

**STATE JUDICIAL NOMINATION COMMISSION  
AND OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
JOINT JUDICIAL APPLICATION**

*Please complete this application by placing your responses in normal type, immediately beneath each request for information. Requested documents should be attached at the end of the application or in separate PDF files, clearly identifying the numbered request to which each document is responsive. Completed applications are public records. If you cannot fully respond to a question without disclosing information that is confidential under state or federal law, please submit that portion of your answer separately, along with your legal basis for considering the information confidential. Do not submit opinions or other writing samples containing confidential information unless you are able to appropriately redact the document to avoid disclosing the identity of the parties or other confidential information.*

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

- 1. State your full name.**

Matthew Charles McDermott

- 2. State your current occupation or title. (Lawyers: identify name of firm, organization, or government agency; judicial officers: identify title and judicial election district.)**

Attorney and shareholder, Belin McCormick, P.C.

- 3. State your date of birth (to determine statutory eligibility).**

November 22, 1977

- 4. State your current city and county of residence.**

West Des Moines, Polk County

**PROFESSIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL HISTORY**

- 5. List in reverse chronological order each college and law school you attended including the dates of attendance, the degree awarded, and your reason for leaving each school if no degree from that institution was awarded.**

University of California, Berkeley School of Law  
Attended August 2000–May 2003  
J.D., May 2003

University of Iowa, Iowa City  
Attended August 1996–May 2000  
B.A. *with Distinction*, Honors in Economics and Political Science, May 2000

- 6. Describe in reverse chronological order all of your work experience since graduating from college, including:**
- a. Your position, dates (beginning and end) of your employment, addresses of law firms or offices, companies, or governmental agencies with which you have been connected, and the name of your supervisor or a knowledgeable colleague if possible.**
  - b. Your periods of military service, if any, including active duty, reserves or other status. Give the date, branch of service, your rank or rating, and present status or discharge status.**

Belin McCormick, P.C.

Address: The Financial Center  
666 Walnut Street, Suite 2000  
Des Moines, IA 50309  
Dates: August 2003–present  
Position: Attorney, Shareholder. Firm President (2017).  
Contact: Kelsey Knowles (515-283-4631)  
Mark McCormick (515-283-4615)

Cravath, Swaine & Moore, L.L.P.

Address: Worldwide Plaza  
825 Eighth Avenue  
New York, NY 10019  
Dates: May–August 2002  
Position: Summer Associate Attorney  
Contact: Julie North (Partner) (212-474-1752)

University of California, Berkeley, Department of Political Science

Address: Charles and Louise Travers Department of Political Science  
210 Barrows Hall #1950  
Berkeley, CA 94720  
Dates: August 2002–January 2003  
Position: Instructor, Introduction to Political Science  
Contact: Jack Citrin (Professor Emeritus) (510-642-4692)

Noesis, Inc.

Address: Currently unknown  
Dates: May–August 2001  
Position: Researcher under subcontract at California Public Utilities Commission (fraud investigation and litigation support concerning alleged energy market manipulation)  
Contact: Elizabeth McQuillan (Attorney, California PUC) (415-703-1471)

University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics, Department of Surgery

Address: Department of Surgery  
UI Hospitals and Clinics  
200 Hawkins Drive  
Iowa City, IA 52242  
Dates: August 1999–August 2000  
Position: IT Support Assistant  
Contact: Dwight Barnes (Information Technology & Systems Administrator) (319-356-1993)

Office of U.S. Senator Charles Grassley

Address: 135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Dates: Summer 1999  
Position: Legislative Intern (researched existing policies and pending congressional bills; drafted explanations of the Senator’s policy positions; attended and reported on committee hearings)  
Contact: Jill Kozeny (202-224-3744)

Carroll Little League

Address: Carroll Youth Sports Complex  
30th Street & N. West Street  
Carroll, IA 51401  
Dates: Summer 1998  
Position: Fields Director (supervised all baseball and softball games, including player, coach, and parent conduct; prepared fields for games; determined weather-related cancellations and rescheduling)

Pella Corporation

Address: 1750 East US Highway 30  
Carroll, IA 51401  
Dates: May–August 1997 (first shift); May–August 1998 (third shift/first shift)  
Position: Assembly Line Laborer (manufactured windows and sliding glass doors on an assembly line; performed various positions on the lines)

University of Iowa Libraries

Address: 125 West Washington Street  
Iowa City, IA 52242  
Dates: September 1996–July 1999  
Position: Library Inventory / IT Support Staff (college work-study employment)

- 7. List the dates you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses or terminations of membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse or termination of membership.**

