January 6, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I write this letter in support of the nomination of Thomas Mouser, MD for the Forty under 40 Award. Dr. Mouser is a terrific young physician and a tremendous asset to our community.

Dr. Mouser came to Des Moines after graduating from the Michigan State College of Human Medicine to complete residency training at the University of Iowa-Des Moines Internal Medicine Residency Program at Iowa Methodist Medical Center. He began practice in general internal medicine in Des Moines, but found himself drawn to care of the terminal patient. He decided to pursue further training and he completed hospice and palliative care fellowship training at the prestigious Stanford University program in Palo Alto, California.

I was one of Tom’s supervising clinical faculty members during his internal medicine residency training and I have observed his career blossom since he completed training. He is a wonderful and caring physician. He has great clinical skills, tremendous communication abilities, and he is a highly ethical physician.

We are fortunate that Dr. Mouser decided to return to Des Moines after his training at Stanford. He was chosen to serve as the medical director at Hospice of Central Iowa. In the 2+ years that Dr. Mouser has led Hospice of Central Iowa, he has earned a reputation for high quality, compassionate care for terminally ill patients in central Iowa. He has done an outstanding job improving the quality of medical care provided to patients enrolled in HCI programs. Dr. Mouser has done an excellent job educating physicians, nurses, and other care givers in the best available palliative care measures. He has also worked hard to educate the lay public about hospice and palliative care services. He strives to break down barriers that often delay the provision of needed palliative services to terminally ill patients.

Tom and his wife Shonda have three lovely children and are active volunteers in the community and at their children’s school. Des Moines is very lucky to have the Mouser’s in our community and Tom is a very important young leader in our medical community.

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