



**Karol V. Mason**  
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The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Majority Leader  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

April 13, 2022

Dear Committee Members:

I write to convey my strong support for the nomination of Nancy Abudu to join the Eleventh U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, and to urge that she be promptly confirmed.

My perspective on Ms. Abudu's nomination is informed by my own long career as a lawyer, both in private practice at a large law firm in Atlanta, home of the Eleventh Circuit, and in positions of public service. I served in the Department of Justice for nearly 7 years, first as Deputy Associate Attorney General and later as Assistant Attorney General overseeing the Office of Justice Programs, including its work to support state and local criminal justice programs and crime victim services. Since leaving DOJ, I serve as President of John Jay College of Criminal Justice, whose mission is to prepare students for careers in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. We are ranked number eight in the country for minority students applying to law school. John Jay is also home to the Institute for Innovation in Prosecution. Founded over 50 years ago as a police college, we are now known as the United Nations for justice issues, the place where difficult issues can be discussed and resolved, respectfully.

One of the most important things my career has taught me is that our legal system is at its highest and best when all participants – prosecutors and defense lawyers in criminal cases, attorneys for all parties to civil cases, and judges at every level – bring experience, intellect, energy, and integrity to the work. Nancy Abudu has brought all these attributes to her work, and the Eleventh Circuit, in which she has practiced, is the better for it. She is exceptionally well-qualified and would continue to make these same contributions as a judge of the Eleventh Circuit.

As you know, Ms. Abudu has until now devoted her considerable energy and talents to upholding the constitutional rights of those for whom she has advocated – from disabled veterans to people of faith seeking religious accommodations and protection from discrimination, people experiencing homelessness, people seeking to exercise the right to vote, and people involved in the criminal justice system – across the South. In addition to being a gifted litigator, Ms. Abudu has become a leading and respected voice on civil and human rights. She is a Harvard Law School Wasserstein Fellow, has served as an international election observer in Albania, and is a member of the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Election

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Law as well as the ABA's Working Group on Building Trust in the American Justice System. Throughout the years, Ms. Abudu has advocated for those who were least able to advocate for themselves, zealously and with excellence and integrity. Once confirmed, I am confident that she will uphold her oath as a judge with equal dedication by applying the Constitution and laws of our country in a fair, open-minded and impartial manner.

I urge the Committee to act favorably on Nancy Abudu's nomination, and to move her swiftly to confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karol V. Mason".

Karol V. Mason  
President