Iowa, 2003

- 8. Describe the general character of your legal experience, dividing it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years, including:**
- a. A description of your typical clients and the areas of the law in which you have focused, including the approximate percentage of time spent in each area of practice.**
  - b. The approximate percentage of your practice that has been in areas other than appearance before courts or other tribunals and a description of the nature of that practice.**
  - c. The approximate percentage of your practice that involved litigation in court or other tribunals.**
  - d. The approximate percentage of your litigation that was: Administrative, Civil, and Criminal.**
  - e. The approximate number of cases or contested matters you tried (rather than settled) in the last 10 years, indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel, and whether the matter was tried to a jury or directly to the court or other tribunal. If desired, you may also provide separate data for experience beyond the last 10 years.**
  - f. The approximate number of appeals in which you participated within the last 10 years, indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel. If desired, you may also provide separate data for experience beyond the last 10 years.**

I have engaged in the private practice of law my entire career, with a focus on civil and criminal trials and appeals. Over my career my practice has largely been divided between civil cases (approximately 70 percent), criminal cases (approximately 20 percent), and administrative and professional licensure matters (approximately 10 percent). As a percentage of practice by tribunal, while it varies considerably by year, I would estimate 60% state court, 30% federal court, and 10% administrative or arbitration forums. In the last ten years, I have tried approximately 25 cases or contested matters, including 5 jury trials, serving as lead counsel for my client in all but three or four. In the last ten years, I have participated in slightly more than 20 appeals in state and federal court, of which I was lead counsel in approximately two-thirds.

In my civil litigation practice, I have represented clients in state and federal courts in a broad array of matters, including complex contract disputes, shareholder litigation, banking and lending litigation, estate and trust litigation, and professional liability litigation. My clients cut across a broad expanse of industries, including financial services, biotechnology, health care, agriculture, energy, tax, real estate, and manufacturing. My clients include a mix of individuals, closely held Iowa companies, and national and international corporations.

In my criminal practice, I have represented individuals and companies at the state, federal, and administrative levels on matters charging, among many others, financial crimes, health care fraud, consumer fraud, environmental crimes, and securities fraud. I also represent indigent clients in criminal appeals before the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals by court appointment under the Criminal Justice Act in cases that include, for example, charges involving drug

distribution and unlawful possession of firearms. I previously represented indigent clients by court appointment in criminal matters in federal district court and in Iowa state district court.

In my administrative practice, I have frequently represented attorneys in professional ethics cases brought by the Iowa Attorney Disciplinary Board, and many other clients in professional licensure matters before other professional and governmental boards. I have also represented clients before the Iowa Utilities Board.

Separately, I have represented the State of Iowa or its subdivisions on matters in which the Iowa Attorney General has recused or in which special expertise was sought. These engagements require approval by the Executive Council of Iowa (consisting of the Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Secretary of Agriculture, and State Auditor).

- 9. Describe your pro bono work over at least the past 10 years, including:**
- a. Approximate number of pro bono cases you've handled.**
  - b. Average number of hours of pro bono service per year.**
  - c. Types of pro bono cases.**

My pro bono work has involved both service to indigent legal services organizations and other non-profit boards and cabinets, and direct legal services to indigent clients.

I've had significant involvement with Iowa Legal Aid, which is a non-profit legal services provider for indigent persons with ten offices around the state. I began my volunteer work with Iowa Legal Aid as an intake attorney answering phones and providing legal advice. After several years serving on fundraising and advisory committees, I was appointed to the Iowa Legal Aid Board of Directors, where I've served on the Executive Committee and currently serve as Board President. I have been involved in almost all facets of the organization's operation over time, and through my work have attempted to advance Iowa Legal Aid's mission to ensure access to justice for all Iowans. I also had significant involvement in representation of clients through the Polk County Bar Association's Latino Outreach Clinic. I provided advice at the clinics and took on many representations for clients that had ongoing litigation needs, including representation in court matters. On average, I would estimate I provide in excess of 100 hours of pro bono work each year.

- 10. If you have ever held judicial office or served in a quasi-judicial position:**

Not applicable.

- a. Describe the details, including the title of the position, the courts or other tribunals involved, the method of selection, the periods of service, and a description of the jurisdiction of each of court or tribunal.**
- b. List any cases in which your decision was reversed by a court or other reviewing entity. For each case, include a citation for your reversed opinion and the reviewing entity's or court's opinion and attach a copy of each opinion.**

- c. List any case in which you wrote a significant opinion on federal or state constitutional issues. For each case, include a citation for your opinion and any reviewing entity's or court's opinion and attach a copy of each opinion.

