

Douglas R. Norton
Rutland, Vermont 05701

June 19, 2024

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

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

Re: Ms Mary Kay Lanthier, nominee for the United States District Court of Vermont

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham,

I am writing to offer my enthusiastic personal recommendation for Ms Mary Kay Lanthier for the esteemed position of judge for the United States District Court of Vermont. Having had the privilege of working with Ms Lanthier intermittently over the past 25 plus years in my law enforcement career, I can attest to her exceptional legal acumen, unwavering integrity, and profound commitment to justice.

Throughout her distinguished career, Ms Lanthier has demonstrated a remarkable ability to interpret and apply the law with both precision and compassion. My experiences with her have led me to form the opinion that she has an in-depth understanding of the legal landscape, with a keen intellect that allows her to navigate complex legal issues with ease and clarity. There have been times when I have consulted with Ms Lanthier regarding a proposed law. Through the lens of her position as a public defender, and mine as a law enforcement officer, generally we have opposing perspectives. However, on all occasions, she has responded to me with respect, patience and an innate sense of fairness.

One of the most impressive aspects of Ms Lanthier's career is her dedication to upholding the principles of justice and equality. She has consistently shown a profound respect for the rule of law and a commitment to ensuring that every individual she represents is afforded a strong and robust defense. Earlier in my career, I had the opportunity to testify with Ms Lanthier as opposing counsel. Consistently I was treated with dignity and respect. Ms Lanthier, while diligently representing her client, simultaneously ensured that her engagement with me was in search of facts and procedures. There was never a time that I felt attacked personally or professionally. I always left the courtroom feeling that Ms Lanthier conducted herself with the

highest degree of professionalism, but more importantly she was fair, and merely doing her best to represent her client.


In addition to her legal expertise, Ms Lanthier is a person of exceptional character. I have never personally heard a law enforcement colleague disparage or speak negatively of Ms Lanthier. Her treatment of law enforcement officers comports with Ms Lanthier's genuine kind demeanor that is exhibited by anyone that engages or has an interaction with her. She is known for her integrity, humility, and ethical standards.

On a more personal note, there has never been a time that at the conclusion of my conversations with Ms Lanthier that she hasn't taken the time to inquire about my family. Those conversations are genuine and kind and speak to the true character of who she is.

Given Ms Lanthier's extensive legal knowledge, exemplary temperament, and unwavering dedication to justice, I am confident that she will serve with distinction as a federal judge. It is without reservation that I offer my highest recommendation for Ms Lanthier to be appointed to the position of federal judge for the United States District of Vermont.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or wish to discuss Ms Lanthier's qualifications in greater detail.

Sincerely,



Douglas Norton