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October 3, 2022

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Chair
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Oregon Supreme Court Justice Adrienne Nelson to the US
District Court of Oregon

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I write in support of Oregon Supreme Court Justice Adrienne Nelson's nomination to United States District Court of Oregon. Justice Nelson is well-qualified to fill this important federal judgeship.

I served as United States Attorney for the District of Oregon from 2015 to 2021. I had the honor and privilege of serving under both the Obama and Trump administrations. As United States Attorney, I was an advocate for law enforcement, meaningful community engagement, strong public safety for all, and the impartial administration of justice. I proudly served as a prosecutor in both the state and federal systems in Oregon for over 30 years. As a former violent crimes prosecutor who pursued justice on behalf of victims of all manner of violence to include sexual assaults, child sex abuse, and all degrees of murder, I have always believed in the rule of law, fairness, and justice for all. What mattered most to me as a trial lawyer in the trenches was that judges were competent, prepared, and treated the parties in a professional and impartial manner.

Justice Nelson has a demonstrated history as an experienced jurist in exhibiting these important judicial traits. Justice Nelson's career as a lawyer, a trial judge, an appellate judge, and justice of the Oregon Supreme Court is a testament to her service and commitment to the legal profession. She has powerfully and repeatedly demonstrated her passion for serving others in her commitments to the rule of law, community service, mentoring others, and the impartial imposition of justice in every matter. Her record of public service is remarkable and a tribute to her kindness, intellect, and commitment to the service of others.



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Lastly, and in my view importantly, the nomination of Justice Nelson presents an important opportunity for the Senate Judiciary Committee to not only provide for an historic appointment to the federal bench in Oregon, but to confirm a well-qualified nominee who is deserving of this honor. I respectfully and unreservedly recommend that Justice Nelson be the next member of the U.S. District Court of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Billy Williams
of BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP

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