

July 1, 2011

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

We write in support of the nomination of Jesse M. Furman to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

Each of us served as a law clerk to a justice of the Supreme Court of the United States during the 2002-03 Term, when Mr. Furman served as a law clerk to Associate Justice David Souter. Our careers have gone in diverse directions since then, and we hold a wide range of political and jurisprudential views. But all of us firmly believe Mr. Furman has the intellect, experience, and temperament to be an outstanding federal district court judge.

Throughout our clerkship year, Mr. Furman approached the Court's demanding workload in a fair-minded, intellectually rigorous fashion. He approached each case on its merits, took the ideas and viewpoints of others seriously, and was willing to reexamine his own thinking when presented with compelling new arguments.

We also all enjoyed having Mr. Furman as a colleague. No matter how difficult or controversial the case, his interactions with us were always friendly, courteous, calm, and constructive.

Mr. Furman has had a stellar career since completing his clerkship. In addition to many years of distinguished service in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York (culminating in his current position as Deputy Chief of Appeals), where he has been exposed to the wide variety of cases and issues that would be on his docket as a district court judge, he also worked for over a year as counselor to then-Attorney General Michael Mukasey. Through his service in these positions, Mr. Furman has demonstrated his deep respect for and commitment to the rule of law, over and above politics or ideology. To each of these positions, Mr. Furman has brought tremendous intellectual rigor, an open

Jesse M. Furman

mind, and good common sense. He displayed all of those qualities in abundance the year we worked with him.

In sum, we are all confident that Mr. Furman has the necessary qualifications, abilities, and characteristics to be a truly outstanding federal district judge. We support his nomination without hesitation and without reservation.

Respectfully submitted,

Priya Aiyar
Law Clerk to Justice Breyer, 2002-03

Leah Brannon
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Rehnquist, 2002-03

Andrew R. DeVooght
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Rehnquist, 2002-03

Victoria Dorfman
Law Clerk to Justice Thomas, 2002-03

Mark C. Fleming
Law Clerk to Justice Souter, 2002-03

John M. Golden
Law Clerk to Justice Breyer, 2002-03

Emily Johnson Henn
Law Clerk to Justice O'Connor, 2002-03

Toby J. Heytens
Law Clerk to Justice Ginsburg, 2002-03

Allyson N. Ho
Law Clerk to Justice O'Connor, 2002-03

Derek T. Ho
Law Clerk to Justice Souter, 2002-03

Robert K. Hur
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Rehnquist, 2002-03

Sarah L. Levine
Law Clerk to Justice Souter, 2002-03

Brian R. Matsui
Law Clerk to Justice Kennedy, 2002-03

Troy A. McKenzie
Law Clerk to Justice Stevens, 2002-03

Trevor W. Morrison
Law Clerk to Justice Ginsburg, 2002-03

Brian J. Murray
Law Clerk to Justice Scalia, 2002-03

Justin A. Nelson
Law Clerk to Justice O'Connor, 2002-03

Maritza U.B. Okata
Law Clerk to Justice Breyer, 2002-03

Eric R. Olson
Law Clerk to Justice Stevens, 2002-03

John C. O'Quinn
Law Clerk to Justice Scalia, 2002-03

Elizabeth G. Porter
Law Clerk to Justice Ginsburg, 2002-03

Cristina M. Rodriguez
Law Clerk to Justice O'Connor, 2002-03

Gil Seinfeld
Law Clerk to Justice Scalia, 2002-03

Anne K. Small
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Karl R. Thompson
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Law Clerk to Justice Kennedy, 2002-03

Emin Toro
Law Clerk to Justice Thomas, 2002-03

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Law Clerk to Justice Stevens, 2002-03

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Law Clerk to Justice Stevens, 2002-03

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Law Clerk to Justice Kennedy, 2002-03