

November 28, 2023

The Honorable Richard Durbin Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 711 Hart 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: Nomination of Cristal Brisco to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

I write to support, without reservation, the nomination of Cristal Brisco to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana.



I was with U.S. Attorney's Office the Southern District of Indiana for 24 years and had the privilege to represent the United States of America before many extraordinary trial and appellate judges in the Southern District of Indiana and the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Appointing Judge Brisco to the federal bench will continue that realm of excellence. Judge Brisco is smart, diligent, thoughtful, compassionate, and hard working. Importantly, she is dedicated to upholding the rule of law.

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For the past seven years, I have served as Deputy General Counsel to Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb. In this role, I am deeply involved in recruiting and vetting candidates when he makes appointments to fill judicial vacancies. To date he has appointed two of the five justices to the Indiana Supreme Court, five of the fifteen judges to the Indiana Court of Appeals, one to our Tax Court, and he will soon reach 100 appointments of trial judges across the state of Indiana. One of those trial judges appointed by the Governor was Cristal Brisco.

From my involvement in each of these appointments, I know some of what you are tasked with doing. In my work for the Governor, we look for judicial candidates who have the characteristics he asked of all of us that work in his administration – as a threshold, you must have the skills to do the job extraordinarily well, but equally important, you must also be honest, hungry and humble. Against each of these attributes, Judge Brisco is an excellent candidate to be a federal trial court judge. Without doubt, she has the legal acumen to do the work of a federal court. But beyond that, Judge Brisco is honest in that she imbodies the highest ethical standards and exhibits professionalism and civility in all she does. She is also hungry to do more – she strives to improve the judicial system. She does not merely sit behind the bench to do good work there, but she is also involved outside of her courtroom and does good work to improve the judiciary throughout the state. As you can see from her application, she also works tirelessly to improve her community. Finally, she is, above all else, humble. She is a true servant leader. She is a natural leader, but always in service to litigants before her, to the judiciary, and to those in her community. For all of these reasons, Judge Brisco will be an excellent addition to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to offer my perspective.

Sincerely,

s:\Sharon M. Jackson

Sharon M. Jackson Deputy General Counsel Office of Indiana Governor Eric J. Holcomb