



December 5, 2023

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

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

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

The Saint Joseph County Bar Association Board of Governors (“SJCBA”) writes in support of the confirmation of Judge Cristal Brisco, current St. Joseph County, Indiana Superior Court Judge, who has been nominated to serve on the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana and is awaiting confirmation by the United States Senate. The SJCBA is now in its 150th year, making it the oldest bar association in the State of Indiana. It serves approximately 600 attorneys, judges, paralegals, and law students in St. Joseph County, Indiana. Among our members are many distinguished attorneys and jurists who represent and serve our community on both the state and federal level. We are proud to call Judge Brisco one of our members and submit this letter in strong support of her confirmation.

The SJCBA believes Judge Brisco will be an outstanding addition to the federal judiciary. She has demonstrated commitment to public service and a devotion to the Northern District of Indiana through her distinguished career as a practicing attorney in both the private and public sectors, and as the first woman of color to serve as a judicial officer in the courts of St. Joseph County. After graduating from Notre Dame Law School in 2006, Judge Brisco was an associate attorney at Barnes & Thornburg before becoming Corporation Counsel for the City of South Bend from 2013 to 2017 for then-Mayor Pete Buttigieg. She then served as General Counsel of St. Mary’s College until 2018, when she joined the state court bench, first as a magistrate in the St. Joseph Circuit Court, then as a judge in the St. Joseph Superior Court. Through all these roles, the SJCBA has known Judge Brisco to be a skillful and knowledgeable attorney who exercises sound judgment.

Judge Brisco has served honorably during her years on the bench in St. Joseph County, earning the reputation of a fair, thoughtful, and balanced judge with demonstrated commitment to the rule of law. Judge Brisco is a respected and approachable leader in our community and is generous in giving her time to both legal and non-legal organizations alike. In addition to her impressive professional qualifications, we note that Judge Brisco’s confirmation would also

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enhance the diversity of the Northern District of Indiana bench. If confirmed, Judge Brisco would become the first Black woman and the first woman of color to serve as a District Court Judge in the Northern District of Indiana.

For all these reasons, the SJCBA fully supports and encourages the confirmation of Judge Brisco as a United States District Court Judge for the Northern District of Indiana. We collectively believe that she will continue to serve our legal community and the Northern District of Indiana in the highest regard.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our endorsement for this highly qualified candidate.

Respectfully submitted,



Danielle Campbell Weiss

President, Saint Joseph County Bar Association