

State of North Dakota 20120089

H. Patrick Weir
District Judge
Jen Kadrmas
Electronic Court Recorder
Tel: 701-227-3159
Fax: 701-227-3156
E-mail address:
JKadrmas@ndcourts.gov

DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHWEST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
51 3rd Street East, Suite 202
DICKINSON, ND 58601

Shelly Michaelson
Calendar Control Clerk
Tel: (701) 227-3150

Toll Free 1-877-233-4261

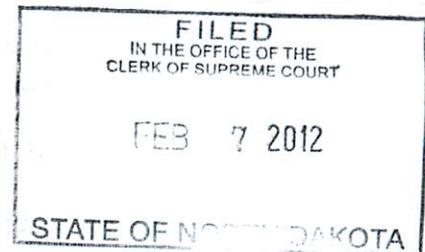
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Chief Justice
Supreme Court

FEB 07 2012

STATE OF
NORTH DAKOTA

February 6, 2012

Chief Justice Gerald W. VandeWalle
State of North Dakota
Supreme Court
600 E Blvd Ave, Dept 180
Bismarck ND, 58505



Dear Chief Justice VandeWalle:

I will not be a candidate for Judgeship #3 for the Southwest District Court. Presiding Judge William Herauf has advised me that you need official notification of that fact to permit you to undertake the procedure determining the need for three judges in the district.

I have made my decision rather reluctantly because I have enjoyed my time as judge. This is due, in no small part, to your professional courtesies and your personal friendship. It has been an honor to be affiliated with a court system headed by someone with your nationally recognized leadership combined with a warm, human touch!

I started my legal career serving under Chief Judge Charles Vogel. I ended it serving under Chief Justice Gerald VandeWalle. I cannot think of two better "bookends" for a North Dakota lawyer.

With great respect,

H. Patrick Weir
District Judge

HPW:jk