



## EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

REGIONAL JUSTICE CENTER  
200 LEWIS AVENUE  
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89155

**SUSAN H. JOHNSON**  
DISTRICT JUDGE

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December 13, 2021

Senator Richard Durbin, Chairman  
Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
Hart Senate Office Building, SH-711  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Charles Grassley, Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
Hart Senate Office Building, SH-135  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Appointment of Judge Cristina D. Silva to United States District Court Judge

Dear Senators Durbin and Grassley:

Within this letter, I express my support for Cristina D. Silva to be appointed as United States District Court Judge for the District of Nevada. As set forth more fully below, Judge Silva's background, experience, work ethic and commitment to our judiciary demonstrates she will make a fine federal court judge.

I first met Cristina about ten (10) years ago when my husband, Eric Johnson, then Deputy Chief in the Criminal Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Nevada, offered her the position of Assistant U.S. Attorney. From what I observed, Cristina distinguished herself as a rising star in the office and was quickly promoted to Deputy Chief, and ultimately, to Chief of the Criminal Division. She was, and still is greatly respected by her law enforcement partners for her work ethic and advocacy.

In 2019, Cristina was appointed to State District Court Judge by our state's governor and she won election in 2020. By this time, Cristina was not only my close friend but also a colleague who developed a reputation for her likeability, professionalism, attention to detail and tireless work ethic. As colleagues, Cristina and I interact often on a professional level as well as a personal one. For example, we both sit and work together on the judiciary's Executive Committee. Cristina, as do I, regularly volunteers to hear other judges' trials on an overflow basis, as well as for other judicial committee work. In other words, Cristina brings the same diligence and energy she showed as a young prosecutor to the disputes presented in her courtroom. I have no doubt she will bring those same qualities to the bench as a Federal District Court Judge.

I also note here, all judges are born of their life experiences. Cristina is shaped by her deep roots in El Paso, Texas. She is the proud daughter of grocers whose family owned "Silva's Super Market" and served El Paso for over 100 years. The lessons of hard work imparted growing up shine through brightly in Judge Cristina Silva today. Her roots have kept her humble and this

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humility has been a consistent trait in her career from prosecutor to judge. In both her personal and professional life, Cristina treats people—regardless of their background, position or status—with tremendous respect.

In summary, my friend, Judge Cristina Silva, will make a great Federal District Court Judge. Her energy, intellect and compassion will leave those who appear before her confident in the rule of law within our United States of America. I wholeheartedly support Judge Silva for this position.

Sincerely,

  
SUSAN JOHNSON  
District Court Judge