



SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION

Jamie Harvey Chairman
Silvia Stubbs Vice-Chair
 Commissioner
Mack McDonald Administrator

Bruce Adams

June 28, 2024

Dear San Juan County Commissioners,

Please accept this letter as my formal resignation from my position as San Juan County Attorney. My last day will be August 16, 2024.

Thank you for your support during my time at San Juan County. It's been a pleasure having the tremendous opportunity to come home, serve the great people of the greatest County, and to work alongside such a talented team. I've appreciated the opportunity to work in this role. And I've learned so much knowledge that I'll carry throughout my career.

During my last couple of months, I'll do everything possible to make this transition as smooth as possible. Please let me know if there's anything in particular I can do to support you and the County.

I wish you and the great people of San Juan continued success and hope to stay in touch.

Sincerely,
Brittney Ivins

July 2024 Attorney Candidates from Utah Bar Association

| Name | Organization | Street Address | Address 2 | City | State | Zip | Email |
|---------------------|---|-------------------|--------------|------------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|
| Daniel G. Anderson | Anderson & Anderson, P.C. | 81 East 100 South | | Monticello | UT | 84535 | andersonandersonlaw@gmail.com |
| L. Robert Anderson | Anderson & Anderson, P.C. | 81 East 100 South | PO Box 275 | Monticello | UT | 84535 | andersonandersonlaw@gmail.com |
| Craig C. Halls | Craig C. Halls | 403 So. Main | | BLANDING | UT | 84511 | craigchalls@yahoo.com |
| Kendall G. Laws | Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office | 316 W 300 N | | Blanding | UT | 84511 | klaws@utah.gov |
| Mitchell D. Maughan | Deputy County Attorney, San Juan County, Utah | 297 South Main | P.O. Box 850 | Monticello | UT | 84535 | mmaughan@sanjuancounty.org |

M. Manley



Clerk/Auditor
Lyman W. Duncan
lduncan@sanjuancounty.org

July 11, 2024

L. Robert Anderson
PO Box 275
81 E. 100 S.
Monticello, UT 84535

Sample Letter

Dear L. Robert Anderson,

San Juan County Attorney Brittany Ivins is resigning her position effective August 16, 2024. As a registered voter and licensed, active attorney in good standing who resides in San Juan County, you are invited to apply for her vacancy. You have 10 calendar days from the date of this letter to submit your declaration of candidacy. You must respond before 5 p.m. on the 21st, July 2024, to be considered. Please contact me at 435-587-3223 if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Lyman W. Duncan
County Clerk/Auditor

Kendall G. Laws

(435)459-0048 • 316 West 300 North Blanding, UT 84511 • Kendall.laws@gmail.com

Bar Membership

Utah State Bar, Admitted 2013

Education

University of Wyoming College of Law, Laramie, Wyoming
Juris Doctor, May 2013.

Utah State University, Logan, Utah
Bachelor of Science, Political Science, May 2010

College of Eastern Utah, San Juan Campus, Blanding, Utah
Associate of Science, May 2007.

Work Experience

Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, Blanding, Utah

Legal Counsel, March 2022-Present

- Reading and comprehending complex federal land management policies, proposed rules.
- Drafting comment letters during federal land management rule making processes under NEPA, FLPMA, and other federal laws.
- Prepare witnesses for and execute depositions of witnesses in complex federal land litigation.
- Research and provide legal opinions and issues ranging from fence law to elections law
- Coordinate and liaise between state and local governments and federal land management agencies.
- Assist in litigation of federal land use decisions in Federal Court as well as at all phases of federal administrative appeals processes.

Law Office of Kendall G. Laws, Blanding, Utah

Owner/Sole Proprietor, October 2013-Present

- Sole proprietor of a small private practice handling domestic relations, debt collection defense and prosecution, estate planning, and contract disputes

San Juan County Attorney's Office, Monticello, Utah

Elected County Attorney, January 2015-March 2022

- Provide legal advice to all departments and elected officials in San Juan County
- Defend the County in Government Records Access Management Act (GRAMA) appeals to the State Records Committee and District Court
- Advise and Defend the County in land use, employment, and Open and Public Meetings Act matters at all levels of litigation.
- Research and provide legal opinions and issues ranging from fence law to elections law.
- Prosecute crimes committed in San Juan County ranging from traffic infractions to first degree felonies from the investigation, through trial, and appeals.
- Train law enforcement on legal changes as well as respond 24/7 to legal questions that arise during their duties.
- Draft and review contracts, Interlocal Agreements, ordinances and all other documents associated with local governance.
- Interact with Federal, State, and Tribal government entities including the Utah Legislature

