One Newark Center, Newark, New Jersey 07102-5210 Tel: (973) 642-8501 Fax: (973) 642-8031

Email: kathleen.boozang@shu.edu

Kathleen M. Boozang

February 8, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin Chair, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 711 Hart Senate Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Durbin and Grassley:

As the Dean of Seton Hall University School of Law, I am honored and proud to write to you in support of the nomination of Evelyn Padin, class of 1992, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey. Ms. Padin would be an outstanding addition to the bench, with an unwavering commitment to justice.

I have known Ms. Padin since she was a student at Seton Hall Law School and have had ample opportunity to work with her both in her capacity as a leader of the New Jersey bar, as well as in the multiple leadership roles she fulfills at Seton Hall Law.

Ms. Padin is passionate about access to and the fair administration of justice. From my innumerable interactions with Ms. Padin, I know her to be a consummate professional who is always well-prepared to engage and resolve the challenges before her. She does not shy away from tackling hard issues, whether the resolution is found in the representation of an individual client or the pursuit of systemic reform.

As important, Ms. Padin possesses the temperament required of a federal judge. I have seen Ms. Padin navigate a spectrum of situations and audiences in which she has demonstrated the soft skills so necessary for a federal judge. Ms. Padin is a warm person with a ready smile who, while being "judicial", will always remember her roots as a lawyer – she is respectful and professional while still confident in her demeanor. She will balance well the need to be flexible with the realities of a heavy docket that needs to be managed.

Importantly, Ms. Padin is candid, well-organized, and responsive. Ms. Padin will be equally adept and respectful in her interactions with fellow judges and counsel appearing before her as with court staff, jurors, and litigants.

Ms. Padin will fulfill the very important outward facing duties of a federal judge, with which I am very familiar both from my perspective as dean as well as my participation in many federal bar events. Ms. Padin's various bar association roles evidence her passion about the legal profession. But what is not to be found on Ms. Padin's CV is the invisible work she does — she is a frequent presence at Seton Hall Law School as a mentor, speaker, and alumni leader. She is a strong advocate for ensuring that our profession, including law schools, work creatively to diversify our profession through pipeline and academic success programs. Ms. Padin shows up to do the hard work of advancing these sometimes elusive goals.

Becoming a part of the federal judiciary will broaden Ms. Padin's ability to continue to serve the residents of New Jersey, whether it be on the bench, or through the various other avenues available to federal judges to accomplish reform. I have no doubt Ms. Padin will embrace this opportunity with seriousness of purpose, and the extraordinary dedication that she brings to all she does.

Sincerely

Kathleen M. Boozang

Dean and Professor of Law

cc: The Honorable Robert Menendez

The Honorable Cory Booker

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