



Federal Bar Association of the
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September 13, 2022

By Email and U.S. Mail

Senator Richard Durbin, Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Hart Senate Office Building, SH-711
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Charles Grassley, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
Hart Senate Office Building, SH-135
Washington, DC 20510

Re: **Support for Jamal Whitehead's Appointment as United States District Court Judge for the
W.D. Washington**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

The Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Washington ("FBA-WDWA") strongly supports the confirmation of Jamal Whitehead as a United States District Court Judge. Mr. Whitehead is a beloved and highly respected member of the Federal Bar in the Western District of Washington, and he has always shown the highest level of professionalism and integrity. I have canvassed our membership for feedback on Mr. Whitehead, and I received only the most positive and heartfelt support for Mr. Whitehead's candidacy. This letter summarizes the information received.

Mr. Whitehead was one of the founders of the Litigation Academy that FBA-WDWA established in partnership with the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington. Mr. Whitehead has brought great enthusiasm and energy to the program, and he personally has instructed the participants in the critical importance of integrity, candor, and the highest ethical standards. Mr. Whitehead created the Litigation Academy prior to the Covid pandemic, and he has worked tirelessly to maintain and improve it, despite Covid-related challenges. His dedication has improved the legal skills of many members of the bar.

Mr. Whitehead has a strong record of excellent trial court advocacy during his time as an Assistant United States Attorney and while in private practice. He enjoys a stellar reputation among his peers, and among opposing counsel. He uniformly is identified as not only bright and thoughtful, but also as an excellent example of humility and grace. He has a keen intellect and sense of fairness that will serve him well on the bench.

One of our members—who was a colleague of Mr. Whitehead's in the U.S. Attorney's Office and now is now in private practice—reports that she was continually impressed by Mr. Whitehead's dedication to service and his work ethic when he was an Assistant United States Attorney. He consistently showed great insight and judgment, particularly in employment matters. She also recounted that Mr. Whitehead's experience at the EEOC was very valuable to the U.S. Attorney's Office. In fact, his briefs are still provided to other Assistant United States Attorneys as an example of good lawyering. He was always willing to help colleagues, and he worked extremely hard to

ensure that justice was done. She closed by stating that Mr. Whitehead would be a fantastic addition to our bench: His experience, temperament, and spirit of service are perfect for the job. Another former colleague of Mr. Whitehead's reported that he is bright, hard-working, fair-minded, and enjoyable to work with as a person. He took the mission of the office seriously and cared about the integrity of his work.

In private practice, Mr. Whitehead likewise is known as responsive, compassionate, and intelligent. An FBA-WDWA member, who worked with Mr. Whitehead when he was lead trial attorney in a case involving alleged wage theft, reported that Mr. Whitehead was unfailingly fair, thorough, diligent, and compassionate. He recognized that the people he represented were fallible humans, but his role was to help them candidly and honestly present their stories and requests for relief. She further reported that Judge Whitehead has an extremely high emotional intelligence.

Many of our members echoed and reinforced that Mr. Whitehead has the excellent qualities identified above. These qualities will serve Mr. Whitehead very well on the bench. The best judges (when serving as the finder of fact) examine myriad details, consider each of them carefully, and then apply governing law based to their findings. Mr. Whitehead is precisely the type of careful and dedicated lawyer who would serve our District with distinction. He has our highest recommendation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information or have questions.

Very truly yours,



Theodore Angelis

President

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