## ELIZABETH A. COONAN

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January 14, 2016

Des Moines Business Record Forty Under 40 Selection Committee 100 Fourth Street Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Re: Brooke Miller Axiotis

Dear Selection Committee:

It is my pleasure to provide this letter in support of Brooke Miller Axiotis for the Des Moines Business Record Forty Under 40 Award.

Based on my personal experience, Brooke possesses excellent leadership skills and commitment to the greater Des Moines community and the State of Iowa. Her passion for voluntarism, her integrity and strong communication skills make her uniquely qualified for this award. I have observed Brooke's talents while working on several service projects through the Junior League of Des Moines and was impressed by her leadership, interpersonal skills and ability to organize and coordinate projects. I serve as a Commissioner on the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women and have also observed Brooke (in her capacity as a board member of the Friends of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women) provide vital organizational support and leadership in relation to the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame celebration and luncheon.

Brooke's commitment to her community is extensive. In addition to the activities noted above, Brooke also provides support to the Iowa State Board of Education (as a gubernatorial appointee), is an active member of the Links, Inc. and recently devoted significant time and effort to the organization of the Iowa Criminal Justice Summit, a conference devoted to addressing potential improvements to the Iowa Criminal Justice System. Brooke has also worked with the Salisbury House, serving on its Young Professional Board.

Brooke's professional accomplishments are also noteworthy. Brooke serves as a housing investigator for the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, working to investigate and mediate housing disputes involving Iowa residents. Brooke has also been active in Iowa politics, serving as Campaign Manager for State Representative Helen Miller's Re-election Campaign. I believe Brooke's contributions to the State of Iowa and the Des Moines community make her an ideal candidate for the Forty under 40 Award.

Should you have any questions regarding my recommendation, please do not hesitate to call. Thank you for considering Brooke's candidacy.

Very truly yours,

Elizabeth A. Coonan 2011 Forty Under 40 Award Recipient

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