

Founded in 1852
by Sidney Davy Miller

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June 4, 2026

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Michael Martin to the Bench of the United States
District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

I write to highly recommend Michael Martin for appointment to a seat on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. He would make a truly outstanding member of the federal bench.

I have been practicing in federal court -- first as an Assistant United States Attorney and later as criminal defense lawyer and civil litigator -- for more than forty years. I have also served as President of the Federal Bar Association's Eastern District of Michigan chapter and, more recently, as President of the State Bar of Michigan. Through these experiences, I have gained an appreciation for what it takes to be an outstanding United States District Court Judge. I know Mike well -- he and I have had several cases together over the years including at least one trial. I have seen Mike interact with judges, agents and opposing counsel. I have seen him handle success and adversity. I know him as both a lawyer and a person.

I can assure you that Mike has the experience, intelligence, character, compassion, and integrity to excel as a United States District Court Judge. I have personally seen Mike provide outstanding representation to the client that he serves --- the United States of America. Mike's broad range of experience in complex federal criminal matters and the time he has spent "in the trenches" uniquely qualifies him to now serve as a United States District Court Judge.

Mike's intellectual capabilities are clear to all who have worked with him. Time and again, I have seen him tackle complicated legal issues and present sophisticated legal arguments to judges. He has a gift for mastering difficult issues and then making arguments related to those issues in a simple and understandable manner.

Mike also has the very highest ethical standards. He is exceedingly honest in all of his communications with courts and opposing counsel. Outside of court, Mike's adversaries trust and respect him because he always plays it straight.

I have the utmost trust in Mike's judgment. He cares deeply about doing the right thing and treating people fairly. He is also committed to doing things the right way rather than the easy way. He truly loves the law and will work diligently to enforce it and improve it. As a former Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, I have a special fondness for the federal bench here in Detroit. The judges here need to be people of the highest character and integrity. Mike Martin is just such a person.

In short, I give Mike Martin my very highest recommendation. He would be an outstanding United States District Court Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan and would serve with great distinction for many years to come.

Very truly yours,



Thomas W. Cranmer

TWC/ctc