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**Governor Gordon appoints Nathaniel Hibben
to be a Circuit Court Judge for the Eighth Judicial District**

CHEYENNE, Wyo.— Governor Mark Gordon has appointed Nathaniel Hibben to be a Circuit Court Judge for the Eighth Judicial District serving Goshen County, Wyoming. Hibben’s appointment fills the vacancy left by the retirement of Judge Randal Arp.

Hibben is currently an attorney working in private practice and a Municipal Judge in the town of Torrington. He previously served as a public defender and as Deputy Goshen County Attorney. Hibben grew up in Des Moines, Iowa, received a B.S. in History from Iowa State University and graduated cum laude from Liberty University School of Law. Nathaniel, his wife Chelsea and his four children have lived in Torrington since 2009.

“This was a very difficult decision to make and all three candidates were outstanding choices, Governor Gordon said. “Nathaniel Hibben’s work with the Wyoming State Bar and his experience in civil, financial, and agricultural law make him an exemplary candidate. His thoughtful viewpoints and legal experience will be of great use to him as a judge.”

Reacting to his appointment, Hibben said, “Thank you, Governor Gordon, for entrusting me with this opportunity and privilege to serve the people of the Eighth District and Wyoming. To be welcomed into this community as my family and I have been has been reward enough. To have the respect of my colleagues and Governor Gordon's confidence in appointing me to this judgeship means more to me and my family than I can say. It is an honor to accept this appointment.”

The three candidates advanced by Wyoming's Judicial Nominating Commission also included Wyoming Supreme Court Clerk Patricia Bennett and Secretary of State Ed Buchanan.

"Over the past couple of years I have come to know the Secretary of State as an extraordinary public servant who cares deeply about Wyoming," Governor Gordon said. "I am honored to continue working with him and the team he has built going forward."

Buchanan said he was honored and grateful for the Governor's decision and his words of support.

"I greatly appreciate his consideration and the factors involved, and am honored and privileged to continue my service to the citizens of the great state of Wyoming," Buchanan said. "I know Nate Hibben as a brilliant legal mind and a tremendous individual. He will serve Goshen County with the utmost capability and dedication. I will continue to execute the position of Secretary of State without hesitation with my phenomenal staff by my side as we confront all challenges set before us and seize every opportunity."

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