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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **STATEMENT FROM CITY OF MUSCATINE**

*City responds to District Court decision on City Council v. Broderson*

**MUSCATINE Iowa** – The City of Muscatine respects the ruling of District Court Judge Mark D. Cleve. However, the judge did not rule on the merits of the case. Rather, the judge ruled that City Council had a vested interest in protecting the city from the Mayor's actions and, as a result, Council Chambers was not the appropriate venue for the removal hearing.

City Council followed Iowa Code in all of its actions. While that section of code may be flawed, it is the law of the state. The ruling may have invalidated that section which is a matter that can only be addressed by the legislature.

While the ruling invalidated the decision to remove the mayor from office, the same ruling left standing the merits of the case which led to the removal vote. We urge the citizens of Muscatine to read the testimony from the removal hearings and the findings of fact that led to the removal vote. The City Council and the Mayor are agents of the electorate and ultimately they are responsible to the citizens of Muscatine.

The City of Muscatine remains focused on a great future for Muscatine by improving the infrastructure of the city, promoting Muscatine as a great place to live, work, raise a family, and be as transparent as possible in all dealings with the public.

The City Council may discuss the ruling, costs associated with the ruling, and any plans for an appeal during one of the regularly scheduled meetings in November.

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