**11. If you have been subject to the reporting requirements of Court Rule 22.10:**

Not applicable.

- a. State the number of times you have failed to file timely rule 22.10 reports.
  - b. State the number of matters, along with an explanation of the delay, that you have taken under advisement for longer than:
    - i. 120 days.
    - ii. 180 days.
    - iii. 240 days.
    - iv. One year.
- 12. Describe at least three of the most significant legal matters in which you have participated as an attorney or presided over as a judge or other impartial decision maker. If they were litigated matters, give the citation if available. For each matter please state the following:**
- a. Title of the case and venue,
  - b. A brief summary of the substance of each matter,
  - c. A succinct statement of what you believe to be the significance of it,
  - d. The name of the party you represented, if applicable,
  - e. The nature of your participation in the case,
  - f. Dates of your involvement,
  - g. The outcome of the case,
  - h. Name(s) and address(es) [city, state] of co-counsel (if any),
  - i. Name(s) of counsel for opposing parties in the case, and
  - j. Name of the judge before whom you tried the case, if applicable.

**Matter 1: *AFSCME Council 61 v. State*, 928 N.W.2d 21 (Iowa 2019)**

- a. *AFSCME Iowa Council 61, et al., v. State of Iowa, et al.*, Iowa Supreme Court, Case No. 17-841.
- b. I represented the State of Iowa in two high-profile lawsuits filed by Iowa's largest public employee unions contesting the Legislature's sweeping changes to Iowa's public employee collective bargaining statute in 2017. The Iowa Attorney General recused based on a conflict of interest. In the AFSCME matter, the public employee union alleged, among other things, that the statutory amendments violated the equal protection clause of the Iowa constitution and the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. We argued on behalf of the State that the amendments to the collective bargaining statute were valid, Constitutional policy decisions by the Legislature. The district court granted the State's motion for summary judgment. The union appealed to

the Iowa Supreme Court. The case and oral argument garnered considerable media attention. The Iowa Supreme Court affirmed the district court ruling.

- c. The Iowa Supreme Court further clarified the scope of Constitutional protections under the Equal Protection clause of the Iowa Constitution.
- d. The State of Iowa and the Iowa Public Employee Relations Board
- e. I served as lead counsel, participated in researching and drafting the briefs, and argued the case both in the district court and before the Iowa Supreme Court.
- f. February 2017 to June 2019
- g. The Iowa Supreme Court affirmed the district court ruling in favor of the State.
- h. Co-counsel: Michael R. Reck, Kelsey J. Knowles, Espnola F. Cartmill  
Des Moines, Iowa
- i. Opposing counsel: Mark Hedberg and Sarah M. Baumgartner  
Des Moines, Iowa
- j. Chief Judge Arthur Gamble, Polk County

**Matter 2:** *United States v. Trogdon*, 789 F.3d 907, 908 (8th Cir. 2015)

- a. *United States v. Jeremy Trogdon*, Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals (Case No. 14-2875)
- b. I represented Jeremy Trogdon by court appointment under the Criminal Justice Act in the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Trogdon sought to challenge his conviction to possession of a firearm as a felon. The district court denied Mr. Trogdon's motion to suppress evidence, and on appeal I urged the Eighth Circuit to overturn the district court's denial because the police lacked reasonable, articulable suspicion for the stop-and-frisk that led to the discovery of the weapon and the associated finding of guilt.
- c. The case presented unique Fourth Amendment search-and-seizure issues involving the nature of a trespass giving rise to an individual's detention by law enforcement.
- d. Jeremy Trogdon
- e. I served as sole counsel on the appeal and argued the matter before the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.
- f. September 2014 to September 2015

- g. The Eighth Circuit affirmed the district court's ruling.
- h. Co-counsel: None.
- i. Opposing counsel: Mikaela Jo Shotwell, Assistant United States Attorney  
Des Moines, Iowa
- j. Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals

