September 3, 2020

Eaton County Voters:

I have been so fortunate for the past 15 years to serve as a district court judge for Eaton County. It has been a wonderful opportunity to work with very competent, caring people to make our community safer and healthier and to promote healing, mental, emotional, and physical, for many of our citizens who are struggling in various ways. My work here will end at the end of this year. It is very important to me that my replacement on the bench be someone who will carry on this work with intelligence, integrity, compassion, and strength. That person is Kelly Morton.

I have supervised two treatment courts, one for domestic violence offenders and the other for defendants found guilty of a second offense of drunk driving. In treatment courts, judges stay involved with the defendant throughout probation, encouraging the defendant's growth and holding him or her accountable for making positive changes. It is inspiring work that results in a substantial benefit to the defendant, the family, and the community as the defendant learns, heals, and practices new behaviors. Kelly Morton has worked extensively with my treatment courts and the other treatment courts in Eaton County.

Kelly has served as an assistant prosecuting attorney during the years I have been on the bench. She has proven herself to be consistently competent, smart, and responsible. She understands the dynamics of substance use disorders and domestic violence. I trust Kelly to be able to immediately step in and continue the work our team has done to promote healing and reduce recidivism of defendants committing crimes in Eaton County.

I encourage Eaton County voters to support Kelly Morton to become our next Eaton County District Court judge.

Judge Julie Reincke