



# PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION

**Wesley R. Payne, IV**  
CHANCELLOR

Philadelphia Bar Association  
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August 1, 2022

President Joe Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dana Remus  
White House Counsel  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

The Hon. Bob Casey  
393 Russell Senate Bldg  
Washington, D.C.,  
20510

The Hon. Chuck Grassley  
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-6275

The Hon. Dick Durbin  
Chair, U.S. Senate  
Committee on the Judiciary  
711 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Hon. Pat Toomey  
455 Dirksen Senate  
Office Building  
Washington, D.C.  
20510

**RE: Philadelphia Bar Association Support for Senate Confirmation of Kelley B. Hodge as U.S. District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania**

Dear President Biden, White House Counsel Remus and Sens. Casey, Durbin, Grassley and Toomey:

On behalf of the membership of the Philadelphia Bar Association, I would like to praise the nomination of Kelley B. Hodge as U.S. District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and express our support for a swift Senate confirmation process.

Founded in 1802, the Philadelphia Bar Association is the oldest association of lawyers in the United States. Our mission is to serve the profession and the public by promoting justice, professional excellence and respect for the rule of law. In so doing, the Association strives to foster understanding of, involvement in, and access to the justice system.

Ms. Hodge is a valued leader and legal trailblazer in our community. She was the first Black woman to lead the Philadelphia District Attorney's office in its 167-year history and spearheaded key initiatives addressing juvenile justice and school violence in roles with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. In 2013, Ms. Hodge was part of the Pennsylvania Joint State Commission on Violence Prevention following the tragic school shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut. In 2011, she

was appointed by then-Gov. Tom Corbett to serve as the Safe Schools Advocate under the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. In that role Ms. Hodge worked closely with the First Judicial District Juvenile and Adult Courts, the Mayor's Office Philadelphia City Council, the District Attorney's Office, and local community organizations.

As a partner at Fox Rothschild focused on labor and employment law, Ms. Hodge advises clients on a wide range of matters, including higher education law and Title IX, criminal investigations and civil rights, as well as claims of misconduct and violations of due process involving employees, students or law enforcement. She previously served as the University of Virginia's first independently identified Title IX Coordinator, designing and implementing UVA's first-ever sex- and gender-based harassment policies. She has also taught law at Drexel University's Kline School of Law, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School and at the University of Virginia.

A member of numerous local and national community service organizations, Ms. Hodge has also generously given her time to our Association. She has served as co-chair of the Education Law Committee and as a member of the Committee to promote Advancing Civics in Education for high school students. She has also been a presenter at our annual Bench-Bar conference and a panelist for a recent webinar on mentorship.

We are proud to support Ms. Hodge's nomination as U.S District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Our Association stands ready to do anything we can to assist with a smooth confirmation process and also to offer our support after she is officially appointed to the role.

Sincerely,



Wesley R. Payne, IV  
Chancellor, Philadelphia Bar Association