

**ANN M. LARSON
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MANITOWOC, WI 54220**

July 6, 2026

City of Manitowoc Finance Committee
900 Quay Street
Manitowoc, WI 54220

RE: Lacy Marie Minto – Operator's License Application

Dear Members of the Finance Committee,

I am writing in strong support of Ms. Lacy Marie Minto's application for an Operator's License with the City of Manitowoc.

I am the Attorney Manager in the Manitowoc Office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender. In my position, I work with many individuals who become involved in the criminal justice system as a result of substance use disorders or mental health challenges. I also serve as a member of the Manitowoc County Drug Court team. It is through these roles that I came to know Lacy Minto, whose journey represents one of the program's greatest success stories and a source of pride for our community.

Lacy worked exceptionally hard during her participation in Drug Court. She committed herself to achieving and maintaining sobriety while successfully completing every requirement of the program. She remained focused throughout the process and was one of the very few participants to complete the program without receiving sanctions. She graduated from Drug Court in 2020 and has since become a valued and productive member of the Manitowoc community.

Following her graduation, Lacy worked at Lighthouse Recovery Community Center, where she devoted herself to supporting others in recovery. Even after completing Drug Court, she continued attending court sessions to encourage and mentor participants who followed behind her. She became a steadfast advocate for those she served, while also building a stable family life and maintaining her long-term sobriety. As her family's needs evolved, she accepted a position with Aldi, where her dedication and strong work ethic have earned her increasing responsibility and the opportunity to advance into a management role.

Lacy has done everything our community asks of someone seeking a second chance. She accepted responsibility for her past, successfully addressed the issues that led to her criminal behavior, rebuilt her life through determination and hard work, and has given back to this

community in meaningful and lasting ways. She continues to support individuals in recovery and serves as an example that rehabilitation is not only possible but can strengthen a community.

Because of the extraordinary work she has done, Lacy deserves recognition for the person she is today—not solely to be judged by mistakes she made nearly a decade ago. She accepted the consequences of her past actions and embraced every opportunity to change the course of her life. Through perseverance, accountability, and service to others, she has become a responsible, compassionate, and trustworthy citizen.

I respectfully ask the City of Manitowoc Finance Committee to reconsider grant Lacy's application for an Operator's License so that she may continue advancing in her career and serve as a manager at our local Aldi store. While the Committee appropriately considered her prior felony convictions, I ask that you now give equal weight to the overwhelming evidence of her rehabilitation and the exemplary life she has built since then.

If we focus only on a person's worst mistakes while disregarding years of demonstrated change, accountability, and service, we undermine the very purpose of rehabilitation. Lacy has earned the opportunity to continue moving forward, and I firmly believe she has demonstrated that she possesses the character, judgment, and integrity necessary to hold an Operator's License.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this matter. I respectfully urge you to reconsider Lacy's application and grant her the opportunity to continue contributing to our community through her employment and leadership.

Sincerely,

ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED

Ann M. Larson