

September 1, 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chair, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I am writing to support President Biden's nomination of Tamika Montgomery-Reeves to serve on the United States Court of Appeals.

I had the honor of nominating Tamika to Delaware's Chancery Court when I served as Delaware's Governor. Delaware has a well-earned reputation for an outstanding judiciary. Our court has long been balanced by political party. Governors have the responsibility of nominating jurists and our State Senate votes to confirm them. But Governors generally rely on the advice of a non-partisan Judicial Nominating Commission who review nominees to determine their qualifications. Members of this Commission are appointed by the Governor.

I nominated dozens of judges during my eight years as Delaware's Governor and as a result, I met and worked with the brightest legal minds in my state. Without a doubt, Tamika ranks as one of the very best in a highly selective pool. I got to know her during the application process and she thoroughly impressed me with her academic credentials, legal acumen, ethic of public service and interpersonal skills.

Tamika was the first African American to serve on Delaware's Chancery Court (and subsequently on the State Supreme Court).

Following both my nomination of Tamika to Chancery Court as well as her nomination to the Supreme Court by Governor Carney, she was confirmed unanimously by the State Senate.

I first learned about Tamika from Bill Chandler, one of Delaware's most respected lawyers and judges (former Chancellor of Chancery Court). A Republican, Chandler and I worked closely together and following his retirement as Chancellor, I asked him to serve as Chair of the Judicial Nominating Commission, where he did a fantastic job.

Tamika had clerked for Chandler, so he knew her well. For me the word of Bill Chandler has always been like gold. When he recommended that I give serious consideration to Tamika's application, I agreed. And after reviewing her file, interviewing her and speaking to a variety of references, I knew that I had the opportunity to nominate one of the best applicants in Delaware's history to our illustrious Chancery Court.

Tamika Montgomery-Reeves has extraordinary intellect, a strong work ethic, and a deep commitment to public service. She will make an outstanding federal judge and I urge you to support her nomination.

Sincerely,

Jack Markell
73rd Governor of Delaware