

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510.

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20510

Re: Letter in Support of Nomination of Judge Rebecca L. Pennell to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham,

I am writing to support Judge Rebecca Pennell's nomination to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington.

I just retired after serving thirty six years as the Benton County Prosecuting Attorney. During that time I personally argued appellate cases before Judge Pennell while she served on Division III of the Washington State Court of Appeals. She was always well prepared and asked insightful questions that reflected her open minded approach to the cases. While she often asked tough questions, she always did so in a very professional manner, there was never any hectoring or bullying from her bench. Her opinions were well reasoned and reflected an excellent understanding of the law and the facts of the case. I also supervised numerous deputy prosecutors who appeared in front of Judge Pennell. Based on everyone's experience with her work ethic, professionalism, and intellect, everyone hoped that she would be on the panel that would hear a case we were going to argue.

I also served as Chair of the Appellate Committee for the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, the group of appellate prosecutors from throughout Washington state. We met often to discuss recent appellate decisions and of course the Judges who wrote them. There was a consensus among the committee that Judge Pennell was among the best of the best. She developed an outstanding reputation for her intelligence, her legal reasoning and commitment to justice. She was known for combining her legal intellect with common sense. She was also known for her excellent judicial temperament.

Judge Pennell would be an outstanding addition to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington.

Sincerely yours,

Andy Miller

Benton County Prosecuting Attorney, 1987-2022