

May 26, 2017

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Professor Amy Coney Barrett as
Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein,

We are all lawyers who had the privilege of serving as law clerks for the Supreme Court of the United States, along with Professor Amy Coney Barrett, during the Supreme Court's October Term 1998. After our clerkships, we have had a broad array of work experience from private practice to government service to academia to the business world. We are Democrats, Republicans, and independents, and we have diverse points of view on politics, judicial philosophy, and much else. Yet we all write to support the nomination of Professor Barrett to be a Circuit Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Professor Barrett is a woman of remarkable intellect and character. She is eminently qualified for the job. This view is unanimous – every law clerk* from October Term 1998 has joined this letter.

We worked closely with Professor Barrett during our year clerking at the Court. We had the opportunity to observe her approach to the law and her interactions with others during our intense and challenging joint endeavor supporting the work of the Court. Based on our observations, we came to respect Professor Barrett's conscientious work ethic, her respect for the law, and her remarkable legal abilities. She conducted herself with professionalism, grace, and integrity. But perhaps as importantly, she treated with courtesy everyone who worked at the Court and she was able to work collaboratively with her colleagues (even those with whom she disagreed) on challenging legal questions. She is smart, honorable, and fair-minded; all good qualities for a Circuit Court Judge.

Since her clerkship, Professor Barrett has had a distinguished career. She went on to practice law at the prestigious law firm of Miller, Cassidy, Larroca, and Lewin and then later Baker Botts. She then left private practice for academia and a law professorship at the University of Notre Dame. Such a range of legal experience – from law clerk, to private

* Our friend and colleague, Rochelle Shoretz, who clerked for Justice Ginsburg, passed away in 2015.

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
May 26, 2017
Page 2

practice, to academia – will serve Professor Barrett well in a new legal role as a member of the judiciary.

Professor Barrett is fully qualified for the position of Circuit Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. Based on our experience clerking with her, we believe that Professor Barrett will make an excellent addition to the federal bench.

Very truly yours,

Christopher P. Bowers
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Rehnquist (OT 1998)

Neil M. Richards
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Rehnquist (OT 1998)

Robert G. Schaffer
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Rehnquist (OT 1998)

Allison Marston Danner
Law Clerk to Justice Stevens (OT 1998)

Jeffrey L. Fisher
Law Clerk to Justice Stevens (OT 1998)

Cara Robertson
Law Clerk to Justices Stevens & White (OT 1998)

Adam M. Samaha
Law Clerk to Justice Stevens (OT 1998)

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Law Clerk to Justice O'Connor (OT 1998)

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Traci Jones Lovitt
Law Clerk to Justice O'Connor (OT 1998)

Michael A. Scodro
Law Clerk to Justice O'Connor (OT 1998)

Kevin B. Huff
Law Clerk to Justice Scalia (OT 1998)

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Law Clerk to Justice Scalia (OT 1998)

Stephen A. Miller
Law Clerk to Justice Scalia (OT 1998)

Howard C. Nielson, Jr.
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Law Clerk to Justice Kennedy (OT 1998)

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
May 26, 2017
Page 3

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