

Anchorage Association of Women Lawyers
c/o Christine Williams

July 8, 2011

VIA FACSIMILE
(202) 224-9516

Senator Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
437 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

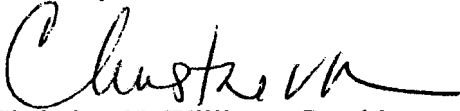
On behalf of the Anchorage Association of Women Lawyers ("AAWL"), I am pleased to write to you in your capacity as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Alaska Supreme Court Justice Morgan Christen has been nominated for a position on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. She is scheduled to come before the Senate Judiciary Committee for hearing on July 13, 2011. We write to strongly endorse Justice Christen and ask that you give her your favorable consideration.

AAWL is dedicated to advancing excellence in the practice of law and works tirelessly to ensure diversity in the legal profession. Justice Christen has been instrumental to the growth and advancement of AAWL over the years, contributing her time and leadership ability to advance our growth and success. More importantly, in her role on the bench and in the community Justice Christen has served as a role model and inspiration for practicing lawyers to achieve their best, and for aspiring lawyers of all backgrounds to believe that with hard work, devotion and perseverance barriers can be overcome.

Justice Christen, as we are sure you have heard from many sources, exemplifies the qualities required of a Federal Circuit Court of Appeals judge – superb intellect and experience, integrity and fairness, and a fine judicial temperament. As importantly, Justice Christen has been a pillar of her community, devoting countless hours to numerous charitable organizations and being justly recognized for her service with many awards.

We strongly support the appointment of Justice Christen to the Ninth Circuit, thereby demonstrating the Administration's commitment to both the selection of exceptional Federal judges and to diversity and equality on the Federal bench. AAWL thanks you for your time and for your consideration of its views in this very important selection process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine V. Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Christine V. Williams, President
Anchorage Association of Women Lawyers