

October 30, 2022

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

The Honorable Chuck E. Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

The undersigned – former Associate Judges nominated by both Republican and Democratic Presidents, and Magistrate Judges, of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia — write to you to urge the confirmation of our former Superior Court colleague, Judge Todd E. Edelman, to serve on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Judge Edelman is an outstanding, experienced, and respected trial judge and a person of integrity and honesty. He would make an excellent addition to the federal bench.

Many of us first became familiar with Judge Edelman when he was practicing as a public defender in Superior Court. In eight years with the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia and four years with Georgetown Law’s Criminal Justice Clinic, Judge Edelman was known as a skilled trial lawyer and an outstanding advocate for the hundreds of indigent clients he represented. At the same time, he was widely respected by judges, his peers in the defense bar and, importantly, prosecutors against whom he tried cases. Judge Edelman was scrupulously ethical in his practice, and he maintained – and encouraged in others – an impressive level of civility in and out of the courtroom.

After his unanimous confirmation by the United States Senate, Judge Edelman joined the Superior Court bench in 2010. In his 12 years as an Associate Judge, he has made substantial contributions to the work of the court. Judge Edelman has served in the Civil, Criminal, and Domestic Violence Divisions of the Superior Court, handling thousands of matters ranging from simple disputes between *pro se* litigants to complex criminal trials and commercial disputes. He has presided over more than 100 jury trials and hundreds of non-jury trials and motions hearings.

Over the past several years, Judge Edelman has emerged as a leader on the Superior Court. He has always provided a certain measure of intellectual leadership, and his thorough and well-reasoned written opinions on a variety of issues of first impression have been widely distributed among members of the bar and often relied upon by other judges. In addition, since January 2021, Judge Edelman has served as the Deputy Presiding Judge in the Civil Division. In that position, Judge Edelman assumed primary responsibility for developing and executing a logistical plan for the

successful resumption of civil jury trials during the pandemic, and he has worked to develop an Eviction Diversion Initiative that will allow the court to address the tens of thousands of landlord-tenant disputes filed each year more efficiently and more fairly.

Judge Edelman's qualifications, however, go well beyond the length of his service and the quantity of the cases he has handled. In his analytical ability, his productivity, and his treatment of parties, Judge Edelman is simply a stellar Superior Court judge. Throughout the courthouse and legal community, Judge Edelman is well known as thoughtful, intelligent, and fair. He is a judge who takes on any assignment no matter how difficult or complex while managing to strike an impressive balance of patience and efficiency. Finally, Judge Edelman is a thoughtful and caring colleague, always available to help other judges and serve the interests of the public and the court.

In sum, Judge Edelman's experience, intelligence, compassion, and work ethic will make him an outstanding United States District Judge. We urge Judge Edelman's swift consideration and confirmation.

Sincerely,

Hon. John M. Mott, Associate Judge 2000-2018, Senior Judge 2018-2022 (Ret.)

Hon. Geoffrey M. Alprin, Associate Judge 1983-2010, Senior Judge 2010-2019 (Ret.)

Hon. A. Franklin Burgess, Associate Judge 1983-2013, Senior Judge 2014-2017 (Ret.)

Hon. Carol Ann Dalton, Magistrate Judge 2002-2008, Associate Judge 2008-2019 (Ret.)

Hon. Linda Kay Davis, Associate Judge 1995-2012, Senior Judge 2012-2020 (Ret.)

Hon. Stephanie Duncan-Peters, Associate Judge 1992-2011, Senior Judge 2011-2019 (Ret.)

Hon. Joan L. Goldfrank, Magistrate Judge 2002-2013 (Ret.)

Hon. S. Pamela Gray, Magistrate Judge, 2002-2016 (Ret.)

Hon. Karen Aileen Howze, Magistrate Judge, 2002-2015 (Ret.)

Hon. J. Ramsey Johnson, Associate Judge 2000-2020 (Ret.)

Hon. Richard A. Levie, Associate Judge 1985-2000, Senior Judge 2000-2022 (Ret.)

Hon. Judith N. Macaluso, Magistrate Judge 1997-2003, Associate Judge 2003-2016, Senior Judge 2016-2018 (Ret.)

Hon. Michael J. McCarthy, Magistrate Judge 2003-2015 (Ret.)

Hon. Stephen G. Milliken, Associate Judge 1990-2000, Senior Judge 2000-2012 (Ret.)

Hon. Stuart G. Nash, Associate Judge 2010-2016 (Ret.)

Hon. Judith E. Retchin, Associate Judge 1992-2010, Senior Judge 2011-2018 (Ret.)

Hon. Fern Flanagan Saddler, Magistrate Judge 1992-2003, Associate Judge 2003-2022 (Ret.)

Hon. Linda D. Turner, Associate Judge 1990-2008, Senior Judge 2009-2021 (Ret.)