

Ben Martig

From: Ellison, Paul <Paul.Ellison@courts.state.mn.us>
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 3:40 PM
To: Ben Martig; Deb Little
Subject: Charter Commission
Attachments: Ludescher Letter.docx

Ben and Deb:

Attached to this email is an electronic copy of the letter that Judge Thompson sent to David Ludescher.

Judge Thompson does not want to give any legal advice on what actions to take on your end. His feelings on the matter are pretty clearly explained in his letter.

If you have further questions I will do my best to answer them.

Thanks,

Paul Ellison

Judicial Law Clerk to Judge Jeffrey Thompson
Winona County Courthouse
171 West Third Street
Winona, Minnesota 55987
507-457-6545

April 26, 2017

David Ludescher
Chair, Northfield Charter Commission
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057

Mr. Ludescher:

I received your communication regarding appointments to the Northfield Charter Commission. As you know, I issued an order appointing two individuals to the commission shortly before receiving your communication. I have reviewed the communication you sent me, my previous order, and applicable Minnesota statute. You cite to a provision of the Northfield Charter. This provision does state that you will oversee verifying eligibility and submitting applicants. However, I do not read the charter provision as removing my ability to appoint individuals to the commission who submit their applications directly to me as occurred in this case. At this time, I am not inclined to rescind my initial order. If you have further information to convince me that a new or amended order is needed you are certainly welcome to submit that information. Unless I am convinced that my initial order was erroneous, my order will stand.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Thompson, Chief Judge