

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We write to endorse the nomination of Superior Court Judge Vernon Oliver of the State of Connecticut to be a United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut.

Many of us have appeared before Judge Oliver on countless occasions. We have litigated trials, motions and/or civil post-conviction cases before Judge Oliver. We are a healthy mixture of Republicans, Democrats, Independents, prosecutors, and criminal defense lawyers. Many of us have also been present in Court awaiting our cases to be called while Judge Oliver is presiding and have observed firsthand his demeanor, rulings and careful thought process. Judge Oliver exhibits an exceptionally keen legal mind that distinguishes him from other good Judges. He does not make decisions without having detailed knowledge of both side's arguments, and exercises all of the factors we expect a neutral magistrate to employ. His rulings, both oral and written, are always logical and well-reasoned even when we disagree with his ultimate conclusions. No one has ever questioned his ethics, professionalism, or demeanor. He treats all counsel, parties and witnesses with the utmost respect and the patience of Job. He is committed to the fair and impartial administration of justice.

With his decades of trial experience including as an associate in a private firm, an Assistant State's Attorney, an Assistant Attorney General, and, since 2009, a Superior Court Judge, Judge Oliver is extremely qualified for the position of United States District Judge. He is currently the Administrative Judge for the Middlesex Judicial District and co-chair of the Connecticut Sentencing Commission. Judge Oliver has also chaired the Committee on Judicial Ethics and has served on the State Wiretap Panel. He held a leadership role in Connecticut's Office of the Attorney General Child Protection unit from 2004 to 2009. Prior to joining the Office of the Attorney General, Judge Oliver was an assistant state's attorney in the Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice. Before turning his career to public service, he was an associate at the Glastonbury, CT law firm Montstream & May LLP. We note that this rich breadth of experience means that he has handled civil cases as an attorney, not just as a Judge.

Judge Oliver was raised in Bridgeport, Connecticut by his parents and enjoyed the love and support of twelve other siblings. He did well in school and attended the University of Connecticut where he majored in political science. Judge Oliver then enrolled in the University of Connecticut School Of Law, where he was a semi-finalist in the in the 1995 Alva P. Loiselle Moot Court Competition and participated in the 1997 Nova Southeastern National Moot Court Competition.. Judge Oliver was also a member of the Moot Court Board and the Black Law Students Association.

While Judge Oliver's resume is impressive, his character is equally impressive. The judicial temperament and intellect that Judge Oliver displays on the bench carries over to his private life. He is a devoted family man to his wife and two children. Those fortunate to call him a friend know that he can always be counted upon for understanding and support.

The signatories below sincerely hope that Chairman Durbin, Ranking Member Grassley, and the entirety of the Judicial Selection Committee agree with our assessment and support of

Judge Vernon D. Oliver and appoint him to the position of United States Federal Judge for the District of Connecticut.

Sincerely,

John L. DeMattia  
J. Patten Brown III  
Dennis P. McMahon  
William J. Watson  
Seth R. Garbarsky  
Brett. J. Salafia  
Mary Eschuk  
Melissa L. Streeto  
Maureen Platt  
Anne F. Mahoney  
Craig Nowak  
David Clifton  
Susan M. Campbell  
Angela R. Macchiarulo  
Erin Stack  
Lou Luba  
Jacqueline M. Fitzgerald  
Michael Proto  
Matthew C. Gedansky  
Charles Johnson  
Michael W. Riley  
Jennifer W. Cooper  
David M. Kutzner  
Elizabeth Mosely  
Adam B. Scott  
Emily Trudeau  
Helen McLellan  
Jason Germain  
Robin D. Krawczyk  
Bonnie Bentley  
Jonathan Knight  
Joseph S. Danielowski  
Terence D. Mariani Jr.  
Michael Riley  
Frank J. Riccio III  
Prof. Timothy Everett  
Laura Hawk-Allen  
Kelly Goulet  
Meredith Olan  
John F. O'Brien

John F. Fahey