April 30, 2024

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Letter from Columbia University School of Law Alumni in Support of Brian E. Murphy's Nomination to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

We are alumni of the Columbia University School of Law who had the honor and privilege of attending law school with Brian E. Murphy. Throughout our time together, we were continually impressed not only with Brian's analytical abilities and reasoning skills, but also his core honesty, decency, and firm commitment to the rule of law. It is for those reasons that we write in enthusiastic support of his nomination to serve as a District Judge on the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

At Columbia, Brian set himself apart in many ways. He was an excellent student and earned the prestigious James Kent Scholar award for very high academic achievement, but more than that he routinely impressed his classmates with his clear view of the law, his easy grasp of competing arguments, and his keen ability to see an issue from multiple perspectives without allowing his own personal views to cloud his judgment. Brian also demonstrated his strong conviction that the law should be applied with humanity and fairness through his work as Editor-in-Chief of the Columbia Human Rights Law Review, which presents incisive legal analyses on the subjects of human rights and civil liberties both domestically and abroad.

It is gratifying (and for those of us who know him, completely unsurprising) that Brian has continued to display these laudable qualities in the years since law school. He has a long and distinguished career in private practice, having founded his own law firm and grown it to 12 attorneys. The cases that he has handled in that role reflect his legal acumen across a broad range of subjects, as well as his courtroom mastery. Throughout it all, he has continued to represent the indigent and downtrodden and to give back to his community by maintaining a substantial pro bono caseload. His abiding sense of fairness and humble, easygoing demeanor make him eminently approachable to all sides of a dispute. It is no wonder that he is widely esteemed by prosecutors and defense attorneys alike.

In short, we are confident that Brian will make an excellent addition to the bench and cannot recommend his candidacy strongly enough. He is extremely well-suited for this role and would serve with honor and integrity.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan D. Fahey Class of 2006

Fairfield, Connecticut

Megan Koch Popp

Class of 2006

Charlestown, Massachusetts

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