



**National Alliance to
End Sexual Violence**

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

On behalf of the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence (NAESV) which represents the 56 state and territorial sexual assault coalitions and 1,500 rape crisis centers working to end sexual violence and support survivors, we are writing today to share our concerns about some aspects of Michael A. Delaney's nomination to serve as a United States Circuit Court Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for The First Circuit.

First, a survivor's right to privacy and self-determination is a cornerstone of our value system. When Mr. Delaney represented St. Paul's School in a lawsuit brought by a minor survivor, he made a proactive motion to make the minor survivor's name public. We find this deeply problematic both in terms of the impact on the particular survivor as well as the message it sends to survivors in general. We are trying to create a culture where survivors feel encouraged to seek healing and justice. This type of motion does the opposite.

Furthermore, we know leadership is essential to addressing and ending sexual violence. We believe everyone has a role to play in preventing sexual violence. Individuals and institutions must be held accountable when they tolerate a culture that allows sexual violence to continue. We believe Mr. Delaney's approach to representing St. Paul's School added to a culture resistant to change. It makes a difference how attorneys representing individuals and institutions conduct themselves professionally, and there are choices to make.

Notwithstanding other aspects of his record, we find at least some of the decisions Mr. Delaney made representing St. Paul's School at odds with our work to support survivors and end sexual violence.

Please feel free to reach out to us about this at info@endsexualviolence.org.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monika Johnson Hostler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Monika Johnson Hostler
President & Chief Executive Officer
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terri Poore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Terri Poore
Policy Director
National Alliance to End Sexual Violence