



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

November 7, 2023

**Via Email**

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable A. Mitchel McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
211 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C., 20510

Re: Oklahoma Attorney General's support for the confirmation of Sara E. Hill  
to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma

Dear Senators:

I write in support of the nomination of Sara Hill to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. I strongly agree with Senators Lankford and Mullin that Ms. Hill is an excellent candidate for federal judgeship and urge the Senate to confirm her nomination.

Ms. Hill has dedicated much of her distinguished twenty-year legal career to public service in northeastern Oklahoma. I am sure your review of her stellar record will reveal she is more than adequately qualified and experienced to make an excellent addition to the federal bench.

Ms. Hill is an excellent match for Oklahoma's Northern District, especially considering the paradigm shift resulting from the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *McGirt v. Oklahoma*. For starters, she has served the Cherokee Nation and its people for nearly two decades. Most recently, Ms. Hill served as Attorney General for the Cherokee Nation from 2019–2023. Before that, she held positions within the Cherokee Nation as Secretary of Natural Resources from 2015–2019, Deputy Attorney General from 2014–2015, and Assistant Attorney General from 2004–2014. During the time she actively served my fellow Oklahomans, Ms. Hill was also appointed as Special Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of

Oklahoma from 2014–2015. Much of the federal Northern District of Oklahoma falls within the historical boundaries of the Cherokee Nation.

As Attorney General for the Cherokee Nation, Ms. Hill played a key role in navigating the abrupt change in criminal jurisdiction post-McGirt. In addition to working closely with local law enforcement, Ms. Hill directed increased resources to respond to the surge in new tribal prosecutions. Her commitment to the rule of law has ensured that numerous victims in northeastern Oklahoma were not abandoned or forgotten following jurisdictional uncertainty over the course of the last three years.

Furthermore, Ms. Hill's previous tenure as a Special Assistant United States Attorney means she is not a stranger to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. Her familiarity with legal issues she will adjudicate in the Northern District stems in part from her tireless commitment to litigation which helped shape relevant law at intermediate appellate courts and the United States Supreme Court.

I am fully confident in my support of Ms. Hill's ascension to the federal bench based on her strong ties to the district—ranging from her formal education at Northeastern State University and University of Tulsa's College of Law to her many years of public service while employed by the Cherokee Nation, her formidable skills and expertise in matters of federal Indian law which are relevant to the many pending and future matters before the Northern District, and most importantly her dedication to public service in Oklahoma. Therefore, I respectfully request that you consider my support and promptly confirm Ms. Hill's nomination to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma.

Respectfully,



GENTNER DRUMMOND  
*Oklahoma Attorney General*