

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

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Mia Roberts Perez to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

July 29, 2022

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are the former law clerks, interns, and mentees of Mia Roberts Perez who write to you with our enthusiastic support for her confirmation as a judge on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

We offer the unique perspective of having worked at the elbow of Judge Perez in her capacity as a trial judge in the Court of Common Pleas for Philadelphia County. Some of us have also had the privilege of working as associates in her private practice prior to her election and as her students in the trial advocacy program at Temple Law. Judge Perez's personal and professional background, commitment to justice, high intellect, and exceptional work ethic make her an outstanding choice for the Eastern District.

Her mastery of the rules of evidence, ability to deftly juggle one of the highest caseloads in the criminal courthouse, and quick wittedness have certainly made her a tremendously capable judge. But it's her open-mindedness and person-centric approach to the job that make her exceptional. The work of a trial court judge in a courthouse as busy as Philadelphia is undeniably demanding and rife with passions and great tension. Nevertheless, Judge Perez's radiant warmth shines from the bench. That is not to say that she doesn't hold everyone appearing before her to a high standard. To appear before Judge Perez means you must understand the rules of her courtroom and be prepared at every stage of a case. Judge Perez treats everyone before her with the same degree of respect and dignity—from attorneys to defendants, court staff to colleagues.

A steadfast mentor to each of us, Judge Perez is deeply committed to lifting up future generations of attorneys. She has invested in our success—not only by fostering our legal analytical skills with her advice and feedback, but by offering candid reflections on her own experiences, and introducing us to attorneys in different fields of practice. She is refreshingly approachable, relating to us with a “realness” you don't often find as a young attorney navigating this profession.

It cannot go unsaid that Judge Perez will bring much needed diversity to the federal judiciary. Judge Perez's confirmation will strengthen the institutional legitimacy of the Eastern District, by helping to create a judiciary that looks more like the diverse community of litigants it serves.

We have had unparalleled access to Judge Perez's judicial decision-making process and have come to know her off the bench as well. We support her nomination without hesitation. We can attest that her integrity, talent, and fairness will make her an asset to the Eastern District.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Robbins
Staff Attorney, Montgomery County Public Defender's Office

Kristen Lewis,
Legal & Compliance Associate, Tabula Rasa HealthCare Inc.

Peter P. Elliot
Attorney, Greenburg Traurig, LLP

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