

June 10, 2024

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

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Catherine Henry to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

We respectfully write to offer our enthusiastic support for the confirmation of Catherine Henry to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Collectively, we are former and current federal public defenders who have come to know Cathy and her work during her tenure at the Federal Community Defender Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

For nearly 25 years, Cathy has been a federal defender, and we are so proud of her professional accomplishments and to call her our colleague. She began her tenure as a federal defender in 2001 after working as an attorney at the Defender Association of Philadelphia for five years. She is a brilliant trial attorney whose talent for litigation earned her the internal title of Senior Litigator after just seven years of federal practice. Her courtroom skills and victories have been recognized nationally by way of her membership in the American College of Trial Lawyers—the preeminent organization of trial lawyers in North America dedicated to maintaining and improving the standards of trial practice, professionalism, ethics, and the administration of justice. She has handled some of the most complex criminal cases in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania while simultaneously mentoring young lawyers, teaching at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, and representing post-conviction participants in the EDPA’s Supervision to Aid Reentry (STAR) Program. Indeed, her work ethic and contributions to the legal profession are remarkable.

Though her confirmation as a District Court Judge would come as an immense loss to the Federal Community Defender Office and her clients, it would be a tremendous gain for the federal bench and citizens of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Cathy embodies the qualities of an effective jurist. She is discerning, ethical, hardworking, even-tempered, and extremely sharp. She has an innate sense of fairness, respects the crucial role courts play in our system, and is adept at seeing all sides of an issue. And her ability to maintain civility and patience is unmatched.

Cathy's proven dedication to public service through her exceptional representation of the indigent accused leaves us without any hesitation that she will continue to serve the greater public honorably and effectively if confirmed to the District Court. She is an excellent choice for the federal bench, and we wish her the very best and extend to her our strongest support.

Sincerely,

Victor Abreu
Christofer Bates
Edson Bostic
Jennifer Chiccarino
Benjamin Cooper
Keith Donoghue
Samantha Drake
Robert Epstein
Kathleen Gaughan
Angela Halim
Jennifer Nimmons Herman
Abigail Horn
Keisha Hudson
Mythri Jayaraman
Anna Kessler
Lynne Leonard
Stuart Lev
Kerry Levy
Lisa Evans Lewis
Susan Lin
Nancy MacEoin
Helen Marino
David McColgin
Michael McCrossen

Elizabeth McHugh
James McHugh
Maranna Meehan
Eric Montroy
Eric Motylinski
Shawn Nolan
Jake O'Donnell
Luis Ortiz
Stuart Patchen
Felicia Sarner
Leigh Skipper
Nina Spizer
Loren Stewart
Brett Sweitzer
Rossman Thompson
Elizabeth Toplin
Tracy Ulstad
Eric Vos
Sam Welch
Pete Williams
Mark Wilson
Audrey Woosman
Timothy Wright
Katrina Young