Blanding City, Blanding, Utah

Contracted City Attorney, November 2013-December 2021

- Provide legal advice to all levels and departments within Blanding City
- Contract drafting and review for basic services as well as municipal utility contracts.
- Train elected officials and other boards on Utah Open and Public Meetings Act as well as GRAMA.
- Prosecute all criminal matters before the Blanding Justice Court

Weber County Attorney's Office, Ogden, Utah

Summer Intern, May 2012-August 2012

- Law Clerk for both criminal and civil attorneys in the County Attorney's Office
- Drafted multiple responses to motions ranging from suppression, evidentiary, and mental health motions.

University of Wyoming College of Law Family Law Clinic, Laramie, Wyoming
Student Attorney, August 2012—May 2013

- Student Attorney handling basic estate planning and divorce/custody matters.

Professional References

Jeremy Knudsen
(435)459-3033
jknudsen@fbi.gov

Happy Morgan
(435)459-1515
happym382002@yahoo.com

Janae Monson
(435)770-0209
janaemonson@gmail.com

Jeremy Redd
(435)979-2967
jredd@washingtontcity.org

Kirk Bengé
(801)532-0669
kbenge@tricityhealth.com

Jesse Trentadue
(801)652-4310
jesse32@sautah.com

Rick Eldredge
(435)459-9063
Reldredge3005@gmail.com

Blake Hamilton
(801) 391-2808
Blake.hamilton@dentons.com

Languages/Awards

- 75 % Fluent in reading, writing, and speaking Ukrainian; basic level in Russian.
- 2015 Prosecutor of the Year, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
- 2023 Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office Attorney of the Year
- 2024 Member of the Utah Bar Committee of the Year Award (Bar Character and Fitness Committee)

CRAIG C. HALLS

ATTORNEY AT LAW
403 SOUTH MAIN STREET
BLANDING, UTAH 84511

e-mail
craigchalls@yahoo.com

1(435)678-3333
1(435)459-9759


July 18, 2024

San Juan County Clerk/Auditor
P.O. Box 338
Monticello, Utah 84535

Lyman

By this letter I am submitting my declaration of candidacy for the soon to be vacant County Attorney position. Would you please notify me of any other requirements and corresponding schedule (resume).

Respectfully,



Craig C. Halls

MITCHELL D. MAUGHAN, ESQ.
1516 East Clay Hill Drive, Monticello, Utah 84535
(C) 801-471-8132 • Email: mmaughan@utahlawexpert.com
Member, Utah Bar USB 006419
Website: www.utahlawexpert.com

Broad legal background with more than 25 years of experience in criminal law, real estate law, municipal law, and litigation. Current Position: Chief Deputy County Attorney for San Juan County, Utah. Previous Positions: Owner and President of a solo law practice focused on criminal law, municipal law, real estate law, corporate law, business law and litigation. Possess innately strong presentation, negotiation, client management skills; strong written and verbal skills; excellent research abilities, litigation and trial skills, combined with critical thinking; and the ability to solve complex problems.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ATTORNEY

Criminal Law

- Extensive experience in all matters related to criminal law in both the prosecution and defense of felonies and misdemeanors. I currently prosecute matters in both the district court and the justice court for San Juan County.

Municipal Law

- Currently act as the lead attorney for San Juan County in all civil matters affecting the county. This includes drafting contracts, memorandums, ordinances, etc. I advise on planning and zoning issues; I litigate claims for and against the county.

Real Estate Transactions

- Represented buyers, sellers, and lenders on real estate purchase and sales.
- Prepared numerous commercial real estate contracts, deeds, mortgages, trust deeds, promissory notes, security agreements, and commercial lease agreements.
- Assisted clients and project teams with land use issues, including zoning and permitting.
- Performed title searches on parcels of property, researched chain of titles, right of way, and easement searches.
- Reviewed property titles, resolved property lien issues, and performed closings for commercial and private real estate transactions.
- Represented lenders in foreclosure actions - including serving as substitute trustee at foreclosure sale.
- Accurately and effectively executed due diligence examinations, including title and survey examinations to insure a clean asset for the lender's collateral.
- Negotiated and prepared commercial leases and build out agreements
- Worked closely with business and professional services teams to resolve complex contractual issues and negotiate terms and conditions into final contracts.
- Assisted clients with corporate formations, including filing incorporation documents and foreign corporation registrations, drafting operating and partnership agreements, creating articles of incorporation and bylaws, and obtaining professional licenses.

