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July 3, 2024

The Honorable Richard J. 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, DC 20510

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:,

In my role as both a community member of the City of Minneapolis and as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of The Link, I submit this letter in support of Assistant U.S. Attorney Provinzino to serve as the next U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Minnesota.

I have had the honor of working with youth and young families who are experiencing homelessness and/or who have been victims of sex trafficking for over 20 years within the state of Minnesota. I currently serve as the CEO of The Link which is a youth and adult led nonprofit based in north Minneapolis. The Link provides crisis intervention, supportive services, emergency shelter and housing for youth experiencing homelessness and victims of sex trafficking who are between the ages of 10 and 24.

During my career working with victims of sex trafficking here in Minnesota, myself and my colleagues here at The Link have had the fortunate opportunity to work with Assistant U.S. Attorney Provinzino largely through cases of sex trafficking of minors that she has helped to prosecute. For those of you that may not be aware, victims of sex trafficking have been through multiple levels of trauma, violence and manipulation and because of this it typically takes victims of trafficking a long time to build up trust in others. Assistant U.S. Attorney Provinzino has not only been able to successfully prosecute traffickers – but she has also been able to build up trusting relationships with trafficking victims. She also has been a trusted partner to myself and our organization as someone that truly cares about those most vulnerable in our communities, is ethical, respectful and fair. She has been very good about connecting victims with services, shelter and housing through The Link along with FBI Victim Services. I have heard nothing but good things about her from other community partners and most importantly from the victims of sex trafficking she has worked with through the court process. One of the several cases that The Link was a

partner in (for victim services, shelter and housing side) was the case she prosecuted against Tony Lazzaro, who was sentenced to 21 years in prison for sex trafficking charges involving minor girls. These are just a few examples of the many complex cases that she has been successful in prosecuting. Thanks to her success with prosecuting traffickers – we have seen convictions and traffickers being imprisoned and not able to harm additional children (or adults) – which I along with many in our community are so grateful to her for!

Assistant U.S. Attorney Provinzino is someone that has incredible skills, talent, intelligence but in my experience with her one of her greatest qualities is how she works with community members and the youth victims of sex trafficking. She truly cares and wants to build up genuine relationships, create safer and more just communities.

Her exceptional work has also been recognized. In 2023 she received the Attorney General's David Margolis Award for Exceptional Service, which to my understanding is a top award given by the Justice Department, for successfully prosecuting a Thai-based international sex trafficking operation that victimized hundreds of women.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Provinzino has also has impressive academic achievements in that she holds a J.D. from the Yale Law School, a Rhodes Scholarship to attend Oxford University and a B.A. with honors from the Lewis and Clark College.

I believe that Assistant U.S. Attorney Provinzino is an exceptional nomination to serve as the next U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Minnesota. I am hopeful that the Judiciary Committee will see all of her incredible strengths and talents and confirm her nomination.

Sincerely,



Beth Holger  
CEO