

SHARON L. NELLES
President

AJA G. STEPHENS Executive Director

May 15, 2024

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

VIA EMAIL: Sarah Bauer, Sarah Bauer@judiciary-dem.senate.gov

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

VIA EMAIL: Ryan Giles, Ryan Giles@judiciary-rep.senate.gov

Re: Nomination of Sarah Netburn to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

As President of the Federal Bar Council, I write to express our enthusiastic support of Magistrate Judge Sarah Netburn's nomination to serve as a District Judge on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

The Federal Bar Council is a non-partisan organization of over 2,500 members who practice in federal courts within the Second Circuit. The Council is dedicated to promoting excellence in federal practice, respectful, cordial relations between the bench and bar, and to promoting the rule of law. We firmly believe that Judge Netburn will be an excellent District Judge.

Judge Netburn has generously shared her time and expertise with the Federal Bar Council since 2010 as a member of the Public Service Committee. In particular, she focused on promoting pro bono representation for the Court's pro se litigants to ensure the fair administration of justice and to help alleviate the pro se docket. In 2022, as a result of efforts led by Magistrate Judge Netburn and others, the Federal Bar Council began offering a skills-based training to help train lawyers for pro bono service. These newly trained attorneys helped to clear the backlog of pro se litigants in the Southern and Eastern Districts.

Page 2 May 15, 2024

Furthermore, I wish to highlight Judge Netburn's role as a mentor and educator in the legal community. Since 2016, Judge Netburn has organized and moderated our annual law clerk training program focused on social security appeals. Her leadership and expertise have been instrumental in shaping the next generation of legal professionals.

Judge Netburn is highly regarded as a fair, even-handed, and hard-working judge who faithfully applies the law to the facts. She is committed to upholding the rule of law. Her career as a Magistrate Judge reflects a dedication to the very important, but limited, role of judges in our legal system. We have no doubt that Judge Netburn possesses the qualifications, ability, and temperament to serve the public honorably and with distinction as a federal District Judge.

On behalf of the Council, I wholeheartedly endorse Judge Netburn's nomination to serve as a District Judge on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York and urge a speedy confirmation by the Senate.

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Sharon L. Nelles

President