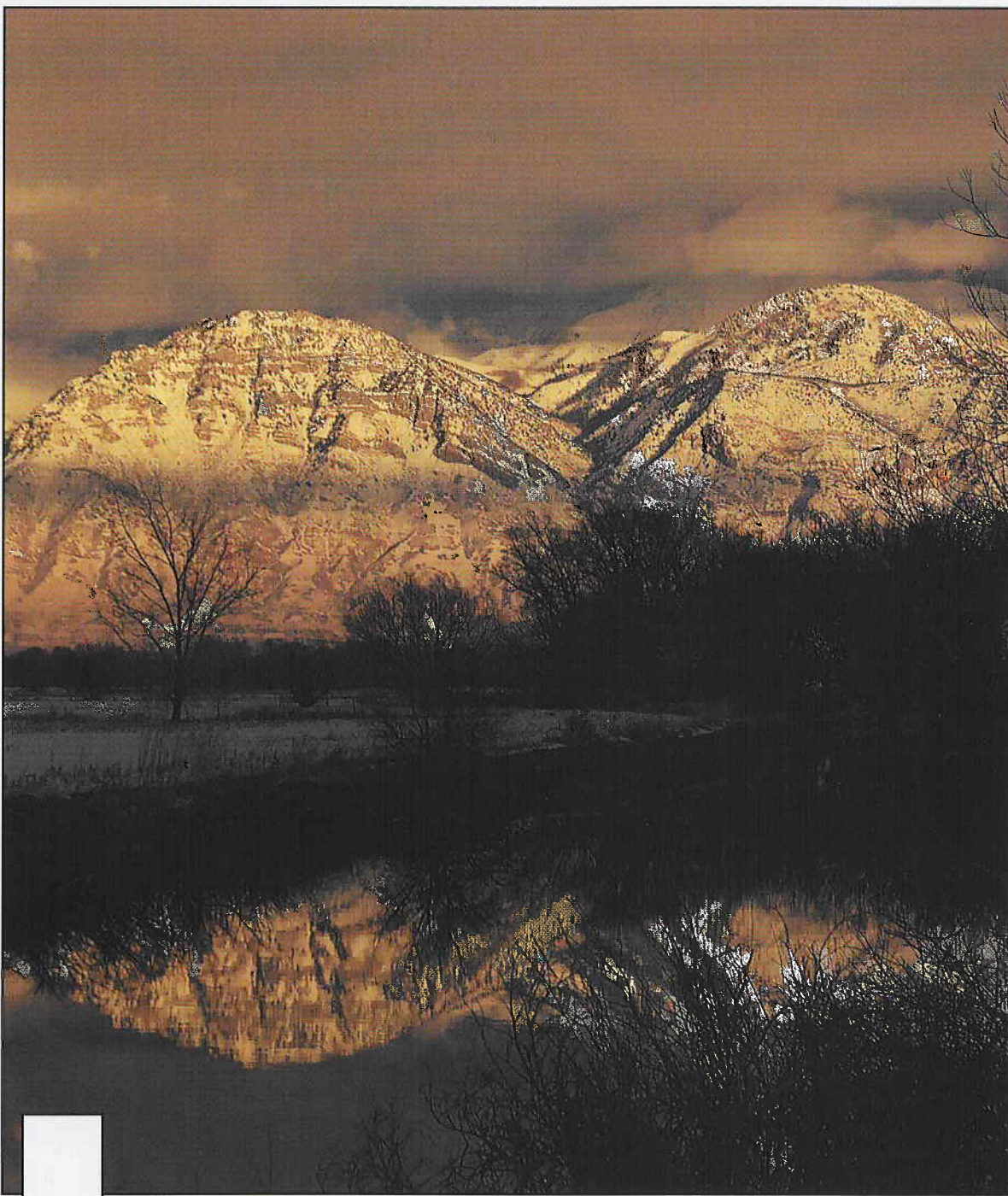


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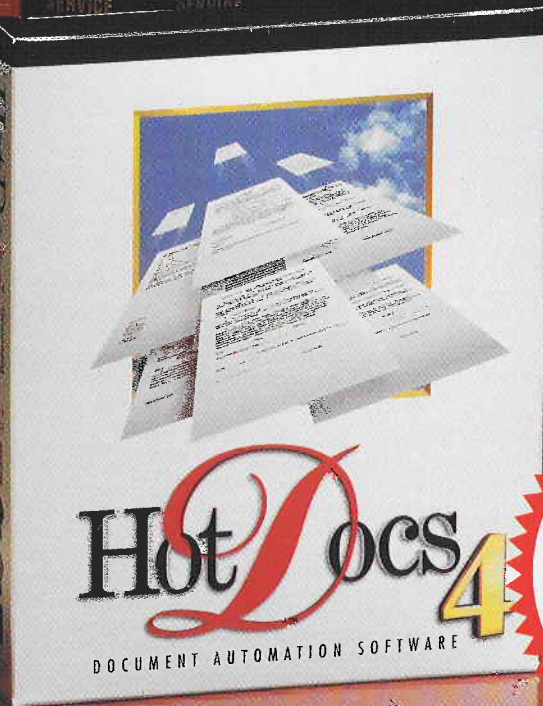
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LETTERS

Note from editorial board of *Voir Dire*: Because of the overwhelming number of responses to the letter of Mark Gould printed in the Winter Issue of *Voir Dire*, the *Utah Bar Journal* has agreed to publish a group letter signed by several attorneys. The letters which were submitted by individual attorneys will appear in the Summer Issue of *Voir Dire*.

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to the letter of Mark H. Gould (*Voir Dire*, Winter 1997) attacking *Voir Dire* for honoring Jane Marquardt as a "Credit to the Profession." According to Mr. Gould, Ms. Marquardt is unworthy of such an honor because she is an "admitted homosexual."

Many of us have known Jane Marquardt throughout her twenty-year career as a lawyer and we concur that she is, indeed, a credit to our profession. During her early career as a skilled and effective litigator and in her current field of tax and estate

planning, Ms. Marquardt has exhibited the finest attributes of a member of the bar. Her thoughtfulness and reputation for hard work have made her a sought-after candidate for bar committees and community assignments. In addition to the many accomplishments noted in the *Voir Dire* article, she is currently serving as President of the Utah Bar Foundation. In her practice, Jane Marquardt has always demonstrated an uncompromising integrity and adherence to ethical standards to which we all should aspire. She has given much to the profession and the community and she has earned the

recognition she was given.

Ms. Marquardt's sexual orientation has nothing to do with her ability to practice law or to be an outstanding member of the bar. By contrast, one's eligibility to participate in civilized society, much less to practice law, is substantially compromised by bigotry and insensitivity. Intolerance has no place in our profession.

Ms. Marquardt's decision to make her private life a matter of public record in a dignified manner is courageous. Jane Marquardt is well deserving of the admiration and respect that we hold for her.

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