Former Outside Counsel for Santaquin City

Advised, and counseled city staff on a variety of issues including labor law, public contract law, public notice requirements, bid invitations, request for proposals, land use law, zoning, use and density requirements, annexation issues, subdivision ordinances and approval, special improvement districts, public finance, and related matters.

Representative Matters: (1) Represented Santaquin City during an aggressive real estate boom where I drafted, developed, and reviewed the implementation of policies and procedures that ensured consistency, continuity, and adherence to the City's master plan. (2) Assessed legal risk, loss mitigation, and liability for City.

Litigation and Dispute Resolution

- Provided aggressive litigation representation for clients
- Negotiation skills
- Performed and responded to discovery;
- Law and motion practice
- Drafted motions, memorandums, rulings, briefs, etc.
- Proficient in and knowledge of rules of evidence
- Trial techniques and trial practice
- Representation in appellate courts, and related matters.

Representative Matters: (1) Successfully represented clients in the trial court, the appellate court, and the Supreme Court of Utah, in an estate matter where family member was trying to dilute/extinguish my clients' interests in the estate and its assets. (2) Obtained not guilty verdicts on 5 felony possession charges for a criminal client in the trial court; represented the client before the Supreme of Utah, on state's appeal. (3) Obtained a favorable verdict for a lender in a suit against other lenders, who asserted a priority claim on its lien on real property. (4) Represented a client in an administrative hearing in which the state of Utah gave notice of its intention to exercise its right of eminent domain.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Chief Deputy County Attorney for San Juan County: 2022 to present

Owner/Attorney: Mitchell D. Maughan, Attorney at Law 1996 – 2022 (solo law practice)
765 North Main, Spanish Fork, Utah

EDUCATION

JD, Texas Tech School of Law, Lubbock, Texas
BA, Math, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah

AWARDS

- First Year Moot Court – Winner
- Fall Advanced Moot Court – Winner
- Fall Advanced Moot Court - Best Brief
- Spring Moot Court - Winner
- Am-Jur Award- Appellate Advocacy
- Environmental Law Society- Vice President
- Chairman of Appellate Advocacy - Texas Tech School of Law
- Board of Regents Scholarship Recipient (full tuition)



Lyman W. Duncan
lduncan@sanjuancounty.org

July 23, 2024

San Juan County Republican Party

Sheila Knight
Nicole Perkins
Marjorie Haun

Hi,

On June 28, the Office of the Clerk/Auditor was notified that the County Attorney was resigning from her position effectively August 16, 2024. I utilized State of Utah Code 20A-1-509.2 (1-3) for the Procedure for filling a vacancy in a county with fewer than 15 attorneys.

I contacted the Utah State Bar Association and requested a list of attorneys that are currently licensed, active members in good standing with the Utah State Bar, and a registered voter. I received the names of five (5) attorneys that met these qualifications, and an additional candidate from the Utah Bar Association's website. I prepared and mailed letters to the five candidates to gauge their interest in the open vacancy. The applicants received a deadline of 5:00 pm on July 21, 2024, to respond concerning their interest for the open vacancy.

I was contacted by three (3) attorneys, who expressed interest in the county attorney position. Therefore, I submit to the San Juan County Republican Party, the names of the following applicants: Craig C. Halls, Kendall Laws, and Mitch Maughan. The Republican Party has twenty (20) days (due by August 12th by 5:00 pm) to rank the three candidates.

If the ranking is received by me before August 6th, the information will be presented to the commission in their regularly scheduled commission meeting. The Commissioners will select the attorney to fill the open County Attorney vacancy.

Best,

Lyman W. Duncan
County Clerk

July 31, 2024

Lyman W. Duncan
San Juan County Clerk/Auditor
PO Box 338, 117 S. Main
Monticello, UT
Phone 435-587-3223 Ext 4113

Dear Clerk/Auditor Duncan,

After much deliberation, we the undersigned have ranked the candidates for San Juan County Attorney as follows:

#1 Mitchell Maughan

#2 Craig Halls

#3 Kendall Laws

Considering the gravity of this position and the nature of ongoing and future cases this office must address, we would ask that the final choice for County Attorney be based in part on the candidate's ability to serve full time. We would expect that any serious candidate would will be willing to eschew a private law practice for the duration of their term; thereby avoiding potential conflicts of interest, as well as having the ability to put their full focus on the needs of the County Attorney's office.

Sincerely,

San Juan County Republican Party
Sheila Knight
Marjorie Haun
Nicole Perkins
Ginnie Brooks