

919 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022
Tel 212 909 6000
Fax 212 909 6836

July 27, 2011

The Hon. Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member of the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
135 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Jesse Furman

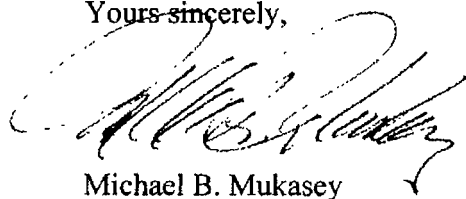
Dear Senator Grassley:

Jesse Furman, who served as my law clerk from 1998 to 1999, when I was a district judge in the Southern District of New York, and then as counselor in my office from 2007 to 2009, when I served as Attorney General, has been nominated for a seat on the Southern District bench. Having served on that Court for almost 19 years, and having had the benefit and privilege of Jesse's help both when I was a district judge and when I was Attorney General, I can think of no one better qualified than he is for that position.

His record includes clerkships in the chambers of Judge Jose Cabranes on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and Justice David Souter on the Supreme Court, and shows him to be a superb lawyer. But that is only the beginning of the story. His qualities of insight and even temperament make him stand out even among the outstanding. My view of him is perhaps best reflected in the fact that he is the first person I sought to hire after I was confirmed as Attorney General. I knew from experience when he served as my law clerk that I could rely on him for sound insight and advice on the most sensitive issues, and for clear and insightful thinking and writing. He did not disappoint. Jesse's portfolio as my counselor included the most sensitive national security and immigration issues, among others. His advice was unerringly sound and his help indispensable.

I am sure you have received letters from others who have had the benefit of Jesse's help, and that those letters too brim with superlatives. All I can hope to add is my own belief that he is a person to whom one can entrust decisions that are consequential to the lives of people and to the general welfare of the populace, with confidence that they will be made wisely and fairly. Again, I know of no one better qualified to serve on the bench to which he has been nominated, and I urge that he be confirmed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael B. Mukasey", written in a cursive style.

Michael B. Mukasey