

December 4, 2023

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chair
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: The Honorable Cristal Brisco, Judicial Nominee to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

I am pleased to write in support of the nomination of Judge Cristal Brisco to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana.

I am a retired Indiana trial court judge (having served 31 years on the bench) and currently work as a Certified Senior Judge for the Indiana Supreme Court's Office of Court Services, primarily in judicial education. Additionally, I am the current President of the Indiana State Bar Association.

I first met Judge Brisco in her capacity as Corporate Counsel to Mayor Pete Buttigieg and the City of South Bend and her participation in the Indiana State Bar Association's Leadership Development Academy. I was immediately struck by Cristal's outstanding combination of intellect, sense of organization and friendly nature in her dealings with her legal colleagues and representatives of the bench. It was very clear she was a trusted advisor to Mayor Pete.

It came as no surprise to me that Cristal's career path led her to the bench and her relatively quick rise as a Magistrate Judge and trial court judge. Our Indiana Supreme Court evidenced its trust in Cristal by naming her to preside over Indiana's north central Commercial Court. I have worked with Cristal on judicial

committees and educational efforts and can attest to her hard-working nature, her fair and friendly approach with others and her willingness to do more to make things better.

I appreciate the opportunity to send this letter of recommendation on Judge Brisco's behalf – please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Very truly yours,

Thomas J. Felts, Senior Judge, Indiana Office of Court Services/President, Indiana
State Bar Association

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