

Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

Office of the Chairman

Mr. Manuel Heart
P.O. Box JJ
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October 28, 2022

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

Re: Gordon P. Gallagher, Judicial Nominee to the United States District Court for the District of Colorado

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe is honored to support the nomination of Gordon Gallaher to the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado. Magistrate Gallagher has served our area for the past ten years and has taken on a greater case load locally in the past four years. During that time, he has heard numerous criminal cases involving Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Members and he has met personally with representatives of the Tribe to address the best means to mitigate crime on the reservation and against our Members generally. The Tribe is impressed with his efforts and we look forward to working with him in the future as a District Court Judge.

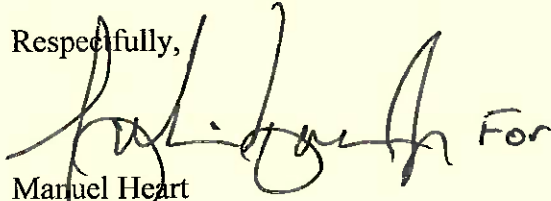
The Tribe feels that there is little hope of providing justice and fairness to our Tribal Members, whether victims or perpetrators of alleged crimes, unless those hearing the cases and applying the cultural values that are common and important among our Members and familiar with those values. Magistrate Gallagher has demonstrated that he is sensitive to the needs of the Tribal Members and will strive to consider those values in forming his perspective.

Additionally, Magistrate Gallagher is the only candidate who resides on the western slope of Colorado. Although we are certain that all candidates would be excellent jurists and all will bring valuable insight and perspectives to their decision-making, we feel it is important that the citizens of the west slope, including the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Members, feel that their values

and perspectives are understood and appreciated and appointing a local resident to the bench will result in greater confidence in the judicial system.

For these reasons, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe hereby supports the nomination of Gordon P. Gallagher to the U.S. District Court for Colorado.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Manuel Heart
Chairman