

March 30, 2022

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are a bipartisan group of legal scholars with wide-ranging legal expertise. We write in enthusiastic support of Nusrat Choudhury's nomination to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

While we hold diverse ideological and political views—and include members of both major political parties—we share a common belief that the country deserves federal judges of the highest caliber. Nusrat has proven that she is exceptionally qualified to serve on the federal courts based on her years of accomplished experience as a litigator in front of both state and federal courts.

For more than a decade, Nusrat has worked on civil rights issues in several different capacities at the American Civil Liberties Union. Nusrat's work has promoted equal access to justice for people involved in the legal system and has addressed issues of economic inequality, including the problem of people facing punitive measures simply for being poor. She was involved in litigation challenging the practices of seizing cars or suspending drivers' licenses as punishment for unpaid fines and fees such as parking tickets. Her work in this area, in conjunction with a wide variety of groups, has improved practices in Georgia, Mississippi, Washington, and South Carolina and helped to secure national guidance from the American Bar Association and others to promote fairness and equal treatment of rich and poor in courts.

Nusrat has also been involved in significant civil rights litigation aimed at addressing issues of racial justice. She has led a variety of efforts to promote equal treatment under the law regardless of race, ethnicity, and religion in policing in Florida, Massachusetts, New York, Wisconsin, and Illinois.

In addition to her steadfast commitment to public service, Nusrat has the right temperament for the bench. For those of us who have had the opportunity to engage with Nusrat in professional settings and those of us who have the opportunity to follow her work, we have observed Nusrat

to be a fair-minded lawyer who engages with different views with respect and humility. Nusrat clerked for federal judges appointed by Presidents of both parties. And as Deputy Director of the ACLU's Racial Justice Program, Nusrat wrote admiringly of both Justice Ginsburg and Justice Thomas's originalist, historical analysis of how the Excessive Fines Clause applies to state and local governments.

We are grateful for the opportunity to share this letter in support of Nusrat Choudhury and to strongly recommend her confirmation to the federal bench. Thank you for your consideration and leadership.*

Sincerely,

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