**Matter 3:** *Calkins v. Brandt*, No. EQCE081752, 2019 WL 1222916, at \*1 (Iowa Dist. Ct. Jan. 26, 2019)

- a. *Russell W. Calkins III v. Donald R. Brandt, CTI Holdings, Inc., Claim Technologies Incorporated, and CTI Administrators, Inc.*, Iowa Specialty Business Court, Case No. EQCE081752.
- b. I represented Calkins, a minority shareholder in a closely held business in a shareholder oppression and breach of fiduciary duty action. Calkins alleged majority-owner Brandt, to keep Brandt's son employed at a high salary despite financial challenges within the business, engaged in squeeze-out techniques of Calkins from the business. Brandt later fired Calkins when Calkins refused a buyout proposal, thus eliminating any meaningful, ongoing financial benefit Calkins would receive from the corporation. The matter went to trial before the Iowa Specialty Business Court in October 2018. The Court found shareholder oppression and breach of fiduciary duty and entered judgment in Calkins' favor.
- c. This case was the first instance of a minority shareholder prevailing in a shareholder oppression action in Iowa since the Iowa Supreme Court put in place the "reasonable expectations" standard in 2013. This case also presented directly to an Iowa court for the first time a question of whether a minority shareholder can maintain damages based on a reasonable expectation of continued at-will employment. That question became the subject of an article I co-authored in the Drake Law Review published in September 2019.
- d. Russell Calkins
- e. I served as lead counsel throughout the case, including the trial and post-trial motions.
- f. November 2016 to July 2019
- g. The Iowa Business Court found oppression and breach of fiduciary duty and entered judgment in Calkins' favor in an amount (including pre- and post-judgment interest and attorney fees assessed against the Defendants) in excess of \$1.4 million. The judgment was not appealed.



- h. Co-counsel: Christopher J. Jessen  
Des Moines, Iowa
- i. Opposing counsel: Benjamin Roach and Katherine Graham  
Des Moines, Iowa
- j. Business Court Judge Lawrence McLellan, Polk County

**13. Describe how your non-litigation legal experience, if any, would enhance your ability to serve as a judge.**

An important component of my practice involves advising clients on their legal rights outside the litigation context. I frequently counsel clients on their legal rights under state or federal law on matters that do not involve court proceedings. For example, I regularly advise the National Pork Board on statutory and contractual compliance issues surrounding its pork promotion activities unrelated to any litigation. Counseling clients on their legal rights and obligations before any problems arise frequently avoids litigation and its attendant costs and disruptions to clients.

In conjunction with my representation of attorneys in ethics matters, I frequently provide counsel to lawyers in non-litigated matters concerning compliance with the Iowa Rules of Professional Conduct. The Iowa Supreme Court oversees all attorney discipline, and my counseling on attorney ethic matters has provided me considerable experience in addressing attorney ethics issues potentially useful in the Iowa Supreme Court's adjudication of attorney disciplinary matters.

**14. If you have ever held public office or have you ever been a candidate for public office, describe the public office held or sought, the location of the public office, and the dates of service.**

I have never been a candidate for elected office. In 2017, I was one of three nominees submitted to the White House for the appointment of United States Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa. Another nominee ultimately was selected.

**15. If you are currently an officer, director, partner, sole proprietor, or otherwise engaged in the management of any business enterprise or nonprofit organization other than a law practice, provide the following information about your position(s) and title(s):**

- a. Name of business / organization.
- b. Your title.
- c. Your duties.
- d. Dates of involvement.

Organization: Iowa Legal Aid  
Title: Board President and Director  
Duties: Oversight of the organization, including legal oversight, management oversight, financial oversight, and program oversight; fundraising; public outreach.  
Dates: Board of Directors, 2013–present; President, 2019–present

**16. List all bar associations and legal- or judicial-related committees or groups of which you are or have been a member and give the titles and dates of any offices that you held in those groups.**

*Iowa State Bar Association*

Chair, Judicial Administration Committee, 2010–present  
Board of Governors, 2006–09  
President, Young Lawyers Division, 2008–09  
Member, Fair and Impartial Courts Committee, 2011–14  
Member, Bench-Bar Committee, 2013–present  
Chair, Task Force on Supreme Court Ethics Opinions, 2007–2012  
President-Elect, Young Lawyers Division, 2007–08  
Secretary, Young Lawyers Division, 2006–07  
Administrative Committee, 2008–09  
Public Relations Committee, 2007–08  
Disaster Task Force, 2008–09  
Special Task Force on Public Image, 2005–07  
Executive Council Representative, Young Lawyers Division, 2004–06  
Law-Related Education Committee, Young Lawyers Division, 2004–07  
Chair, Long Range Planning Committee, Young Lawyers Division, 2008  
Litigation Section  
Criminal Law Section

*Iowa State Bar Foundation*

Bar Foundation Fellow, 2011–present

*Polk County Bar Association*

Chair, Bench and Bar Committee, 2009–10, 2012–13  
Executive Committee, Young Lawyers Division, 2004–08

