

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

December 8, 2021

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are writing to express our strong support for the nomination of Professor and Associate Dean Anne Traum to the United States District Court for the District of Nevada.

We are colleagues of Dean Traum on the faculty of the Boyd School of Law, UNLV – teachers and scholars of the law. We have expertise across many different areas of law, and we represent a range of legal and political perspectives within the legal academy. Based on our many years of experience of working with Anne, we know her to be an exceptional scholar, teacher, lawyer, leader, administrator, and public servant. The attributes that make her a superb professor and administrator here at the Boyd School of Law will make her an exceptional federal judge as well.

Anne has had an impressive and distinguished legal career, marked by a diversity of experience as a civil and criminal litigator, an advocate for access to justice at the Department of Justice and here in Nevada, and a teacher, mentor, and scholar in the legal academy. Even before joining our faculty, Anne distinguished herself as an outstanding practitioner in the federal courts. Highlights of her career include serving as a law clerk to U.S. District Judge Stanwood Duval, Jr., in New Orleans, litigating civil cases on behalf of federal agencies as an attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, including a detail as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, and six years as an assistant federal defender.

Through her federal litigation experience she gained expertise in an impressive variety of areas of federal law, including administrative law, natural resources and public lands, federal Indian law, tort claims, habeas corpus, criminal procedure, and immigration.

Based on her strong academic record and exceptional reputation as an attorney, Anne was invited to join the Boyd faculty in 2008. She has been a tenured, full professor since 2014. Anne excels at all three of the aspects of being a professor: teaching, scholarship, and service. She teaches a wide range of courses, including Federal Courts, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure Investigation, Criminal Procedure Adjudication, Appellate Clinic, Appellate Pro Bono, and Misdemeanor Clinic. Students praise her dedication, focus, expertise, and teaching methods. Her students regularly credit her clinic courses as the most important in their law school careers. Through her role as a clinical professor, Anne continues to practice law as part of her academic career.

As a scholar, Anne's influence includes publishing insightful and impactful articles in the Cornell Law Review (forthcoming 2021), Howard Law Journal, Florida Law Review, Hastings Law Journal, Cardozo Law Review, and Maryland Law Review. Her scholarship both demonstrates and extends her expertise in the range of important issues handled by federal courts.

Anne's success as a teacher and scholar is matched—if not exceeded—by service to the law school, university, and state and national legal communities. Among faculty and students, Anne is particularly admired for her judgment, insightfulness and work ethic. As Associate Dean for Experiential Legal Education, in charge of the clinical, externship, and other experiential academic programs, Anne is a respected and key member of the leadership team of the law school.

One particularly impressive facet of Anne's contribution to our law school – the only one in Nevada – has been her seamless integration of her teaching and scholarship with dedicated service to the bar, the state, and the courts. The Governor and Nevada Supreme Court have appointed Anne to multiple important leadership positions, including the Nevada Right to Counsel Commission in 2017-18 and the Nevada Board of Indigent Defense Services in 2019, of which she has served as vice-chair or chair since its founding. Anne has also served on the Nevada Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission for a decade and has a record of extensive service to the federal courts.

Anne's high standing at the law school, with the courts, and in the profession is based on the values and virtues that distinguish the best lawyers. She unwaveringly demonstrates the characteristics and qualities that members of the federal judiciary should possess: clarity of thought, tireless effort, personal integrity, commitment to the rule of law, excellent judgment, and practical wisdom.

We believe that Anne Traum is exceptionally well-qualified to serve with distinction as a judge on the United States District Court of Nevada, and we urge you to confirm her nomination.

Respectfully,

Sara Gordon
Interim Dean
William S. Boyd Professor of Law

Jeanne Frazier Price
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Louis Wiener, Jr. Law Library Professor of Law

Rachael Adair
Assistant Dean of Career Development

Rachel Anderson
Professor of Law

Mary Beth Beazley
Professor of Law

Linda Berger
Professor of Law Emerita

Christopher Blakesley
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Anthony Cabot
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Frank Rudy Cooper
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Frank A. Fritz, III
Senior Fellow
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Ruben J. Garcia
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Leslie C. Griffin
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Eve Hanan
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Lynne Henderson
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Joan W. Howarth
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Justin Iverson
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Lori D. Johnson
Associate Professor of Law

Michael Kagan
Joyce Mack Professor of Law

Kay P. Kindred
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Mary LaFrance
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Rebecca Nathanson
James Rogers Professor of Education & Law

Dawn Nielsen
Director, Samuel S. Lionel Externship Program
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Lydia Nussbaum
Director, Saltman Center for Conflict Resolution
Professor of Law & Director

David Orentlicher, MD, JD
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Marketa Trimble, JSD, PhD
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