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United Way
of Southern Maine



May 23, 2024

Chairman Richard Joseph Durbin
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Lindsey Graham
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
211 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Confirmation of Julia M. Lipez to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

My name is Daniella Cameron, and I am the Deputy Director of Preble Street, a nonprofit human services agency with over fifteen programs serving the most vulnerable people across the state of Maine. The mission of Preble Street is to provide accessible barrier-free services to empower people experiencing problems with homelessness, housing, hunger and poverty, and to advocate for solutions to these problems. I write to express my strong support for the confirmation of Justice Julia Lipez to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Justice Lipez is exceptionally qualified for this position and her experience will be a great asset to the First Circuit. Justice Lipez currently serves as a justice for the Maine Superior Court, conducting criminal and civil jury and bench trials, and is a member of the executive board of the State-Federal Judicial Council, Court Orientation and Public Education committee, and the Maine eCourts Organizational Change Management committee.

Prior to this, Justice Lipez served as an Assistant United States Attorney, and it was in this role that I had the privilege to work with her on the issue of Human Trafficking. Since 2013, Preble Street Anti-Trafficking Services (ATS) is the only service provider in Maine offering comprehensive services to victims of all forms of human trafficking, addressing the unique needs of each individual victim.

Committed to pursuing justice for human trafficking victims, throughout our work together, Justice Lipez consistently demonstrated a victim-centered approach to engaging victims and worked collaboratively to develop state-wide initiatives to strengthen and enhance Maine's infrastructure to respond to human trafficking. Justice Lipez's commitment to the needs and healing of victims resulted in prosecutions that were victim-centered and trauma-informed.

Her thoughtful, fair, and smart leadership has had a lasting and positive impact on the pursuit of justice for crime victims. I am honored to support Justice Lipez for confirmation to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniella Cameron', with a stylized, cursive script.

Daniella Cameron, MSW
Deputy Director
Preble Street
55 Portland Street
Portland, Maine 04101

cc: Senator Susan M. Collins
Senator Angus S. King, Jr.