

July 21, 2021

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We write to express our strong support for the nominations of Patricia Giles and Michael Nachmanoff to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

We each have been privileged to serve as the United States Attorney in that district. Collectively, we also held other line and leadership positions in state and federal law enforcement. We are deeply committed to the principles of fundamental fairness that animate the work of the Department of Justice.

We know Patricia and Michael well and in various ways – as friends, colleagues, and professional adversaries. We can attest, through personal knowledge and by reputation, that they are thoughtful, intelligent, civil, decent, and kind. They are people of high character and strong emotional intelligence who consistently demonstrate in their professional and personal lives characteristics that are fundamental to our system of justice: integrity, independence, and fidelity to the rule of law.

The Eastern District of Virginia has a long history of exemplary service from its many quarters – federal prosecutors, federal defenders, and the bench. Patricia (a prosecutor) and Michael (a defender) are extraordinarily well qualified to serve as United States District Court Judges, and we hope that they will each be confirmed to that post. We are confident that they will continue a proud tradition of service to the district and to the nation, and that they will meet their obligations – as they always have – with honor and distinction.

Respectfully,

Bill Cummings (1975-1979)
Richard Cullen (1991-1993)
Paul McNulty (2001-2006)
Chuck Rosenberg (2006-2008)
Dana Boente (2008-2009; 2013-2018)
Neil MacBride (2009-2013)
Zach Terwilliger (2018-2021)