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City of Duluth Communications Office

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SUBJECT: Gunnar Johnson Resigns as City Attorney

BY: Kate Van Daele, Public Information Officer

Gunnar Johnson Resigns as City Attorney

[Duluth, MN] Yesterday, April 8, Mayor Emily Larson accepted the resignation of city attorney Gunnar Johnson, effective today, April 9. Johnson resigned to explore other career opportunities.

"We are grateful for Mr. Johnson's many years of service to this city and for his many contributions in helping to guide the city through a variety of challenges during his tenure," Mayor Emily Larson said.

"I want to thank Mayor Larson and Mayor Ness for the last 11 years," said Gunnar Johnson. "I am proud of the work that I and the City Attorney's Office have accomplished together."

During his years of service, Mr. Johnson had an impact on the forward growth and movement of Duluth. Under his tenure, Mr. Johnson played a critical role in the Last Place on Earth litigation, worked to activate critical economic development projects across the city and served as counsel for both Mayor and Councilors.

Deputy city attorney Steven Hanke continues to serve as the acting city attorney. While a hiring process will commence in the next coming weeks, the City will not fill the position until after the City has resumed normal operations.

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