



Vermont Bar Association

• *Serving the Public and the Profession*

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June 14, 2024

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, Chair
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
211 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Vermont Bar Association Support for Mary Kay Lanthier's appointment to the United States District Court for the District of Vermont:

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee Members:

On behalf of the Vermont Bar Association, I am honored and privileged to write in strong support of Mary Kay Lanthier's nomination for the position of United States District Court Judge for the District of Vermont. Attorney Lanthier has served Vermonters for more than twenty years as a Public Defender and in private practice. Through her competence, integrity, wisdom, and humanity, she will improve the quality of justice in Vermont if appointed.

The mission of the Vermont Bar Association is to promote the highest standards of professionalism, foster understanding and respect for the rule of law, and support access to justice. Attorney Lanthier embodies the values and mission of the Vermont Bar Association, and we are proud to highly recommend her for the position of District Court Judge.

Attorney Lanthier has demonstrated her strong legal skills and acumen in the many complex cases she has tried and argued. She is masterful in writing clear and cogent briefs and will use her intelligence and wisdom to issue well-reasoned and supported decisions. Her leadership and professionalism have inspired the Public Defenders, Investigators, and Legal Assistants she has supervised and trained over the years and will imbue her relationships with the Vermont District Court staff.

Attorney Lanthier's compassion and innate ability to treat all people with dignity and respect will guide her treatment of those appearing before her and help promote the rule of law. As a Public Defender she often interacts with people experiencing the challenges of substance use, homelessness, poverty, and mental health issues. Attorney Lanthier sees the humanity in people and is adept at distilling their stories into relatable and persuasive narratives. She is also expert at explaining complex legal and procedural standards and rules into clear and common-sense principles for her clients, witnesses, and family members.

Thank you for the opportunity to recommend Mary Kay Lanthier for the position of United States District Court Judge for the District of Vermont. Attorney Lanthier is a superior choice for the appointment who, if appointed, will bring compassion, integrity, and wisdom to the Bench.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith L. Dillon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Judith" being more prominent and the last name "Dillon" following in a similar style.

Judith L. Dillon, Esq.
President, Vermont Bar Association