



MUSLIM  
PUBLIC  
AFFAIRS  
COUNCIL

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

April 27, 2021

Dear Senators Schumer, McConnell, Durbin, and Grassley:

We write to support the confirmation of U.S. Magistrate Judge Zahid N. Quraishi to the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey.

If confirmed, Judge Quraishi would be the first Muslim-American to serve as an Article III Federal Judge. This information is based on reports available to us at this time.

Judge Quraishi has a distinguished record of service in the private and public sectors, including his time in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps, the Department of Homeland Security, and as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the New Jersey U.S. Attorney's Office.

After leaving the U.S. Attorney's Office, Judge Quraishi was Chair of Riker Danzig Scherer Hyland & Perretti LLP's White Collar Criminal Defense and Investigations Group and the firm's first Chief Diversity Officer. In June 2019, he was sworn in as a Magistrate Judge in the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey. He also teaches as an adjunct professor at Rutgers Law School.

We appreciate Judge Quraishi's dedication to public service. He has proven himself an exceptional and dedicated jurist on the federal bench, and his practice of law serves as an example to young lawyers across the country. He has received numerous awards in recognition of his achievements, including the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey's (APALA-NJ) Professional Achievement Award, the South Asian Bar Association of New Jersey's (SABA-NJ) Standing Ovation Award, and the New Jersey Muslim Lawyers Association's Trailblazer of the Year Award.

We hope that Judge Quraishi will be the first of many Muslim-American lawyers confirmed to serve as Article III Federal Judges, which will help to ensure that the Federal Judiciary more accurately reflects the full diversity of our country.

We ask that you confirm Judge Quraishi expeditiously.

Sincerely,

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Salam Al-Marayati  
President, Muslim Public Affairs Council

*/s/*

Arsalan Suleman  
Board Chair, America Indivisible

*/s/*

Safaa Zarzour  
President, Islamic Society of North America

CC: Senator Robert Menendez  
Senator Cory Booker