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

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

October 3, 2022

Nomination of Todd E. Edelman to D.C.D.C.

Dear Senators:

As a former Attorney General for the District of Columbia and a former litigating partner for four decades at a national law firm in the District, I wholeheartedly endorse the President's nomination of Todd E. Edelman to serve as a federal trial judge on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

Having observed his rulings as a Superior Court trial judge, met with him on professional matters and on social occasions, knowing his reputation among his colleagues on the bench and with experienced litigators in the local bar, and having reviewed his impressive resume, I am very confident that Judge Edelman possesses all of the characteristics necessary to be an outstanding federal trial judge. He is an exceptionally intelligent, well-educated jurist with good common sense, excellent judgment, a strong sense of fairness and a well-rounded set of experiences in the law. He has been a criminal defense lawyer for the indigent, a civil litigator at a commercial firm, a professor at a distinguished law school, and for over a decade a highly respected trial judge.

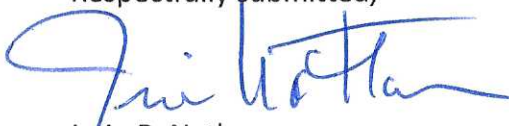
During the time I served as the last appointed Attorney General of the District of Columbia (2011-2015), Judge Edelman had just begun his service on the D.C. Superior Court.

He was the trial judge in a number of litigations that were brought at that time against the City. From the reports I received from our litigating attorneys and reviewing the decisions he issued on both procedural and substantive motions in those cases, I developed the strong impression that he was a very capable, sensible and even-handed judge. This impression was later confirmed when I met with him informally to discuss potential improvements to the administration of justice in the District. These conversations continued after I completed my term in the Attorney General's office and assumed the presidency of the Council for Court Excellence, a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the District's justice system. In all of our conversations, Judge Edelman focused on the needs of the poor, the disadvantaged and the underrepresented. While clearly a man of compassion, he also invariably exhibited a practical side reflecting a clear understanding of the realities and limitations of our legal system.

His resume reflects his strong grounding in the law. Educated at Yale, the New York University Law School and in a distinguished clinical program at the Georgetown University Law Center, Todd clerked for one of the best federal trial judges in the history of this city. I appeared numerous times when I was first starting out in the law before Judge William Bryant and knew him to be a wise, incisive, highly experienced and fair judge. No one could have had a better tutor and role model on how to be an outstanding federal trial judge. Judge Edelman's superb performance on the Superior Court for the past twelve years is a testament to that strong training.

In short, Todd Edelman has the intelligence, judgment, temperament, rounded legal experience and track record as a trial judge to give the Senate every confidence that he will prove to be an outstanding federal trial judge. Without any hesitation or reservation, I urge your Committee and the full Senate to vote to confirm his nomination.

Respectfully submitted,



Irvin B. Nathan