

July 19, 2023

The Honorable Richard 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, D.C. 20510

**Re: Nomination of the Honorable Karoline Mehalchick to the United States
District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham,

We have had the honor and privilege of serving as law clerks for the Honorable Karoline Mehalchick, Chief Magistrate Judge for the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. We write to convey our enthusiastic and unequivocal support for her confirmation as a federal district judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

We have each witnessed Judge Mehalchick's steadfast commitment to fairness, impartiality, and the rule of law both in chambers and in the courtroom. If confirmed, Judge Mehalchick will bring to the bench the same integrity, compassion, sound judgment, keen intellect, and deep respect for the law that she has demonstrated throughout her career. Her mastery of the rules of civil procedure, ability to manage a diverse caseload, and insightful wit have made her an excellent judge.

During her time on the federal bench, Judge Mehalchick has earned a reputation as an outstanding jurist and devoted public servant. Judge Mehalchick understands that justice is not just a result, but a process. She is committed to equity and works tirelessly to resolve matters before her in a timely manner. Judge Mehalchick approaches each case with an open mind, listens intently to the evidence and arguments presented by each party, and diligently applies the rules, statutes, and relevant precedent. She deftly grasps legal issues and spots the inconsistencies or logical tensions in the parties' arguments—often pointing out flaws unnoticed by the parties. She then challenges the parties to clarify their positions and basis for their arguments while treating all who appear before her with compassion and respect. Judge Mehalchick's judicial demeanor is impeccable. She is a hardworking, thoughtful, intelligent judge who demands professionalism and civility in her courtroom.

On a personal note, clerking for Judge Mehalchick has been a highlight in our professional careers. She is a true mentor and continues to instill in each of us a dedication to the public good and to upholding the standards of the legal profession. She has a wonderful sense of humor and is remarkably humble. She has always fostered and encouraged open discourse in chambers,

welcoming our interpretation of the law even when it differs from hers. Judge Mehalchick's willingness to engage in open dialog with her law clerks shows her commitment to ensuring her rulings are fair and consistent with the law.

In sum, the qualities we witnessed in chambers on a daily basis during our clerkships will make Judge Mehalchick an outstanding federal district judge. We support Judge Mehalchick's confirmation without hesitation.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin E. Gernert
Associate Attorney
Winston & Strawn LLP
Houston, TX

Anouk Nouet
Term Law Clerk for the Honorable Karoline Mehalchick
U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

Karolyn E. Eilersten
Term Law Clerk for the Honorable Karoline Mehalchick
U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

Andrew E. Gerow
Associate
Skarzynski Marick & Black, LLP
New York, NY

Jeffrey M. Boerger
Career Law Clerk for the Honorable Joseph F. Saporito, Jr.
U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

Judith S. Gronna
Deputy Attorney General
California Department of Justice
San Diego, CA

Alexandra Blankenburg
Associate
Hollingsworth LLP
Washington, D.C.

Martin Schneider
Associate
Thompson, Coe, Cousins & Irons, LLP
New Orleans, LA

Michael Libuser
Term Law Clerk for the Honorable Yvette Kane
U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

Benjamin Rogers
Refugee Officer
U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services
Washington, D.C.