

LASSER HOCHMAN, L.L.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
75 EISENHOWER PARKWAY - SUITE NO. 120
ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY 07068-1694
(973) 226-2700

FACSIMILE (973) 226-0844

SHEPPARD A. GURRYAN*
RICHARD L. ZUCKER*
RAND M. AGINS >
DAVID SILVER
BRUCE H. SNYDER
JODI LEE ALPER*
RICHARD C. STEWART#
JOHN R. WENZKE*
MARYJANE D. COWELL>
DINAH E. HENDON
GREGORY P. KONZELMAN*
LAUREN A. CARNEVALE*
RYAN M. BUEHLER
MICHAEL J. DONNELLY*
ANAND DASH>

OF COUNSEL
H. LEE SAROKIN
HELANE A. KIPNEES

IRVING C. MARCUS
(1940-2011)
AARON LASSER
(1895-1970)
B. WILLIAM HOCHMAN
(1933-1983)

*NJ AND NY BARS
>NJ AND PA BARS
#NJ, NY AND DC BARS

January 9, 2012

FEDERAL EXPRESS

Senator Patrick Leahy
437 Russell Senate Building
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

On Thursday, January 5, 2012, I read an article in The New York Times concerning the nomination of Magistrate Judge Patty Shwartz to The Third Circuit Court of Appeals. As a result of that article, I am writing to you to support the nominee.

I am a resident of New Jersey, but a lover of Vermont. For more than twenty-five years, my wife, Joan, and I have owned a wonderful old farmhouse in Pawlet and the times we have spent there have moulded and shaped our lives, as well as the lives of our children and grandchildren. In the words of the author Wallace Stegner, Vermont has been, to our family, "*a place where friendship has its home and happiness its headquarters.*"

As a Trustee of Vermont Law School and The Nature Conservancy, I have attempted, in some small measure, to contribute my time to sustain and perpetuate the good works of those institutions. In the process, I have observed, in so many ways, your assiduous dedication to the intellectual and economic well-being of your state and the needs of its constituents-as well as your devotion to the Rule of Law and the excellence of our judicial system. In that sense, I urge you and the members of the Judiciary Committee to support and endorse the nomination of Patty Shwartz. I have known Patty for more than thirty years. We clerked, at different times, for the same federal Judge, the late Honorable Harold A. Ackerman, who instilled in all of us the qualities of decency, fairness, and integrity which have marked the professional and private life of Judge Shwartz.

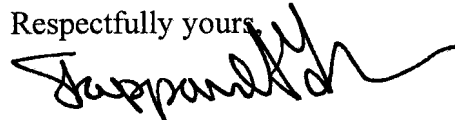
Patty Shwartz is incredibly bright, thoughtful, serious, diligent, good natured, self-effacing-

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with a wisdom borne of curiosity and aptitude. In everything she has done-as an attorney, a prosecutor, a magistrate Judge-she has excelled. The Third Circuit will be well-served by this very unusual person and, hopefully, her excellence and absolute integrity will be recognized and appreciated without the intervention of factors unrelated to her merit.

Thank you for your consideration. I am now off to Vermont and another magnificent drive through the Mettowee Valley to our home.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sheppard A. Guryan', with a stylized, flowing script.

SHEPPARD A. GURYAN

SAG/lh