

DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHEAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Honorable Thomas E. Merrick
Stutsman County Courthouse
511 2nd Avenue Southeast
Jamestown, ND 58401

1-701-251-6332

December 31, 2015

The Honorable Gerald W. VandeWalle
Chief Justice
North Dakota Supreme Court
600 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0530

RECEIVED BY
Chief Justice
Supreme Court

JAN 04 2016

STATE OF
NORTH DAKOTA

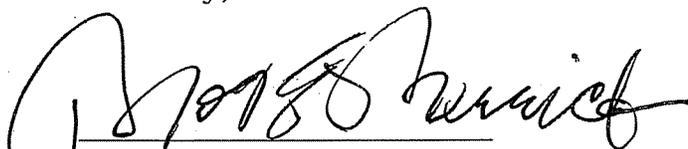
Dear Chief Justice VandeWalle:

I wish to inform you that I will not seek re-election in 2016 for Southeast District Judgeship #7, chambered in Jamestown. I will continue to serve until my present term expires on December 31, 2016.

It has been an honor and a blessing to serve the people of North Dakota as a district judge. I so enjoy the pathos, drama, and unexpected humor that come with being in the courtroom, and take great satisfaction from completing all those unseen tasks that swallow up so much of a judge's time. It would be impossible for me to properly thank everyone who has played a part in making this the best job I have ever had. Working with so many outstanding court reporters and recorders, administrators, clerks, and attorneys has been a pleasure.

I want to especially thank my fellow members of the judiciary for their guidance and camaraderie. The citizens of North Dakota are very well served by the judicial branch of government and I am proud to have been a small part of that.

Sincerely,



Thomas E. Merrick
District Judge
tmerrick@ndcourts.gov