

1111 Third Avenue Suite 3000 Seattle, WA 98101

Main: 206.447.4400 Fax: 206.447.9700 foster.com

May 21, 2021

The Honorable Dick Durbin Chairman Senate Judiciary Committee U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley Ranking Member Senate Judiciary Committee U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Lauren King for United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington

Dear Senators Durbin and Grassley:

On behalf of Foster Garvey P.C., please accept this letter as our expression of the strongest possible support for the nomination of our colleague Lauren King for the position of United States District Court Judge for the Western District of Washington.

For nearly a decade, Lauren has been a valued colleague and a pillar of our Litigation Group. As a member of the federal bench and the first Native American person to serve in that capacity in the Western District of Washington, Lauren will be a role model for everyone who comes in contact with the court. Parties, practitioners and the public will all benefit from her service on the bench.

Lauren possesses many strengths that make her extremely well qualified to serve as a United States District Court Judge.

- Work Ethic & Curiosity. Lauren has an amazing work ethic. She is always extremely well-prepared on the facts and the law on any matter in which she becomes involved. The combination of her strong analytical skills and deep curiosity for searching out right and equitable outcomes will serve the court and the parties appearing before Lauren very well.
- <u>Prior Experience</u>. Lauren already has judicial experience from her service with the Northwest
  Tribal Court System since 2013, where she hears appeals from numerous different tribal courts
  in the Northwest. Lauren's broad litigation practice includes areas at the core of matters that
  arise in federal court, including Native American law matters, intellectual property disputes, and
  complex commercial disputes.

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In addition, Lauren appeared and argued in both federal and state courts of appeals, and has deep experience in federal district court, including a 23-day trial in federal court involving extensive expert witness testimony and complex legal issues, as well as many contested hearings and appearances before state, federal and tribal courts.

• Integrity & Temperament. Clients consistently recognize that Lauren provides them with thoughtful advice on challenging issues with empathy, respect and deep concern for how the outcome of the particular matter will affect them in the broader context of their endeavors. We fully expect that to carry over to judicial service where she will provide evenhanded decisions through a process that will let all participants know that their positions were carefully considered and the outcomes will be clearly explained.

As we expect has become apparent, our colleagues at Foster Garvey and us hold Lauren in extremely high regard. If she is confirmed (and she unquestionably should be), we will deeply miss having her as our partner and a tremendous member of our Firm—but we will assuage our own disappointment in losing her as our colleague with the knowledge that she is serving a higher purpose for our country. Lauren will be a very valuable addition to the federal bench.

Please do not hesitate to contact either one of us if you would like any additional information regarding Lauren.

Sincerely,

**FOSTER GARVEY PC** 

Rafael V. Stone

Firm Co-Chair & Principal

Diana S. Shukis

Firm Co-Chair & Principal

Diana Shihi



Foster Garvey PC 618 West Riverside Avenue Suite 300 Spokane, WA 99201 foster.com

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