Jason Swanson

The Business Record

100 4th St.

Des Moines, IA 50309

May 22, 2019

Mr. Swanson:

 This purpose of this letter is to recommend Meghan Malloy as Meredith’s Emerging Woman of Influence for 2019. I have known Meghan for almost eight years from the time she started at Drake University Law School as a student and now as a legal colleague. As a student she displayed a thoughtfulness and compassion for others and an analytical ability when approaching problems which I knew would bring her success in her future career. It has been exciting to see her professional accomplishments over the years.

 During her time at Drake Law School, Meghan served as President of the Drake Law Democrats and as co-chair of Drake Law Women’s Raffle for a Reason charity event. This important event raised a record $1,600 for Children and Families of Iowa. Finally, Meghan was one of the first student attorneys at the Drake Legal Clinic’s non-profit/transactional clinic, which was added to the curriculum in 2013.

 Meghan has been a key player in reintroducing industrial hemp to Iowa. In her role representing her clients, she assisted with drafting proposed legislation and led the advocacy effort for passage of the Iowa Hemp Act (Senate File 599). Gov. Kim Reynolds signed the bill and it became effective on May 13. This was a multiple-year effort, which included some proverbial bumps in the road. Meghan remained persistent and represented her clients zealously until the bill reached the Governor’s desk. As Iowa joins other states in the expanding industrial hemp market, her legal expertise in growing this industry will help shape Iowa’s agricultural future.

 Our profession requires high ethical standards and an ability to bring differing minds to the table. Meghan is competent, fair and honest. These qualities are essential when working with fellow lobbyists and legislators to develop consensus on various issues. I look forward to seeing what is next for her and her career.

Best,

Julie Smith

Julie A. Smith

Attorney and Lobbyist

Professor, Drake University Law School