



THE SUPREME COURT OF MINNESOTA
MINNESOTA JUDICIAL CENTER
25 REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD.
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155

CHAMBERS OF
LORIE S. GILDEA
CHIEF JUSTICE

(651) 296-3380

June 20, 2022

Thomas Hamlin
Robins Kaplan LLP
800 LaSalle Avenue, #2800
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Dear Mr. Hamlin:

The Minnesota State Bar Association Access to Justice Committee brought to my attention a small number of attorneys whose commitment to pro bono has been exceptional. You are one of those few.

I am writing to thank you for your extraordinary service representing Minnesotans in need of legal help. Last year you devoted 640 hours of pro bono service over a wide range of legal issues. You took on a cold-call asylum case to help an individual afraid to return to his home country because of his sexual orientation. In addition, you helped the Innocence Project review a case to determine if the conviction was wrongful. You also represented an organization fighting for the rights of immigrants and victims of human trafficking, agreeing to expedite the organization's FOIA requests and to seek recourse in court if needed.

Equal justice under the law is the most fundamental promise of our justice system. A judicial system that is accessible only to those who can afford it does not keep that promise. Minnesota's lawyers have acknowledged their role in ensuring equal access to justice, and it is lawyers like you who help to make that promise a reality.

On behalf of the Justices of the Minnesota Supreme Court and of all Judges across the State of Minnesota, I thank you for the pro bono services you provide. You are answering the highest calling of our profession by helping to make equal access to justice a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Lorie S. Gildea".

Lorie S. Gildea
Chief Justice