

May 23, 2024

BY EMAIL

Chairman Richard Joseph Durbin
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

Re: Confirmation of Julia M. Lipez to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

We are the current managing partner of Pierce Atwood LLP, as well as the current and immediate past leaders of the firm's litigation practice group. We write to state our strong support for the nomination of Justice Julia M. Lipez to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and to urge the Senate to confirm her swiftly.

Together, we have accrued decades of experience litigating in Maine's federal and state trial and appellate courts. In the course of that work, we have litigated with and against innumerable opposing attorneys and before dozens of judges. Knowing and understanding the bar and judiciary of Maine is integral to our work.

Justice Lipez developed a reputation for excellence among the Maine bar as an Assistant United States Attorney, where she led a number of noteworthy and significant prosecutions, particularly in the areas of human trafficking and child exploitation. Justice Lipez also served with distinction as Chief of the Appellate Section in the United States Attorney's Office, where she established herself as one of the leading appellate advocates in the Maine bar.

As a justice of the Maine Superior Court, Justice Lipez has presided over a wide range of criminal, civil, and appellate matters. As a result of her work, Justice Lipez has come to be seen by the bar as a fair-minded, hard-working, and intelligent judge.

We are motivated to state our support for Justice Lipez in part because she has been nominated to fill the seat opened after Judge William J. Kayatta, Jr. decided to take senior status. Judge Kayatta is a former partner of Pierce Atwood and a fondly-remembered colleague. We were

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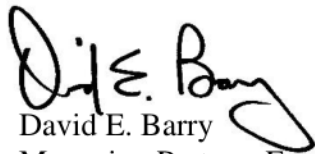
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very proud when Judge Kayatta was confirmed to the First Circuit on a bipartisan basis, and have remained proud to watch Judge Kayatta serve the Court with distinction. When we learned that Judge Kayatta intended to seek senior status, we were hopeful to see him replaced by someone with the same commitment to justice, integrity, and excellence. Justice Lipez is that person, and we greeted the news of her nomination with great enthusiasm.

We strongly believe Justice Lipez will make an outstanding Court of Appeals judge, and we respectfully suggest that the Judiciary Committee, and the full Senate, should approve her nomination without delay.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,



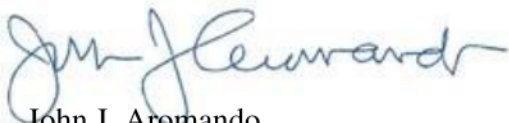
David E. Barry

Managing Partner, Former Litigation Practice Group Leader
Pierce Atwood LLP



Gavin G. McCarthy

Litigation Practice Group Leader
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John J. Aromando

Former Litigation Practice Group Leader
Pierce Atwood LLP

cc: Senator Susan M. Collins
Senator Angus S. King, Jr.