

**DEPUTY DISTRICT**

**ATTORNEY:**

Cecil C. Mills, Jr.

**ASSISTANTS:**

Connie G. Trobaugh

Kimberly L. Morrison

David R. Baker

Ritchie D. Collins

J. Bradley Mercer

Dustin P. Click

Emily P. Burnett

Bradley R. Jones

Kenneth R. Lovell

Paul J. Hornick

Michael D. Rasnake

Philip M. Gibson

Joan S. Stewart

Haley R. Hatfield

**INVESTIGATORS:**

Teddy Collingsworth

Alison Burns

George Sauceman

**VICTIM WITNESS**

**COORDINATORS:**

April Allen

Rebecca Shockley

Melisa Malone

Debra Justis

**DUI COORDINATOR:**

Chelsie Webb

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**ASSISTANT:**

Lisa Kidwell

**SECRETARIES:**

Rebecca Burchett

Leanne Johnson

R. Lauren Dunn

Shawna Childers



**Office of**

**Han E. Armstrong  
District Attorney General**

Greene, Hamblen, Hawkins and Hancock Counties

**Third Judicial District**

124 Austin Street, Suite 3  
Greeneville, Tennessee 37745  
423/787-1450

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**OFFICES**

Greene County Office  
124 Austin Street, Suite 3  
Greeneville, TN 37745  
423/787-1450  
Fax: 423/787-1454

Hamblen County Office  
407 W. 5th North Street  
Morristown, TN 37814  
423/581-6700  
Fax: 423/587-6429

Hawkins County Office  
1568 E. Main Street  
Rogersville, TN 37857  
423/921-0567  
Fax: 423/921-0569

Hancock County Office  
1568 E. Main Street  
Rogersville, TN 37857  
423/921-0567  
Fax: 423/921-0569

The Honorable Richard Durbin

Chairman

Committee on the Judiciary

United States Senate

711 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn

United States Senate

357 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham

Ranking Member

Committee on the Judiciary

United States Senate

211 Russell Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bill Hagerty

United States Senate

251 Russell Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: Tennessee District Attorneys General support the nomination of  
Karla Campbell for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit**

Chairman Durbin, Ranking Member Graham, Senator Blackburn, and Senator Hagerty:

I write to express my support for the nomination of Ms. Karla Campbell to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

I am the District Attorney for the Third Judicial District in Tennessee, elected by the people of our respective judicial districts to prosecute crimes and maintain the peace and safety of our districts. My districts represent the diversity of Tennessee, including rural and urban counties across the State. I serve these (4) counties.

In recent years, many of us have witnessed the communities that we serve be devastated by the opioid crisis and the influx of other illicit drugs, many of which are controlled pharmaceuticals. While we strive every day to use the criminal justice system to fight the epidemic, many of us also believed that more could be done to hold distributors accountable civilly. To that end, we (three DAGs from the first three judicial districts)

retained the law firm of Stranch Jennings & Garvey (then called Branstetter Stranch & Jennings) to represent us in our capacities as DAGs against various pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors pursuant to the Tennessee Drug Dealer Liability Act. Our claims sought recovery of much needed funds to establish addiction and drug recovery programs for residents of our districts. The case involved unique claims and matters of first impression in interpreting and applying this statute.

As a partner in the firm at that time, Ms. Campbell was an integral part of our litigation team. She and the whole team worked tirelessly for our communities and for our constituents, litigating in various courts against multiple defendants, all the while traveling the State to visit all the judicial districts and getting to know those individuals impacted by the drug crisis. In particular, Ms. Campbell used her expertise to litigate multiple interlocutory appeals within the Tennessee appellate courts in furtherance of our claims.

As a result of this litigation and her efforts, the DAGs and my district secured millions of dollars, money that is earmarked to go directly to impacted communities. Of special note, the funds from this lawsuit have gone toward the establishment of a treatment center in rural upper East Tennessee. Ms. Campbell has told us how important this outcome is for her personally as a native of East Tennessee herself.

In sum, as an experienced prosecutor, I strongly recommend Ms. Karla Campbell for the Sixth Circuit. She will serve our State and our federal courts with the same commitment to the wellbeing of its residents and the rule of law that she has shown in representing us.

Sincerely yours,



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District Attorney General Dan Armstrong, Third District