



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

45TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

TRISH CORBETT
PRESIDENT JUDGE

May 18, 2023

The Honorable Richard 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: The Honorable Julia K. Munley
Judicial Nominee to the United States District Court for the Middle
District of Pennsylvania**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

I write with the utmost regard and sincerity in support of the nomination of Julia K. Munley to the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. Judge Munley's legal knowledge and qualifications are exemplary. She is a motivated and accomplished member of the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas.

In 1997, I was the first woman elected to the Lackawanna County bench, and I served with Judge Munley's distinguished father, the late Honorable James M. Munley, until he was confirmed as Judge in the Middle District Court himself. During that year, he mentored me, and I was particularly grateful for the opportunity to mentor Judge Munley when the Pennsylvania Senate confirmed her nomination to the Lackawanna County bench, making her the third female jurist in our county in 2016.

As the Administrative Family Court Judge at the time, I worked closely with Judge Munley as she presided over a variety of custody, divorce, protection from abuse, dependency, and domestic relations matters. Though her background is primarily in civil litigation, I observed that Judge Munley immersed herself in family law, eagerly accepting all matters assigned to her. She fairly and competently worked with families in crisis, listening to the parties and exacting equity in every case before her.

Further, to address a recurring pattern of child support arrears, combat the opioid epidemic, and ensure a sustainable community, Judge Munley developed the Lackawanna County Support Diversion Program. She collaborates with domestic relations officers and intervention services, providing participants with immediate access to drug and alcohol treatment, mental health counseling, education resources, and employment opportunities. While maintaining a full docket, Judge Munley meets individually with participants on a weekly basis, encouraging accountability and genuinely assisting them in building a stronger future for them and their families. Graduates of Judge Munley's program avoid a six-month jail sentence, achieve sobriety, and exhibit financial stability. To that end, the program has significantly reduced arrears as well as successfully collected and distributed thousands of dollars in child support.

Impressed with Judge Munley's dedication to the judiciary, her calendar management, and cognizant of her wealth of knowledge and familiarity with civil litigation, one of my first acts as President Judge was to ask Judge Munley to assist with our civil docket in 2021. To say she flourishes here is an understatement. She presides over complex personal injury and medical malpractice cases, regularly conducting settlement and pretrial conferences, proficiently moving cases to completion.

Judge Munley is a profoundly competent and an impartial jurist. I am confident that Lackawanna County's loss will be the Middle District's gain. I believe Judge Munley embodies a balance of compassion, integrity, intelligence, and fidelity that will positively impact the Middle District. For all these reasons, I proudly support the nomination of my esteemed colleague, Judge Julia K. Munley as a United States District Court Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this resounding endorsement for this highly qualified candidate.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trish Corbett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Trish Corbett
President Judge