



# Superior Court of California

## County of San Francisco

MONICA F. WILEY  
JUDGE

July 3, 2024

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

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

*Re: Letter of Support for the Honorable Noël Wise, Nominee for the United States District Court for the Northern District of California*

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

As President of the Association of African American California Judicial Officers, Inc., I have had the pleasure of submitting letters of support on behalf of nominees to your committee at least three times over the last two years. This letter is different because it is submitted not on behalf of the organization I lead, but in my individual capacity as a close colleague and friend of Judge Noël Wise. It is in this capacity that I write to share my thoughts as to why Judge Wise is eminently qualified for the position, and I am confident that she will excel as a federal district court judge and bring distinction to the Northern District bench.

Judge Wise was appointed to the Alameda County Superior Court in 2014 and began her judicial career in the family law department working with self-represented litigants. She quickly displayed her talents as a dedicated jurist who embraced the intellectual and emotional challenges of a family law assignment. Within three years, she became the Assistant Supervising Judge of the family law department, continuing to demonstrate qualities that all judicial officers seek to emulate daily: listening attentively, speaking thoughtfully, and always making decisions that are fair and well-reasoned. In 2018, she became the Supervising Judge of the Civil Settlement Division while also serving on the court's Appellate Division. In 2019, she became the Supervising Judge of the Appellate Division, while also serving as the Acting Supervising Judge of the Civil Division. In December 2021, Judge Wise was selected to serve as a Judge Pro Tem with the California 2<sup>nd</sup> District Court of Appeal, Division 7, where she served for over six months handling some of the most complex appellate cases California has to offer.

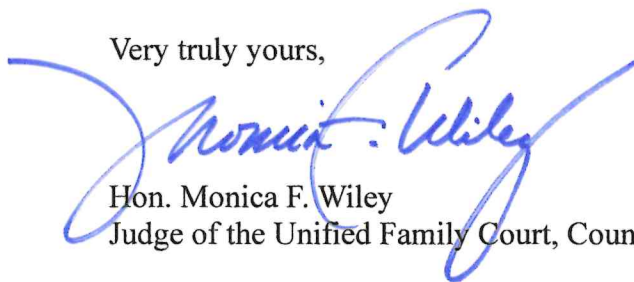
Over the years, I have had the pleasure of teaching and collaborating with Judge Wise, and I have sought her advice on many topics including substantive legal issues, ethics, mentoring new judges, access to justice, and supervising colleagues. I know her in both a professional and personal capacity and as the above summary of her career accomplishments demonstrates, and she is without question, an exceptional judicial officer and role model, who is also brilliant, intellectual curious, and humble.

Judge Wise respects the rule of law as well as the limits of judicial power and understands how that power has enormous impact well beyond the confines of a single case. Perhaps most importantly, Judge Wise constantly strives to improve the quality of our state courts by teaching other judges not just the substance of the law, but the art of engaging and employing the law with compassion, perspective, and appropriate discretion. Her judicial demeanor is authentically respectful for the litigants who appear before her. In my opinion, she possesses the most critical attributes for judicial service.

Judge Wise has also remained active in several local bar associations and community service organizations as a speaker, panelist, and moot court judge. By any objective standard, she has charted an exceptional judicial career, demonstrating a lifelong commitment to public service and has paved the way for the next generation of lawyers and judges. On a more personal note, Judge Wise balanced her professional life and community service with raising three children. She has always managed and fulfilled her personal and professional responsibilities seamlessly. Her confirmation to the federal district court would be an unqualified victory for our country.

Thank you in advance for your time and considering my views on the nominee. I am available for any additional questions you may have.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monica F. Wiley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Hon. Monica F. Wiley  
Judge of the Unified Family Court, County of San Francisco