

Recommendation in behalf of Denise L. Drace

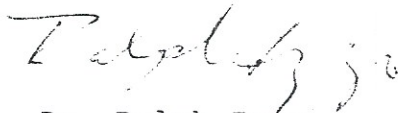
Denise Drace and I met over three years ago. At that time, she was beginning her new career as Executive Director of the Northeast Interstate Low-level Radioactive Waste Commission. As a senior policy advisor in the office of New Jersey Governor Thomas H. Kean on matters relating to energy, environment, science and technology, I was appointed alternate commissioner to this same body. Over this period of time I've learned, first hand, of Denise's many professional talents.

Perhaps the most impressive characteristic of Denise is the blend of skills she possesses. She is a first-rate lawyer, extremely adept at grasping scientific/technical issues, an excellent administrator, and an absolute pleasure to work with.

As Executive Director of the Commission, Denise drafted requests for proposals, managed consultants, set up an office, hired staff, acted as legal counsel, made certain both New Jersey and Connecticut remained diligent in our efforts to comply with federal law, and so on. I've seen Denise act forcefully (but always fairly) in negotiations with consultants hired by the Commission. Yet she is equally good at guiding a conversation between opposing viewpoints to a mutually satisfactory conclusion.

Similarly, I've been impressed by her ability to thoroughly understand and educate others on legal implications of Commission actions. Moreover, she is a lawyer who moves comfortably into technical issues which are so important in an area such as low-level radioactive waste.

In conclusion, it is this combination of assets -- legal expertise, ability to quickly grasp technical issues, excellent people-skills, effective administrator/project manager -- that will make Denise invaluable to whatever organization is wise enough to seek her services and fortunate enough to receive them.



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