

**COVER PAGE**

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**DATE: March 24, 2022**

**TITLE: Nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson to be an Associate Justice of  
the Supreme Court of the United States**

## **Testimony**

### **National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE)**

#### **Before U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary**

**Thursday, March 24, 2022**

Committee Chairman, Senator Richard J. Durbin, and Ranking Member, Senator Charles E. Grassley, and members of the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, I bring you greetings on behalf of the Executive Board, members, and constituents of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives – NOBLE.

My name is Frederick L. Thomas, and I am the National President of NOBLE, and current Captain for the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office. I have served more than 30 years in the law enforcement profession and 26 years in the Louisiana Army National Guard. I am a U.S. Military Combat Veteran who served in support of "Operation Iraqi Freedom". The organization I represent is NOBLE and its mission is to ensure equity in the administration of justice in the provision of public service to all communities, and to serve as the conscience of law enforcement by being committed to Justice By Action. NOBLE has approximately 50 chapters and represents over 3,400 members worldwide that consist of chief

executive officers and command-level law enforcement officials from federal, state, county, municipal law enforcement agencies, and criminal justice practitioners.

It is an honor for NOBLE to provide written testimony on the Nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. We endorse President Joe Biden's nomination of Federal Appeals Court Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

A graduate of Harvard Law School, Judge Jackson's long and impressive resume includes her background in public service, experience as a federal public defender, and federal judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia; throughout her career, Judge Jackson has demonstrated deep knowledge and respect for the law, balanced judgment, and unwavering commitment to justice. She is eminently qualified to serve on the highest court in the land.

NOBLE joins the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Fraternal Order of Police, the more than 60 top law enforcement leaders, and former Republican

and Democratic Attorneys General in endorsing Judge Jackson. She has a unique perspective on the needs of law enforcement through the association of her family members in the profession. Judge Jackson has two uncles who were career law enforcement officers. One was a detective for Miami-Dade County, and the other rose through the ranks to become Chief of Police for the Miami Police Department. In addition, her brother served as an undercover officer in a drug-sting unit in Baltimore after graduating from college. It is our opinion that her direct familiarity with the complexities, challenges, and opportunities within law enforcement provides a perspective on criminal justice issues that can be an asset to the Supreme Court.

In evaluating her judicial track record, it is the opinion of NOBLE and other law enforcement organizations that Judge Brown Jackson has consistently adjudicated based on the facts and applied the law fairly.

Ketanji Brown Jackson has been previously vetted twice by the Judiciary Committee and twice confirmed by the full Senate as a judge, garnering bipartisan support as recently as 2021. She was also confirmed in 2010 as vice chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission. It is NOBLE's hope that Ketanji Brown Jackson will

receive bipartisan support for this most prestigious nomination to the nation's highest court.

In closing, this is a watershed moment in our nation's history. Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson is a stellar nominee with an extraordinary background. She is clearly qualified and possesses the knowledge, legal acumen, and experience to serve on the United States Supreme Court. NOBLE is honored to endorse a nominee of this stature who, if confirmed, will participate in deciding pivotal legal cases impacting the lives of all people across this mosaic of our country. We encourage this esteemed body to send her nomination to the Senate Floor.

I thank you, Chairman Durbin, for the invitation to appear today, and the Committee Members for your kind attention. I will now answer any questions you may have for me.