

March 10, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

*Subject: Nomination of Cheryl A. Krause to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the  
Third Circuit*

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

We write as the three former deans and the current dean of Stanford Law School to express our enthusiastic support for Cheryl A. Krause, who has been nominated for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Cheryl Krause graduated at the top of her class at Stanford Law School in 1993. She was first in her class after her first year of law school, and she and her partner were the champions of the school-wide Kirkwood Moot Court Competition. Ms. Krause herself was selected as the best oral advocate in that final round. Following her graduation from law school, she clerked for Judge Kozinski, now the Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy. Following her clerkships, she has pursued a wonderfully varied career—as a law teacher, law firm lawyer and partner, and an Assistant United States attorney. She has been repeatedly recognized as one of the finest lawyers in the United States. Along the way, she has somehow found time to perform an enormous amount of pro bono legal representation and has been repeatedly recognized for those contributions as well.

We write to tell you about Ms. Krause's reputation at Stanford. That reputation can only be captured through a series of adjectives that faculty use to describe their impression of her: exceptional, stellar, admirable, brilliant, incomparable. She is remembered as an academic stand-out in and out of the classroom, a student leader, a superb young lawyer, and a student who, faculty predicted, would always combine a challenging legal practice with pro bono and public service throughout her career.

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Faculty members describe her as "brilliant," "among the small handful of top students I have ever taught," "the best student oral advocate I have ever seen," "truly possessing a judicial temperament," and "ideally qualified temperamentally and intellectually suited" to be a judge. Ms. Krause's career after law school has fulfilled these impressions and predictions and more. She has forged a remarkable path as a lawyer, and it is one that has prepared her well for a career on the bench.

We hope that you will give her your most serious consideration. We are optimistic that you will find her record as impressive as that of her former teachers and mentors at Stanford Law School.

Sincerely,



Paul Brest  
Professor Emeritus and former Dean, Stanford Law School



Kathleen M. Sullivan  
Partner, Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan  
(former Dean, Stanford Law School)



Larry Kramer  
President, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation  
(former Dean, Stanford Law School)



M. Elizabeth Magill  
Dean and Richard E. Lang Professor of Law  
Stanford Law School