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June 6, 2014

Business Record

Attn: Women of Influence Nomination  
100 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear To Whom It May Concern:

Ms. Karla J. Fultz was born in Des Moines and received her Bachelor's and Juris Doctorate Degrees from Drake University in 1967 and 1969, respectively. In true pioneering spirit, not only did she graduate from law school at a time when few women even attended, she did so while being married with two young daughters. Her ambition, perseverance, and passion have continued over the years – much to the benefit of countless families and children in Iowa.

Following law school, Ms. Fultz was hired by Polk County Legal Aid at a time when female attorneys were considered to be “minorities”. Her legal career subsequently led her to Polk County where she was hired as an Assistant County Attorney and was the first female attorney to try felony cases. She served Polk County as a Juvenile Court Prosecutor and then as Felony Trial Staff and Special Prosecutor of Sex Crimes. During her time as Special Prosecutor, conviction rates increased from 6% to 92%.

Ms. Fultz's passion for assisting victims of sexual assault led her to work in conjunction with doctors to develop protocols for the collection and preservation of evidence in sexual assault matters. These protocols, developed in 1974, are still used today. That same year, she also helped organize the Polk County Rape Crisis Center. The Center served as the precursor for the existing Victims Advocate Program.

Ms. Fultz's dedication to advocating for juveniles and sex crime victims resulted in her 1977 appointment as the first woman in Iowa to serve as a full-time Juvenile Court Referee. In 1993 she was appointed as the first female Juvenile Court Judge. During her time on the bench, Ms. Fultz organized and presided over the first Teen Drug Court and Family Drug Court in Polk County. In 2009, Ms. Fultz retired from the bench but has continued her service to families and children in Warren County by working with Judge Kevin Parker in establishing

June 6, 2014

Family Recovery Court. She also helped organize the first and only OWI Court in Iowa in 2010.

In addition to her leadership in the courtroom, Ms. Fultz has been active in numerous other groups, task forces and commissions advocating for thoughtful planning for treatment of children, women, and families who are in shelter facilities, victims of drug exposure and crime, or may be negatively impacted by zoning ordinances. Ms. Fultz's experience has also resulted in teaching and training opportunities across the country.

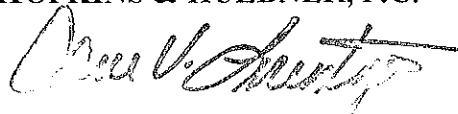
Ms. Fultz was the recipient of the William H. Spurgeon III Award for service to Boy Scouts of America, and the Minority Youth Service Award. She received the Iowa Supreme Court Innovation Award in 2004 and 2005 for her work with the Polk County Juvenile Drug Court and Polk County Family Drug Court. She was also awarded an Exemplary Project Award for the Polk County Rape/Sexual Assault Care Center by the U.S. Department of Justice. Ms. Fultz also received the Judge Don Tidrick Honors Award in 2010 for her true passion to help youth involved in the court system.

Karla's passion and commitment to children and families have led her to her current professional home at Hopkins & Huebner, P.C. in Des Moines where she focuses on Family Law Mediations. Her accomplishments, pioneering spirit, and continued leadership have impacted countless lives and inspired many.

It is our great honor to support Ms. Karla J. Fultz as a nominee for the Business Record's 2014 Women of Influence.

Sincerely,

**HOPKINS & HUEBNER, P.C.**



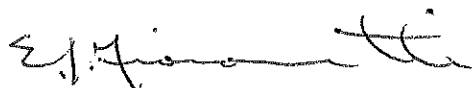
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