

May 2, 2024

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
c/o Sarah Bauer
Sarah_Bauer@judiciary-dem.senate.gov

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
211 Russell Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
c/o Ryan Giles
Ryan_Giles@judiciary-rep.senate.gov

Re: Confirmation of Stacey M. Neumann to the United States District Court for the District of Maine

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

We write this letter in support of the confirmation of Stacey M. Neumann to the United States District Court for the District of Maine. We were each Assistant United States Attorneys in Maine for three decades. As Ms. Neumann's supervisors for the duration of her service in the Justice Department, we came to know her very well, and believe that she is an ideal choice to be a United States District Judge. We urge the Committee to confirm her nomination.

When hired as an AUSA in 2009, Ms. Neumann came to us with an impressive background as a law clerk to a Judge of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, a law clerk to a Justice of the Vermont Supreme Court, and an attorney with the Chittenden County Public Defender's Office. We expected great things and she did not disappoint. She quickly took on a large criminal caseload, with particular emphasis on matters involving the exploitation of children. Her expertise in those cases led the United States Attorney to name Ms. Neumann the Project Safe Childhood Coordinator for Maine. In that role, she provided strong leadership among our law enforcement partners in the investigation and prosecution of child exploitation cases. Ms. Neumann's expertise extended much beyond child exploitation cases, and she maintained a large and varied criminal caseload during her time with the Office. Ms. Neumann consistently demonstrated good judgment in the evaluation and prosecution of matters assigned to her. During her tenure she maintained an excellent reputation among her colleagues in the Office, the law enforcement community, the defense bar and the judiciary.

Ms. Neumann's move to private practice in 2013 marked the start of what has proved to be a rapid rise within Maine's private bar. Although our daily contact with her ended, it is apparent that she has become a leading member of the Maine bar, well-known, well-liked and highly respected among her colleagues. She frequently lectures on a variety of legal topics and is a member of numerous important professional organizations. Ms. Neumann is an acknowledged expert on criminal law and procedure, including federal sentencing law. The District Court frequently calls upon her to provide services over and above casework, including membership on court-sponsored committees and the conduct of special educational events. She is indeed one of the most visible members of the federal bar.

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We were both fortunate to have long careers practicing law in Maine and especially in the United States District Court. We had the privilege of appearing before many highly respected judges in our District and Circuit. We believe that Ms. Neumann possesses many of the characteristics found in those jurists. She is a person of solid character and possesses a keen sense of justice. She treats people with respect, goodwill and good humor. We believe that these traits, together with her intellect, legal training and experience in federal criminal and civil practice, provide her with excellent credentials to serve as a United States District Judge. We highly recommend that the Committee on the Judiciary confirm her nomination to the District Court for the District of Maine.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Murphy
First Assistant U.S. Attorney 2010-2019
Assistant U.S. Attorney 1990-2020

Jonathan R. Chapman
Chief, Criminal Division 2002-2019
Assistant U.S. Attorney 1989-2019

cc: Senator Susan M. Collins
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