



ALBERT R. MURRAY JR.
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

Member Bars

New York
Pennsylvania

July 18, 2023

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

Re: Nomination of United States Magistrate Judge Karoline Mehalchick as U.S. District Judge for the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

The citizenship within the Middle District of Pennsylvania and the United States will immensely benefit from the kindness, sensitivity, diversity of experience, perspective, fairness, equal justice, work ethic, and rule of law knowledge that Judge Mehalchick represents upon her confirmation and taking office, as the next United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

During my upcoming 50th year legal career, I have served on local, state, and federal government entities as a Private Counsel, Public Defender, Assistant District Attorney, Assistant United States Attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, and Federal Mediator for the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. I can say, from all of my experiences in the field that without any doubt Judge Mehalchick is extremely qualified to serve as a U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania and our country.

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
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Specifically, I met Judge Mehalchick in my capacity as a liaison for the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania Court Assisted Reentry Program (C.A.R.E.). CARE was developed as a public private reentry program in 2015 to which Judge Mehalchick is now the overseer and head, along with other federal officials. In addition, Judge Mehalchick was very instrumental in the formulation of the newly formed, State of Pennsylvania Department of Corrections reentry Partnership entitled (S.T.R.I.V.E) developed in 2022 to which I am also a liaison. In fact, STRIVE was modeled after the CARE program to assist reentrants in making a successful transition back into the community following incarceration. *You may specifically see Judge Mehalchick with various participants in the Call to CARE PBS/WVIA documentary that was produced to honor CARE and helped form STRIVE.

As we all know, reentry is a difficult subject matter when dealing with former persons that have been incarcerated. I can say without “any doubt” that Judge Mehalchick is “respected and admired” by the participants in the program because she treats “each and every” participant with sensitivity, respect, and love. Judge Mehalchick helps them on a path to success, by coordinating them with financial, educational, and health care professionals, so as to reduce the risk of recidivism and strengthen their local communities. Female and male, young and old, she treats each one equally, and considers them as deserving a second chance at life no matter what their day to day challenges bring to bear.

I am honored and humbled to support and endorse Judge Karoline Mehalchick to be the United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert R. Murray, Jr." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Albert R. Murray, Jr.

*Here is a link to the CARE documentary
<https://vimeo.com/596129632/50734ce5a6>