*Iowa Legal Aid*

Board of Directors, 2013–present  
President, Board of Directors, 2019–present  
Executive Committee, Board of Directors, 2015–present  
Committee Chair, Personnel Committee, 2017–19  
Committee Chair, Development, Finance, & Audit Committee, 2015–17  
Executive Director Search Committee, 2017  
Central Iowa Advisory Council, 2011–13  
Equal Justice After Hours Committee, 2008–10  
Intake volunteer

*Iowa Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers*  
Member, 2005–12

*American Bar Association*

American Bar Association Delegate, Young Lawyers Division, 2006–09  
Litigation section

- 17. List all other professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed above, to which you have participated, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation and indicate any office you held. “Participation” means consistent or repeated involvement in a given organization, membership, or regular attendance at events or meetings.**

*Polk County Homeless Continuum of Care Board*

Board of Directors, 2012–19  
Chair, Board of Directors, 2018–19  
Vice-Chair, Board of Directors, 2014–18  
Member, Executive Committee, 2014–19  
Chair, Governance Committee, 2013–19  
Member, Community Vision Working Group, 2018–19  
Member, HUD Grant Committee, 2013–15

*Central Iowa Shelter & Services (formerly Churches United Homeless Shelter)*

Board of Directors, 2005–13  
President, Board of Directors, 2006–07  
Chair, Building Committee, 2006–12  
Executive Committee, 2006–09

*United Way of Central Iowa*

Chair’s Cabinet, 2014–present  
Chair, Tocqueville Society Campaign, 2015  
Tocqueville Society Advisory Committee, 2010–present  
Tocqueville Society, 2010–present  
Education Leadership Initiative, 2006–present  
Campaign Cabinet, Legal Segment Co-Chair, 2010–11, 2012–14  
Campaign Awards Selection Committee, 2008

*Montessori Children’s House*

Board of Directors, 2013–18

*Iowa Lottery Authority (appointed by Governor Branstad and confirmed by Iowa Senate)*

Board of Directors, 2012–16  
President, Board of Directors, 2015–16

*HOLA Center (Hispanic Outreach and Legal Assistance)*  
Board of Directors, 2006–11

*Drake Law School Mentor Program*  
Mentor, 2011–12

*Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines*  
Member, Young Leaders Advisory Council, 2009–10

*Polk County Volunteer Lawyers Project*  
Latino Outreach Clinic volunteer, 2004–11

*Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Central Iowa*  
Mentor, 2004–10  
Bowl for Kids' Sake planning committee, 2004–07

*Bull Moose Club*  
President, 2007  
Vice-President, 2006  
Director of Programming, 2005

*Blackstone Inn of Court*  
Member, 2005–07

*Leadership Iowa*  
Class of 2005–06

*Republican Party of Iowa*  
Legal Counsel, 2007–12

*Polk County Republican Party Central Committee*  
Member, 2006–08

*Capital Striders Running Club*  
Member (or Sustaining Member), 2009–present

- 18. If you have held judicial office, list at least three opinions that best reflect your approach to writing and deciding cases. For each case, include a brief explanation as to why you selected the opinion and a citation for your opinion and any reviewing entity's or court's opinion. If either opinion is not publicly available (i.e., available on Westlaw or a public website other than the court's electronic filing system), please attach a copy of the opinion.**

Not applicable.

- 19. If you have not held judicial office or served in a quasi-judicial position, provide at least three writing samples (brief, article, book, etc.) that reflect your work.**

See attached appellate briefs from the following cases:

*AFSCME Iowa Council 61, et al., v. State of Iowa, et al.*, Appellee's Brief, Iowa Supreme Court (Case No. 17-841), filed May 22, 2018.

*William Van Horn, et al. v. R.H. Van Horn Farms, Inc., et al.*, Appellee's Brief, Iowa Supreme Court (Case No. 17-0324), filed August 18, 2017.

*United States v. Trogdon*, Appellant's Brief, Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals (Case No. 14-2875), filed December 22, 2014.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

- 20. If any member of the State Judicial Nominating Commission is your spouse, son, daughter, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, niece, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, stepson, stepdaughter, stepbrother, stepsister, half brother, or half sister, state the Commissioner's name and his or her familial relationship with you.**

None.

- 21. If any member of the State Judicial Nominating Commission is a current law partner or business partner, state the Commissioner's name and describe his or her professional relationship with you.**

None.

- 22. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, blog posts, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited.**

I authored an article in the *Drake Law Review* with my colleague Christopher Jessen cited as: Matthew C. McDermott & Christopher J. Jessen, *At-Will or Something More?: Reasonable Expectations of Continued Employment by Minority Shareholders Post-Baur v. Baur Farms, Inc.*, 67 *Drake Law Review* 713 (2019).

