city limits. We are also responsive to the dictates of the Legislature regarding the prosecution of domestic abuse and DWI cases.

Currently, with four judges we encounter delays and scheduling difficulties. When a complaint is filed, an arraignment is scheduled approximately six weeks later. If the case proceeds to a court trial or a pre-trial, the soonest that hearing will be set is eight to twelve weeks. Occasionally these hearings are continued, causing further delays. Furthermore, Blue Earth County and the Fifth Judicial District have a larger percentage of jury trials than the statewide average. Our office tries approximately thirty misdemeanor and gross misdemeanor jury trials per year. Currently, a "date certain" jury trial cannot be scheduled until late December, 1990 or early January, 1991.

Page 2

I don't believe that these facts are accurately reflected in the weighted case load data provided to the Court.

To remove a judgeship from the Fifth District would create further delays and further hamper the efficient administration of justice for the citizens of the district.

Thank you for the opportunity to make these comments and I look forward to speaking with you personally, at the hearing tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Eileen M. Wells City Attorney

EMW/mas

Rep. Henry J. Kalis

District 29B

Blue Earth, Faribault, Freeborn, Martin. Waseca



Minnesota House of Representatives

Robert Vanasek, Speaker

CHAIR, TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEES: APPROPRIATIONS-AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORTATION AND SEMI-STATE DIVISION; AGRICULTURE

July 9, 1990

Mr. Peter S. Popovich, Chief Justice Minnesota Supreme Court State Capitol St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chief Justice Popovich:

Because of other legislative matters, I am unable to testify at the Judge Johnson's Judgeships "sunset and transfer" hearing tomorrow.

Judgeships in the rural areas and their caseloads have been a topic of discussion in the Legislature during the past several years. Having served on the Judiciary Committee, I am fully aware of the studies that have been done, and I am also aware of the study that will soon be completed regarding this matter.

Representative Terry Dempsey and I introduced legislation in the past that would have stopped the transfer of judgeships from the rural to the metropolitan area. This legislation was not pursued because of discussions and receiving information from reliable sources that no more transfer of judgeships would be taking place. Legislators from the rural areas are fully aware of the need for more judgeships in the growing metropolitan area. However, with the transfers seeming to continue, I feel these same legislators are going to find it more and more difficult to support the increased costs for these increased judgeships.

My information shows that the caseload in the Fifth Judicial District is more than significant to justify the keeping of this position, and I certainly hope that your hearing will find this to be true.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Henry J. Malis

State Representative

In Re Public Hearing on Vacandy in Judicial Fosition in the Fifth Judicial District

DETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of June 22, 1990, your petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- 1. That he has served as a state representative since 1978 to the present;
- 2. That he is also an attorney practicing in the rich Judicial District and is familiar with the operation of the court system in the Fifth Judicial District;
- 3. That he respectfully requests permission to make an oral procontation to the Court at the hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota, on July 10, 1990, in favor of allowing retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson's judgeship to be filled by election;
- 4. That your petitioner's remarks will reflect the political impact of declaring a judicial vacancy in the Fifth Judicial District.

Dated: July 5, 1990

Respectfully submitted

State Representative

District 23A

427 SOUTH BROAD STREET P.O. BOX 3665 MANKATO, MINNESOTA 56002-3665 TELEPHONE: (507) 345-4545

ATTORNEY AT LAW

July 3, 1990

JUL

Sue K. Dosal State Court Administrator The Supreme Court 230 State Capitol St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: July 10, 1990

5th Judicial District Judgeship

Sunset & Transfer Hearing

Dear Ms. Dosal:

Enclosed please find my Petition seeking the opportunity to be heard at the Sunset and Transfer Hearing on Judge Johnson's Judgeship in Blue Earth County on Tuesday, July 10, 1990, at 10:00 a.m., at the Blue Earth County Courthouse, Mankato.

Thank you for your consideration. If I may be of any further assistance relative to this matter, I trust you will contact me.

