

HON. ELIZABETH POLLARD HINES (Ret.)
826 Sunrise Court, Ann Arbor, MI 48103
libbyhines@comcast.net
734.476.3782

May 12, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck E. Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: **Nusrat Choudhury**, Nominee for the US District Court for the Eastern District of New York

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

Please allow me to briefly reiterate my support for Nusrat Choudhury, nominee for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. I feel compelled to write in light of recent allegations suggesting that Ms. Choudhury would be biased against law enforcement. I know that such allegations do not fairly characterize Nusrat Choudhury.

I was gratified to read the May 11, 2022 letter Ms. Choudhury sent to the Senate Judiciary Committee. It underscores what I already know to be true. Ms. Choudhury is careful to be accurate. She did not state that unarmed Black men are killed by the police every day in America. She does not believe that. She knows that is not true.

As a former Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for 15 years (1977-1992) and a District Court judge in Michigan from 1992 until my retirement in November of 2020, I frequently worked with law enforcement. As a judge, I presided over a criminal docket for more than 25 years. In Michigan, District Courts act as the “ER” of the court system. Every criminal case, felony and misdemeanor, starts in the District Court. District Court judges interact daily with the police. I am proud of and value my relationship with law enforcement throughout my 42 years handling criminal cases. I would never support someone for a judgeship if I thought that person did not respect the police or would not give them a fair hearing in court. Based on my direct work with

and numerous conversations with Nusrat Choudhury, I know she respects the police and the difficult and important job they do.

I applaud your efforts to select judges who are smart, work hard, know the law, treat everyone with respect, and listen in an unbiased way to all sides before making a decision. Ms. Choudhury exhibits all of those qualities. In my opinion, it would be more than just a shame to ignore her record and reject such an exceptionally qualified judicial nominee based on a characterization I know to be inaccurate and unfair.

Thank you for the opportunity to reiterate my unqualified support for a person I have no doubt would make an extraordinary judge, Nusrat Choudhury. I respectfully urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to advance her nomination to the full Senate.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Pollard Hines