I was the subject of a video prepared and presented by the United Way of Central Iowa played at an awards banquet in May 2017 associated with my receipt of the United Way's Individual Volunteer of the Year Award in which I made public comments. The video is available at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Qdu1Oumm7Y](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Qdu1Oumm7Y).

I was invited and wrote a guest article in the *Carroll Daily Times Herald* newspaper relating to my personal experiences and reflections surrounding the Boston Marathon terrorist attack published May 17, 2013.

I was interviewed in a news article appearing in the *Carroll Daily Times Herald* newspaper relating to the Boston Marathon terrorist attack in which I made public comments. The article was titled, “3 fleet-footed Kuemper alums outrun fate,” published April 16, 2013.

I was the subject of an article in the University of California, Berkeley School of Law’s quarterly magazine *Transcript* (Vol. 45, No. 1) in which I made public comments about the practice of law in Iowa published in April 2013, available at [www.law.berkeley.edu/files/Transcript\\_spring\\_2013\\_web.pdf](http://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/Transcript_spring_2013_web.pdf).

I was the subject of an interview in the *Des Moines Business Record* in which I made public comments about the practice of law in Iowa published August 2, 2013 titled “A Closer Look: Matthew McDermott” available at [www.businessrecord.com/Content/Law---Government/Law---Government/Article/A-Closer-Look--Matthew-McDermott/164/788/59375](http://www.businessrecord.com/Content/Law---Government/Law---Government/Article/A-Closer-Look--Matthew-McDermott/164/788/59375).

I edited and authored summaries of the Iowa Supreme Court’s attorney disciplinary opinions appearing in *The Iowa Lawyer* magazine from approximately 2007 through 2012.

I authored semi-monthly articles appearing in *The Iowa Lawyer* magazine while serving as YLD President in 2008-09.

I was the subject of an article in *The Iowa Lawyer* magazine titled “Lawyer by Day, Big Brother by Night” (Vol. 65, No. 10) in which I made public comments published in October 2005 available at [http://205.209.45.153/iabar/IALawyer.nsf/13ccaa12737005fd87257eca006abf85/5b5c641bfdc10a2987257ecb0018cd5b/\\$FILE/Iowa%20Lawyer%20final.pdf](http://205.209.45.153/iabar/IALawyer.nsf/13ccaa12737005fd87257eca006abf85/5b5c641bfdc10a2987257ecb0018cd5b/$FILE/Iowa%20Lawyer%20final.pdf).

- 23. List all speeches, talks, or other public presentations that you have delivered for at least the last ten years, including the title of the presentation or a brief summary of the subject matter of the presentation, the group to whom the presentation was delivered, and the date of the presentation.**

Law-Related Presentations

Presenter (with Tara van Brederode), *Backstage Pass: Behind the Scenes of an Ethics Prosecution*, Iowa State Bar Association Annual Meeting, June 2019

Presenter, *A Mind is a Terrible Thing to Change: Effective Opening Statements*, Iowa State Bar Association webinar, December 2018

Panelist, *Ethics Panel*, Iowa State Bar Association Corporate Counsel & Trade Regulation Seminar, October 2018

Presenter, *Legal Ethics: Ten Tips to Avoid Trouble*, National Employment Lawyers Association (Iowa Chapter), January 2018

Presenter, *Legal Ethics: Ten Tips to Avoid Trouble*, Iowa State Bar Association webinar, December 2017

Presenter (with Stephen Locher), *Federal Practice*, Polk County Bar Association Fall CLE, November 2016

Presenter, *The Ethics Complaint Process*, Iowa State Bar Association webinar, December 2015

Presenter, *Understanding the Ethics Complaint Process*, Polk County Bar Association Fall CLE, November 2015

Panelist, *Ethics Panel*, Iowa State Bar Association Corporate Counsel & Trade Regulation Seminar, September 2015

Presenter, *Suing and Getting Sued: What to Expect and What to Do About It Now*, Iowa Bankers Association Leaders of Tomorrow, August 2015

Moderator, *Serving a Modern Public . . . The Advent of Online Access and Digital Information*, 2014 ISBA Bench-Bar Conference, May 2014

Presenter, *Ethics in Billing*, Polk County Bar Association Spring CLE, April 2014

Presenter, *Deciphering the U.S. Supreme Court's DoMA Decisions*, Belin McCormick Employment Law Seminar, September 2013

Presenter, *Ethics in Billing*, National Employment Lawyers Association (Iowa Chapter), December 2013