Sincerely,

Calvin P. Johnson

Chief Public Defender Fifth Judicial District

Enc.

Honorable Glenn E. Kelley cc: Honorable Peter S. Popovich Honorable George A. Marshall

Richard Fasnacht

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN SUPREME COURT

In Re Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

PETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court Order of June 22, 1990, your Petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- 1. That he has served as Chief Public Defender in the Fifth Judicial District since January, 1983;
- 2. That he has served as Assistant District Public Defender of the Fifth Judicial District from May, 1980 through December, 1982;
- 3. That he respectfully requests permission to make an oral presentation to the Court at the hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota, on July 10, 1990, in favor of allowing retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson's Judgeship to be filled by election;
- 4. That it is the position of the Fifth Judicial District Public Defender System that Judge Charles C. Johnson's Judgeship should be retained.

Respectfully submitted,

Calvin P. Johnson

Chief Public Defender Fifth Judicial District 427 South Broad Street

Mankato, MN 56001 Phone: 507-345-4545 Attorney ID #50623

Dated: July 3, 1990

In Re Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

PETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of June 22, 1990, your Petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- 1. That he has served as a Judge in the Fifth Judicial District, chambered at Mankato, Minnesota, since December, 1976;
- 2. That he has served as Assistant Chief Judge for the Fifth Judicial District since July 1, 1989, and that he is familiar with the operation of the court system in the Fifth District and of Blue Earth County in particular;
- 3. That he respectfully requests permission to make an oral presentation to the Court at the hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota, on July 10, 1990, in favor of allowing retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson's judgeship to be filled by election;
- 4. That he was designated by Chief Judge George A. Marshall to present the position of the Judges of the Fifth Judicial District that Judge Charles C. Johnson's judgeship should be retained;
- 5. That your Petitioner's remarks will generally follow the written material presented at the hearing on July 10, 1990.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 2, 1990

James C. Harten Assistant Chief Judge

Fifth Judicial District

TRACY L. BECKMAN

Senator District 29 Room G-10 Capitol St. Paul, MN 55155 (612) 296-5713 and Box 37 Bricelyn, MN 56014 (507) 653-4426

Senate
State of Minnesota

July 9, 1990

Richard H. Fasnacht Judicial District Administrator Blue Earth County Government Center Post Office Box 3366 Mankato, MN 56001

Dear Mr. Fasnacht:

Please consider this letter in strong support for the continuation of the Fifth Judicial Judgeship. We feel that it is imperative that this judgeship remain for the effective administration of justice in the Fifth Judicial District.

Throughout our legislative service, we have been cognizant of the needs of our judicial system. We have supported additional judges when the need arose and we will continue to be supportive of Minnesota's outstanding judicial system.

If the judgeship is transferred, it has the potential to cause a serious rural/urban split in the 1990/1991 legislative session and could develop opposition to the twelve new judgeships sought by the Supreme Court for the metropolitan districts.

Although we are not able to be with you today, we want you to know that we strongly oppose moving the judgeship from the Fifth District.

Sincerely,

Tracy Beckman

State Senator Senator District 29 Jim Vickerman State Senator

Senator District 28

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TB:JV/aw

cc:

Chief Justice Peter S. Popovich Justice Glenn E. Kelley

In Re Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

PETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of June 22, 1990, your Petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- That he has served as a state senator in Senate District 24 for the past year and has been in the Minnesota House of Representatives for eight years prior.
- That he has special interest in the area of judges and the courts in out-state Minnesota. He is also familiar with the appropriations process for our courts having been on the State Departments Division of Appropriations committee in the House for eight years.
- That he respectfully requests permission to make an oral presentation to the Court at the hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota on July 10, 1990 in favor of allowing retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson's judgeship to be filled by election.
- 4. On behalf of the citizens of Senate District 24, I request that the soon to be vacated judgeship should be retained in Blue Earth County.

