

## SHINDLER, ANDERSON, GOPLERUD & WEESE P.C.

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Business Record Forty Under 40 The Depot at 4<sup>th</sup> 100 4<sup>th</sup> Street Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Friends:

I understand that an attorney in our law firm, Katie Gallo, is being nominated for the Business Record's "Forty Under 40."

Katie has been an attorney in our office approximately 5 years as an associate. She is 33 years old and graduated from both the University of Iowa cum laude and Drake University law school with honors. She is active in this community as a Board member of Dorothy's House, on the steering committee for the Regional Child Protection Center for Blank Children's Hospital and an annual gala volunteer with Make a Wish Foundation.

I am the President of this law firm and was responsible in not only hiring Katie but supervising her. She has excelled as an attorney specializing in family law and helps multitudes of clients in some of the most difficult times of their lives. I could extol her virtues on how well she relates to clients, what a fierce and loyal advocate she is and how she demonstrates compassion every day to the multitude of clients that she represents but I believe there is something about Katie that transcends her abilities as an attorney.

Why I think Katie separates herself from any of your other nominees is her courage in overcoming a potentially devastating health-jeopardizing event that occurred to her last summer. Unbelievably, Katie suffered a life threatening illness at her young age and debilitated her for quite some time. Katie has overcome all of those obstacles associated with her health event and is back to work full-time having hit the ground running and

working through all of her temporary setbacks. She is a better advocate than ever before and, most importantly, demonstrates the compassion and courage that is rare for someone her young age. That courage and compassion is a direct result of what Katie went through last year. Sometimes through adversity is born greater understanding of the human condition. No truer thing could be said about Katie Gallo, an essential quality to being a successful divorce attorney.

In addition to balancing a very active and busy family law practice, Katie is an outstanding mother to an active 3 year old boy and a wonderful wife to her husband, Greg, who owns his own business. She is a very valuable member of our firm and her future is bright.

Katie is already a leader in the community and will continue to demonstrate that leadership in the organizations that she is currently involved with and will undoubtedly become involved with as her career develops.

You could not have a stronger candidate to meet your criteria of Forty under Forty.

Best wishes,

Steven H. Shindler For the Firm

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