

**Douglas R. Mitchell JD MPA**

P.O. Box 679

Ellensburg WA 98926

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

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
211 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Judge Rebecca Pennell, candidate for the U.S. District Court, E. D. WA.

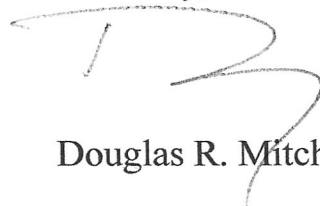
Dear Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Durbin,

I write to express my support for Judge Pennell as she is considered for this judicial position. I have been a prosecutor and law enforcement officer and two states, and in those roles, I have seen a wide variety of appellate judicial officers and read many of their opinions. As a "senior" and more experienced member of my office, I have a broad perspective with regard to both our criminal and civil roles. My current duties include advising criminal justice agencies, including the criminal division of my office about their duties; I have served in the criminal DPA role, and still help cover such duties when needed. I have done and still do criminal and civil appeals. I say this solely to explain why I support Judge Pennell's nomination and that I am qualified to do so.

I have generally been very impressed with Judge Pennell's opinions. I can think of one with which I vigorously disagreed, yet it was well written. I have watched arguments on TVW and seen how well she deals with unpleasant litigants. One of her recent opinions was utterly fantastic. The analysis was sound, even brilliant. A longtime friend served with her, and I am aware of his regard for her. His opinion is one I value.

Judge Pennell's appointment to the Federal District Court will be of great value to the Federal Bench and Bar, and I urge you to confirm her as rapidly as possible.

Sincerely,



Douglas R. Mitchell, JD, MPA