Mark Piepho State Senator

Dated: July 5, 1990

In Re Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

PETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of June 22, 1990, your Petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- 1. That he has served as a state representative in District 24A from 1986 to the present;
- 2. That he has special interest in the area of judges and the courts in out-state Minnesota. He is also familiar with the appropriations process, and he serves on the Appropriations and Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs Committees.
- 3. That he respectfully requests permission to make an oral presentation to the Court at the hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota, on July 10, 1990, in favor of allowing retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson's judgeship to be filled by election.
- 4. On behalf of the citizens of District 24A, I request that Judge Johnson's judgeship be retained in Blue Earth County.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 5, 1990 .

John Dorn

State Representative

District 24A

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In Re Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

PETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of June 22, 1990, your Petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- 1. I am an attorney licensed to practice in the State of Minnesota since 1979.
- 2. I have filed as a candidate for the judicial position vacancy which is under consideration by the Court today.
- 3. I respectfully request permission to make an oral presentation to the Court at the hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota on July 10, 1990, in favor of allowing retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson's judgeship to be filled by election.
- 4. On behalf of the citizens of Senate District 24, I request that the soon-to-be-vacated judgeship should be retained in Blue Earth County.

Dated: July 9, 1990

Respectfully submitted,

Nusan Stevens Chambers
Susan Stevens Chambers

(507/625-2324)

In Re Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

PETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of June 22, 1990, your Petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- 1. I am employed by Mankato State University and have been a resident of Blue Earth County for over one year.
- 2. I have a special interest in the area of judges and the courts in out-state Minnesota and currently serve on the committee to elect Susan Stevens Chambers to the position vacated by Judge Johnson.
- 3. I respectfully request permission to make an oral presentation to the Court at the hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota on July 10, 1990, in favor of allowing retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson's judgeship to be filled by election.
- 4. On behalf of the citizens of Senate District 24, I request that the soon-to-be-vacated judgeship should be retained in Blue Earth County.

Dated: July 9, 1990

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Trauger (507/389-1111)

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Commissionars

District 1 - Colleen Landkamer

District 2 - Leon Tacheny

District 3 - Linley Barnes

Diatrict 4 - Luverne Bergomann

District 5 - Alvis More

BLUE EARTH COUNTY

Offices in Mankato, Minnesota 56002



July 5, 1990

Sue K. Dosal State Court Administrator Supreme Court 230 State Capitol st. Paul, MN 55155

RE: July 10, 1990, Fifth Judicial District Judgeship Sunset and Transfer Hearing

Dear Ms. Dosal:

Enclosed please find my Petition seeking the opportunity to be heard at the Sunset and Transfer Hearing on Judge Johnson's Judgeship in Blue Earth County on Tuesday, July 10, 1990, at 10 a.m. at the Blue Earth County Courthouse, Mankato, Minnesota.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Horrisberger

Guardian Ad Litem Coordinator

Paul Homoluger

Blue Earth County Community Corrections

PH/amh

LET.J5

COURTHOUSE 204 South Fifth Street P.O. Box 8008 Phone (507) 825-9031 TTY (Hearing Impaired) 380-1214 FAX (507) 387-8344

GOUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER 410 South Fifth Street P.O. Box 8608 Phone (507) 625-3031 TTY (Hearing Impaired) 388-1214 HIGHWAY BUILDING 35 Map Drive P O. Box 3083 Phone (507) 625-3281 LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER
710 South Front Street
P.O. Box 228
Phone (502) 387-8710
TTY (Hearing impaired) 387-5601
Emergency 311
FAX (507) 387-4929

In Re: Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

PETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of June 22, 1990, your Petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- 1. That he has served as Guardian Ad Litem Coordinator for Blue Earth County in the Fifth Judicial District since February, 1984;
- That he respectfully requests permission to make an oral presentation to the Court at the hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota, on July 10, 1990, in favor of allowing retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson's judgeship to be filled by election.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 5, 1990

