

April 21st, 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: Letter in support of Nancy Abudu, nominee for United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are current and former prosecutors from districts across the country. We write to you and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee in support of President Joe Biden's nomination of Nancy Abudu to serve as a Circuit Court Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

As attorneys, we all appreciate the importance of the United States Courts of Appeals, and understand how critical it is that appellate jurists possess the judgment, integrity, and intellect necessary to serve in that role. Ms. Abudu possesses these qualities, is exceptionally qualified for the position, and would be an excellent addition to the court.

Ms. Abudu is a deeply experienced and well-respected member of the federal bar. She is steeped in the law of the Eleventh Circuit and the Court's key areas of jurisprudence, having argued multiple cases before it. Moreover, she is a nominee whom the current bench as well as counsel who regularly appear before it know to be of sound judicial demeanor. She also has litigated dozens of cases across the country at both the federal level and state level. Her brilliance is supported with compassion, integrity, and collegiality, earning her the respect of judges and opposing counsel from across the political spectrum, including each of the undersigned. Her written work consistently demonstrates her capacity for well-reasoned legal analysis and highlights the thoughtfulness and intellectual rigor she would bring to the bench. In addition, her arguments before the Court reflect her intimate understanding of the importance of appellate argument, the role it plays in the Court's decision making process, and how members of the bench treat members of the bar – with due care and consideration.

In addition to her personal characteristics, she possesses impeccable legal credentials that will serve her well on the bench. She currently serves as the Interim Director for Strategic Litigation,

and previously was the Deputy Legal Director for the voting rights program, both at the Southern Poverty Law Center -- an organization that frequently litigates throughout the Eleventh Circuit. She previously worked for the ACLU's national voting rights project in Atlanta, and as the legal director for the ACLU of Florida. She also was a staff attorney for the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals and began her career as a litigation associate with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher, and Flom LLP in New York. She received her B.A. from Columbia University in 1996 and her J.D., with honors, from Tulane Law School in 1999. For more than two decades, she has served the profession with distinction, and would be an asset to the federal bench.

We believe that Nancy Abudu has the breadth of experience, demonstrated pattern of excellence, and temperament to be an exemplary jurist on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. We support Nancy Abudu's nomination without reservation, and we urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to advance her nomination to the full Senate.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Burroughs Debrow, Counsel, Weathington LLC, Former Senior Assistant District Attorney for DeKalb County

Rashad A. Green, Shareholder, Rashad Green Firm, P.A, Former Assistant State Attorney for the 13th Judicial Circuit of Florida

Nigel Hunter, Assistant District Attorney Clayton County District Attorney's Office

Zina B. Pitts, Chief Assistant District Attorney for the Clayton County District Attorney's Office

Tamara L. Ross, Chief Assistant Solicitor-General for the DeKalb County Solicitor-General's Office

Joyce Vance, Distinguished Professor of the Practice of Law, University of Alabama Law School, Former U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Alabama