



THAI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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July 3, 2024

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

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

Re: **Letter of Support for Laura Provinzino for the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

The Thai Community Development Center (Thai CDC) extends its strong support for the nomination of Laura Provinzino to serve on the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota.

Thai CDC is the only Thai organization in the United States addressing the persistent problem of human trafficking from Thailand into the US. Through our work providing legal and social services to Thai foreign national victims of human trafficking, we have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Provinzino since 2016 through her work as an Assistant US Attorney (AUSA) for the District of Minnesota during the prosecution of human trafficking cases.

We worked with Ms. Provinzino specifically on *United States v. Morris* where 36 defendants were convicted and sentenced for their roles in operating a massive international sex trafficking organization that was responsible for coercing hundreds of Thai women to engage in commercial sex acts across the United States. Thai CDC represented about two dozen victim-witnesses from the case who provided testimony before the Grand Jury as well as during the trial.

Throughout each phase in the case, she has always been professional, respectful, and collaborative despite the challenges that arise during the course of investigating and prosecuting complex human trafficking cases. She always understood and prioritized the need for victim centered and trauma informed practices and respected the need for each victim-witness to have their own legal counsel present during each phase of the case. If confirmed, we are confident that she will be ethical, fair and just. We expect her to bring these qualities to ensure the rights of all parties who come before her.

Sincerely,

Chanchanit Martorell
Executive Director