9-89 MM 15:58

Paul Horrisberger

Guardian Ad Litem Coordinator Blue Earth County

Mankato, MN 56001

In Re Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

PETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of June 22, 1990, your Petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- 1. That he is an attorney licensed to practice in Minnesota and has practiced in Mankato, Minnesota, since October of 1961.
- 2. That as a practicing attorney, he has had nearly 29 years of practice before the Courts in Blue Earth County and the surrounding area.
- 3. That the Judicial position held by Charles C. Johnson should continue and be filled by election by the voters of the Fifth Judicial District.
- 4. That he has examined the written presentation by the Judiciary of the Fifth Judicial District and endorses the same.
- 5. That the citizens of Blue Earth County are entitled to have preserved to them the judicial position for the handling of legal matters, both civil and criminal.
- 6. That he respectfully requests permission to give brief oral testimoney in supportof retaining this Judicial position.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles A. Adamson

Attorney at Law

Registration #498

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN SUPREME COURT

In Re Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

TION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court order of June 22, 1990, respecting the captioned vacancy, your Petitioner respectfully requests permission to make an oral presentation to the Court at the Hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota on July 10, 1990.

Your Petitioner will speak to his knowledge of increasing commercial activity in the Mankato area which in the Petitioner's opinion will increase Court filings in Blue Earth County. In the Petitioner's opinion, the vacated judgeship should be retained in Blue Earth County to provide adequate judicial services.

Dated this 9th day of July, 1990.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelton Gage, ID Attorney at Law

127 South Second Street

P. O. Box 3049

Mankato, MN 56002-3049 Telephone: (507) 345-1166

STATE OF MINNESOTA

IN SUPREME COURT

In re: Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

<u>PETITION OF</u> <u>WILLIAM S. PARTRIDGE</u>

Pursuant to the Order of this Court dated June 22, 1990, concerning the public hearing on the above-captioned judicial vacancy, your Petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- 1. I am the Chairperson of the Sixth District Bar Association for the 1990-91 term. The Sixth District encompasses Blue Earth and Watonwan Counties.
- 2. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice in all courts in the State of Minnesota and I am employed by the Farrish, Johnson & Maschka Law Firm in Mankato, Minnesota.
- 3. I respectfully request and petition to make an oral presentation to the Court at the public hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota, on July 10, 1990.
- 4. My presentation will be in opposition to the sunset and transfer of Judge Johnson's judgeship and in favor of said judgeship being retained in Blue Earth County.

Dated this 9th day of July, 1990.

Respectfully/submitted

William S. Partridge

FARRISH, JOHNSON & MASCHKA

200 Union Square Business Center

201 North Broad Street

P.O. Box 908

Mankato, MN 56002-0908 Telephone: 507-387-3002

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN SUPREME COURT

In Re Public Hearing on Vacancy in Judicial Position in the Fifth Judicial District

PETITION

Pursuant to the Supreme Court Order of June 22, 1990, your Petitioner informs the Court as follows:

- 1. That he is a duly licensed attorney in the State of Minnesota having practiced in the City of Mankato, Blue Earth County, Minnesota, since January 5, 1951.
- 2. That he is co-chairman of the committee for election of Charles A. Adamson as District Court Judge.
- 3. That his practice involves mainly litigation of civil and criminal matters and that he is familiar with the operation of the Court system in Blue Earth County in particular.
- 4. That he respectfully requests permission to make an oral presentation to the Court at the hearing to be held in Mankato, Minnesota on July 10, 1990 in favor of allowing the retiring Judge Charles C. Johnson's judgeship to be filled by election.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 9, 1990

C. A. (Gus) Johnson, II Johnson, Anderson & Zellmer

600 South Second Street

P.O. Box 637

Mankato, MN 56002-0637 Telephone: (507) 387-4002 Attorney I.d. No: 52231