

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Lindsay Graham  
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Gail Weilheimer to the United  
States District Court for The Eastern District of  
Pennsylvania

Dear Senators Durban and Graham:

I am a retired Assistant United States Attorney, having served for thirty years (in two agencies) in the Department of Justice. Additionally I was privileged to serve in the Marine Corps for a total of more than 41 years, active and reserve (1967-2008), including the signal honor of a squadron command. The Corps transferred me to the Retired Reserve as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2008. My time and experience in the Naval Service left me with a lifelong focus on Character and Integrity, which frames my observations about Judge Gail Weilheimer in this letter.

I first met Judge Weilheimer in about 1992, when she appeared in the U.S. Attorney's Office in Philadelphia as an intern. Every Summer two or three interns were assigned to me, as I had a lot of criminal trials and a lot of meaningful legal trial work for my interns. The young law students were by and large outstanding, but Gail stood out from all of them; in a week or so I saw that she had "it," the subtle, indefinable something that is present in every real trial attorney. This includes a love for the courtroom and the trial process, but also a love for what it all stands for; a fair, just, and honorable resolution for every person who

appears in her courtroom. Gail is courteous, balanced, thoroughly versed in the law of the case over which she is presiding, and she manifests the admirable self-control which is the hallmark of all great trial judges.

For all of these reasons, we have remained good friends and colleagues in the 30-plus years since I met her. Since retiring from the DOJ I have been in private practice for many years, mostly in the criminal defense role and primarily in the EDPA where Gail has been nominated to serve. This is my Court. The place where I have practiced for over 35 years. I want only the best on that bench and Gail would be the first person I would include on any list of judicial candidates for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Respectfully,

Stephen J. Britt