Presenter, *Contractual and Litigation Strategies in Dealing with Financially Troubled Companies*, Iowa Association of Corporate Counsel Seminar, November 2012

Presenter, *Effective Opening Statements*, Lincoln Inn of Court, April 2012

Presenter, *Understanding the Ethics Complaint Process in Iowa*, Iowa Association of Corporate Counsel Seminar, October 2011

Presenter, *Understanding the Ethics Complaint Process in Iowa*, Lincoln Inn of Court, December 2010

Presenter, *Understanding the Ethics Complaint Process in Iowa*, Iowa State Bar Association YLD Summer Seminar, July 2010

Presenter, *Cross-Examinations*, Iowa State Bar Association “Bridge the Gap” CLE, May 2010

Presenter, *Understanding the Ethics Complaint Process in Iowa*, Polk County Bar Association General Practice CLE, November 2009

Presenter, *Understanding the Ethics Complaint Process in Iowa*, Iowa Association for Justice Annual Convention CLE, November 2009

Presenter (with Mark E. Weinhardt & Holly M. Logan), *The Criminal Trial from Start to Finish* (All-Day Seminar), National Business Institute Seminar, October 2009

Presenter, *Ethics: Avoiding the Danger Zones*, Iowa State Bar Association YLD Summer Seminar, July 2009

Presenter, *Legal Ethics*, Federal Public Defender Spring Seminar, May 2009

Presenter (with Mark E. Weinhardt & Holly M. Logan), *White Collar Crime*, Criminal Justice Act Federal Criminal Law Seminar, November 2008

Presenter, *Legal Ethics for Criminal Law Attorneys*, Iowa State Bar Association Criminal Law Section Seminar, May 2008

Presenter, *Judicial Ethics*, Iowa Judicial Branch Civil Law Seminar for Judges, April 2008

Presenter, *Legal Ethics*, Lorman Education Services Seminar, November 2007

Presenter, *Legal Ethics*, Iowa Defense Counsel Association Annual Meeting & Seminar, September 2007

Presenter, *Legal Ethics*, Lorman Education Services Seminar, August 2006

### Political Remarks

Public remarks on behalf of Senator John McCain to caucus attendees at my precinct in Des Moines, Iowa, for the Iowa Caucuses held January 4, 2008. I served as Iowa legal counsel for Senator McCain’s campaign and the remarks generally pertained to reasons why I was supporting Senator McCain at the caucus.

Introduced Governor Tim Pawlenty at a town hall meeting with voters held in Urbandale, Iowa, on July 7, 2011. I was Polk County Co-Chair for Governor Pawlenty’s campaign and the remarks generally pertained to reasons why I intended to support Governor Pawlenty in the Iowa Caucuses.

Public remarks in support of Governor Jeb Bush to caucus attendees at my precinct in West Des Moines, Iowa, for the Iowa Caucuses held February 1, 2016. I was West Des Moines



Co-Chair for Governor Bush’s campaign and the remarks generally pertained to reasons why I was supporting Governor Bush at the caucus.

In my various leadership roles with the Bull Moose Club, I spoke at events introducing speakers or discussing political topics.

Civic Presentations/Remarks

In my various leadership roles with Iowa Legal Aid, I have spoken multiple times at the annual fundraiser Equal Justice After Hours about the organization and its work.

I presented to the Iowa Bankers Association “Leaders of Tomorrow” on community engagement and leadership on August 22, 2015.

I was invited to and made public remarks at the Kuemper Catholic Schools Foundation meeting in Carroll, Iowa on September 11, 2011.

I was invited to and made public remarks at the swearing-in ceremonies for new Iowa lawyers in April and September 2009.

I made public remarks to the Des Moines City Council in support of Central Iowa Shelter & Services’ building of a new and expanded homeless shelter in late 2008/early 2009.

**24. List all the social media applications (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, LinkedIn) that you have used in the past five years and your account name or other identifying information (excluding passwords) for each account.**

Facebook: Matt McDermott (<https://www.facebook.com/matt.mcdermott.1276>)

Twitter: No current account. Previously had the handle “mcmcdermott” but account deactivated and now that handle appears to have been taken by someone else.

LinkedIn: Matthew McDermott (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/matthew-mcdermott-04093633>)

No other social media accounts.

My law firm maintains a website with information about me, but I have no social media account or blog associated with that webpage.

**25. List any honors, prizes, awards or other forms of recognition which you have received (including any indication of academic distinction in college or law school) other than those mentioned in answers to the foregoing questions.**

*The Best Lawyers in America.* Recognized as 2020 “Lawyer of the Year” in Bet-the-Company Litigation. Recognized as 2015 “Lawyer of the Year” in Litigation–Banking & Finance.

