

May 26, 2017

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**Business Record** 100 4<sup>th</sup> Street Des Moines, IA 50309

Re:

2017 Women of Influence Nomination

To Whom It May Concern:

I have the distinct privilege and honor of recommending my law partner, Sheila K. Tipton, for The Des Moines Business Record's "Women of Influence" for 2017. As the Managing Member of the BrownWinick Law Firm, I believe I understand the qualities that distinguish applicants for this honor, and I cannot think of a better choice than Sheila.

Our law firm was extremely fortunate in hiring Sheila in June 2015. She has a distinguished resume and outstanding skills and experience. Simply put, Sheila's career has been one epitomized by incredible professional competence, and respect and civility for all participants in the legal process.

Bringing Sheila to BrownWinick has further strengthened the firm's energy practice. While the practice of law is always challenging, energy law in particular requires the ability to handle very complex, fast-moving matters. Sheila has played a very important role at BrownWinick, not only by handling these matters, but by actively working to train BrownWinick's next generation of energy lawyers, Rachel Morgan and Haley Van Loon. It has truly been a pleasure to watch Rachel and Haley's ability, confidence and enthusiasm blossom under Sheila's mentorship. As the Managing Member of the law firm, I could only hope that all senior attorneys would take such an active role in shaping junior attorneys.

Further, though Sheila's tenure at the firm has not been long, her impact has already been farreaching beyond her practice area. The firm actively sought to add Sheila to its strategic planning committee, which does the important work of deciding how the future of our law firm will look. Sheila's work on the committee has been outstanding. Sheila does not shy away from confronting difficult issues or challenging the firm to see things in a different way. For that, we are very grateful.

I would also like to comment on the appreciation expressed by Sheila's clients. I frequently hear from clients who tell me that Sheila's knowledge is unparalleled and that they truly enjoy May 26, 2017

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working with her because of her open and welcoming personality. Sheila provides guidance to these clients in the energy arena and has an important role in shaping Iowa's renewable energy future.

For all of these reasons, I recommend, without reservation or qualification, that Sheila K. Tipton be selected as a Woman of Influence.

If you or any member of the selection committee would like to discuss this nomination, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Very truly yours,

Christopher R. Sackett,

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Managing Member