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June 3, 2024

The Honorable Dick Durbin, Chair
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Justice Julia M. Lipez

Greetings Senator Durbin and Senator Graham:

I am writing to express my strong, unqualified support for the nomination of Justice Julia M. Lipez to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Justice Lipez possesses talent, skill, integrity, and experience that will serve her well as a circuit court judge. In her current role in the Maine Superior Court, Justice Lipez presides over a wide array of complex civil matters, appeals of agency actions, and all manner of criminal proceedings. In the time she has served in this capacity, she has developed a reputation as a hard-working, deliberate, and fair judge.

Prior to serving on the Maine Superior Court, Justice Lipez distinguished herself as a law clerk in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, as an attorney in private practice, and as an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Maine. This practice experience provided Justice Lipez with a deep understanding of all aspects of the federal judicial system: from the complex civil cases and federal criminal defense matters she handled in private practice, to the prosecution of human trafficking, fraud, and child exploitation cases in her service as an AUSA. It is this diversity of experience that I believe gives Justice Lipez a nuanced and balanced perspective on the cases that come before her.

Justice Lipez has demonstrated admirable leadership throughout her career. In 2013, Justice Lipez was selected to lead the intra-agency anti-human trafficking efforts for the U.S.

Attorney's Office for the District of Maine. Six years later, she was designated as the chief of the appellate division for the same office. Justice Lipez has been entrusted to lead critical operations repeatedly over her career— recognition which is well-earned and consistent with the honor for which she is being considered presently.

Finally, Justice Lipez is held in the highest regard by her peers for her commitment to justice and to public service. This reputation, coupled with her demonstrated mastery of a range of legal issues and recognized leadership abilities make her an exceptional candidate.

I urge you to promptly confirm Justice Lipez's nomination.

Sincerely,



Aaron M. Frey
Attorney General

cc: The Honorable Susan M. Collins
The Honorable Angus S. King, Jr.