Recognized in four litigation categories: Bet-the-Company Litigation; Commercial Litigation; Banking & Finance Litigation; and Bankruptcy Litigation.

*Chambers and Partners USA*. Recognized as Leading Lawyer in Litigation—General and Commercial, 2012–present.

*Great Plains Super Lawyers*. Recognized in Business Litigation, 2013–present.

*United Way of Central Iowa*, Recipient, Individual Volunteer of the Year Award, 2017.

*Iowa State Bar Association*, Recipient, YLD Award of Merit (highest honor bestowed by YLD), 2013.

*Polk County Bar Association*, Outstanding Volunteer Award, 2009.

**26. Provide the names and telephone numbers of at least five people who would be able to comment on your qualifications to serve in judicial office. Briefly state the nature of your relationship with each person.**

Mark McCormick, Des Moines, IA (Attorney/Shareholder, Belin McCormick) 515-283-4615  
Mr. McCormick is a colleague and mentor with whom I have worked on many cases, including trials and appeals, from the beginning of my career to the present.

Kelsey J. Knowles, Waukee, IA (Attorney/Shareholder, Belin McCormick) 515-283-4631  
Ms. Knowles is a longtime colleague and collaborator on litigation matters, including appeals, and we have also worked closely on law firm management and leadership issues.

John C. Werden, Carroll, IA (Carroll County Attorney) 712-792-3424  
Mr. Werden has known me since high school when he coached my mock trial team. In my years as a practicing attorney, Mr. Werden has served as opposing counsel on multiple matters.

Cynthia C. Moser, Sioux City, IA (Attorney, Heidman Law Firm) 712-222-4150  
Ms. Moser and I have worked closely for many years on bar and non-profit matters, including service at the same time in leadership roles with Iowa State Bar Association and Iowa Legal Aid.

William Even, Dallas Center, IA (CEO, National Pork Board) 515-223-2600  
Mr. Even is a client with whom I have worked closely on multiple matters in his role leading the National Pork Board and its members.

**27. Explain why you are seeking this judicial position.**

I am drawn to the critical public service role our Supreme Court fulfills in ensuring the fair and efficient delivery of justice to all. I believe I have a diverse collection of experiences and abilities that will enable me to be a productive contributor on the Court, and I believe my contributions on the Court can be of service to the public.

While in private practice I have endeavored to apply my abilities and work ethic serving in various roles with public service components. But in my view service on the Iowa Supreme Court presents a far greater opportunity to apply my skills in serving the public through administering equal justice under the law.

**28. Explain how your appointment would enhance the court.**

The Supreme Court is a court of general jurisdiction that hears cases of all types, and in my legal career I have been a generalist handling trials and appeals in a diverse array of civil and criminal matters. I believe the breadth, scope, and intensity of my practice have prepared me to cut quickly to the critical points in cases that would come before the Court.

My practice has permitted me continuous opportunities to hone my brief writing. I have endeavored to make my briefs simple, direct, and addressed to intelligent generalist judges. I would attempt to bring similar qualities of simplicity and clarity in judicial opinions for the parties and attorneys.

I've represented a diverse set of clients from across Iowa and beyond. This includes some of our wealthiest and most powerful citizens in complex commercial cases, and some of our most destitute and powerless citizens in appointed criminal defense cases. From large corporations, to small closely held businesses, to individuals; from immigrants, to farmers, to social workers, to CEOs; I have given my best efforts on behalf of all of them, and would continue to do so if given the high honor of serving on the Supreme Court.

I have worked hard to promote and improve access to justice in Iowa to ensure our justice system delivers outcomes that are fair and accessible to all, regardless of wealth or status. I believe I can help advance the Supreme Court's considerable efforts and progress in this critical area—improving accessibility, ensuring fairness, and increasing efficiency—if appointed to serve on the Court.

I have held the highest leadership positions in significant business, state, and non-profit organizations, including the Iowa Lottery Authority (Board President), Iowa Legal Aid (Board President), Central Iowa Shelter & Services (largest homeless shelter in Iowa) (Board President), Polk County Homeless Continuum of Care (Board Chair), Bull Moose Club (President), ISBA YLD (President), and the Belin McCormick law firm (President). I believe my diverse collection of leadership experiences positions me well to assist in leading the Iowa Judicial Branch if appointed to serve on the Court.

**29. Provide any additional information that you believe the Commission or the Governor should know in considering your application.**

None.