<u>Via Electronic & U.S. Mail</u> Supreme Court Nominating Commission c/o Chief Justice Nancy E. Rice 2 E. 14th Avenue, Clerk's Office Denver, CO 80203 robert.mccallum@judicial.state.co.us

> RE: COLORADO SUPREME COURT NOMINATING COMMISSION; NOVEMBER 2017 INTERVIEWS

Honorable Chief Justice Rice,

I am writing on behalf of the Executive Council for the Water Law Section, Colorado Bar Association. Our section is comprised of more than three hundred lawyers concerned with improving the practice of water law and administration of water rights in the State of Colorado. We wish to comment on the Nominating Commission's activities to fill the vacancy created by Justice Eid's appointment to the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Through its exclusive and direct appellate jurisdiction over water cases, the Colorado Supreme Court plays a critical, and extraordinary, role in the development of Colorado water law. Justice Eid was an active participant in water cases before the Court, and was greatly respected as Chair of the Colorado Supreme Court, Water Court Committee.

With respect for the significance of the Colorado Supreme Court, and Justice Eid's personal role, in the development of Colorado water law and practice, the Executive Council of the Water Law Section requests that the Colorado Supreme Court Nominating Commission give additional consideration to applicants with demonstrated experience and expertise in Colorado water law as it interviews candidates to fill the vacancy created by Justice Eid's appointment. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully

Christopher L. Geiger, Chair Executive Council, Water Law Section Colorado Bar Association

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