

July 26, 2022

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Chair
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are law professors from around the country with expertise in a variety of areas of the law and with views that cross the political spectrum. We are writing to enthusiastically support the nomination of Dr. John F. Murphy to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. We are all either former colleagues, co-authors, or classmates with Dr. Murphy, and we know him to be a brilliant legal mind who also possesses the demeanor appropriate for a federal judge. We have no doubt he will be an outstanding district court judge.

Dr. Murphy's academic background and accomplishments demonstrate that he is well-qualified to serve as a federal district court judge. His academic credentials are stellar: B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Cornell University, Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the California Institute of Technology, and J.D. from Harvard Law School. While in law school, he served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Harvard Journal of Law & Technology, one of the leading intellectual property journals in the country.

Before embarking on an impressive career as a patent litigator, Dr. Murphy clerked for the Honorable Kimberly A. Moore, now-Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. With Chief Judge Moore and one of the signatories to this letter, he is co-author of the leading casebook on patent litigation, which focuses primarily on district court litigation. He has served as an adjunct professor at Rutgers Law School in Camden, where he received excellent reviews from the students, who commented, for example, that he was "extremely intelligent," "truly terrific," and a "tremendous legal brain." Dr. Murphy is slated to serve as an adjunct professor at the Charles Widger School of Law at Villanova University during this upcoming academic year.

In his practice, Dr. Murphy has represented clients in a variety of proceedings, including the district courts, the Federal Circuit, the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, and the U.S. International Trade Commission. Patent litigation is some of the most complex trial work, which means that he has a deep knowledge of the rules of civil procedure and evidence, as well as jury trial management.

Finally, Dr. Murphy possesses the appropriate temperament for the bench. He is incredibly professional and unflappable. And he is remarkably down to earth and approachable. We have no doubt that he will treat all parties and attorneys before him with professionalism and respect.

In short, we could not be more excited to support Dr. Murphy to be a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. He will make an outstanding judge.

Sincerely,

J. Jonas Anderson
Professor of Law
University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law

Jennifer Bird-Pollan
Judge William T. Lafferty Professor of Law
University of Kentucky Rosenberg College of Law

Michael A. Carrier
Distinguished Professor of Law
Rutgers University School of Law

John Duffy
Samuel H. McCoy II Professor of Law
Paul G. Mahoney Research Professor of Law
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Timothy R. Holbrook
Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law
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University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law