

November 16, 2021

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

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

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We write to express our strong support for the nomination of Sarah Elisabeth Geraghty to the United States District Court for the Northern District of GA. Each of us knows Sarah as either a colleague or an adversary from her distinguished career at the Southern Center for Human Rights (SCHR). Some of us are former or current SCHR employees and Board Members who worked closely with Sarah during her tenure as Managing and Senior Attorney of SCHR. Others of us are attorneys who partnered with Sarah in cases or matters that she investigated, litigated, or supervised. We have all had the opportunity to observe first-hand Sarah's integrity, intellect, and excellent judgment.

Throughout her career, she has consistently demonstrated herself to be a thoughtful, balanced and highly ethical attorney who is solely dedicated to the fair and impartial administration of justice. Although we come from different backgrounds and perspectives, we all believe that Sarah will make an exceptional district court judge.

Sarah is eminently qualified to serve on the U.S. District Court. She excelled at University of Michigan Law School and School of Social Work, receiving both Juris Doctor and Master of Social Work degrees. Early in her career, she served as a law clerk for the Honorable James B. Zagel, a widely respected judge on the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Following her clerkship, Sarah worked at both the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and the Office of the Appellate Defender in New York. Sarah has spent the majority of the last two decades at SCHR, first as Staff Attorney (2003), followed by Managing Attorney (2015), and most recently, Senior Counsel (2020). Sarah currently serves as an adjunct professor of law at Emory University School of Law and a part-time instructor at GA State University College of Law.

At SCHR, Sarah worked on complex civil litigation matters in federal and state court and has been widely lauded for her accomplishments. In 2020, Sarah was named "Attorney of the Year" by the *Fulton County Daily Report*. She received the Unsung Devotion to Those Most in Need Award from Emory University School of Law (2017), and the Indigent Defense Award from the GA Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (2011).

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Sarah has represented the rights of people impacted by the criminal justice system for the last two decades; without exception, her adversaries have found her to be a fair and open-minded advocate. Responsible for a large number and variety of cases, she focuses on the areas of civil rights, habeas corpus, and class action litigation. Sarah is diligent, methodical, and meticulous in her approach to research, writing and oral advocacy. In all her work, Sarah always strikes a measured tone, works to build consensus, and shows sincere respect for people with opposing viewpoints to her own.

We are confident Sarah will serve with distinction and enthusiastically support her nomination to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of GA.

Respectfully submitted,

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