

Rev. Aaron R. Payson, Minister
Rev. David Miller, Minister Emeritus
Rev. Cheryl Leshay, Aff. Community Minister
Robin Mitzcavitch, Religious Education Director
Dr. Matthew Johnsen, Music Director
Jennifer Landry, Office Administrator
Sue Chaffee, Bookkeeper
Dierdre Hudson, Custodian

April 24, 2024

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin Chairman Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin, Senator Graham, and members of the Committee on the Judiciary:

I write to express my unqualified and strongest support for Mr. Brian Murphy, Esq., as nominee for Judge on the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. I have known Brian for more than 20 years in my capacity as Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester where he and his family have been active members. I have also worked with Brian to support members of the community who have been clients to provide pastoral support during legal proceedings.

Fundamental to the legal system in this country is the right to both a fair process and the expectation of robust, competent representation by those who represent all parties in such a process. My experience of Brian is that he represents those he serves with tremendous care and an unwavering commitment to fairness. We should all have access to such representation if we should find ourselves in need of such advocacy.

Brian also demonstrates great care and commitment to fairness through his volunteer efforts to serve the children in our church as well as provide resources necessary to serve those on the margins of our communities who face food insecurity, economic hardship, and housing instability. Many of us have also benefited from his willingness to explain legal processes and perspectives regarding a variety of personal and communal challenges.

Because of this and so much more, I believe Brian is a stellar nominee for the position for which he is being considered.

Most Sincerely,

Rev. Aaron R. Payson, Minister minister@uucworcester.org

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