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October 9, 2017

Mr. Daniel L. Lindstrom  
Jacobsen, Orr, Lindstrom  
& Holbrook P.C., L.L.O.  
322 West 39<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 1060  
Kearney, NE 68848-1060

RE: *Putnam v. Scherbring*, 297 Neb. 868 (2017)

Dear Dan,

As a follow-up to my voicemail message, I wanted to thank you and the Nebraska Defense Counsel Association ("NDCA") for your assistance regarding the appeal of the above-referenced matter. As you know, this case had significant ramifications regarding a district court judge's ability to regulate his/her docket and enforce scheduling deadlines. In a unanimous decision authored by Justice Cassel, the Nebraska Supreme Court held that the District Court did not abuse its discretion in doing just that. This Opinion will have significant precedential value going forward in allowing district courts throughout the State of Nebraska to manage dockets, enforce deadlines, and attempt to meet the case progression standards set forth by the Nebraska Supreme Court.

In particular, we would like to thank Cathy Trent-Vilim who we understand was assisted by Mr. Steve Olsen and Ms. Julie Jorgensen for their efforts and assistance. In particular, we appreciated the well written and thoughtful Amicus Brief written by them on behalf of the NDCA. Furthermore, Cathy provided invaluable assistance in preparing us for the oral argument including a list of questions that might be asked, meeting with us the day before the argument, and giving us specific proposals regarding the oral argument. We referenced arguments contained in the NDCA's Amicus Brief as well as suggestions Cathy gave to us in the oral argument and those arguments were very helpful in obtaining the ultimate result here.

Daniel L. Lindstrom  
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In summary, we wanted to again express our gratitude for the assistance of the NDCA in this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark C. Laughlin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Mark C. Laughlin  
FOR THE FIRM

MCL/dmw

cc: Ms. Cathy Trent-Vilim - *Via Email*  
Mr. Steve Olsen - *Via Email*  
Ms. Julie Jorgensen - *Via Email*  
Ms. Jacqueline DeLuca

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