

HON. THOMAS B. GRIFFITH

Former Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit (2005-2020)
Washington, D.C.

February 26, 2022

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

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

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

I write to you today to express my strong support for President Biden's nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court of the United States

Judge Jackson has a demonstrated record of excellence, and I believe, based upon her work as a trial judge when I served on the Court of Appeals, that she will adjudicate based on the facts and the law and not as a partisan. Presidents should be entitled to their nominees provided certain levels of competence and qualifications are met; Judge Jackson clearly exceeds that bar.

I served on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit for 15 years and had many chances to review the decisions of Judge Jackson during her tenure on the District Court. Judge Jackson and I occasionally differed on the best outcome of a given case. And in one important case involving the former President, I was one of two judges on a three-judge panel who voted to overturn her decision. However, I have always respected her careful approach, extraordinary judicial understanding, and collegial manner, three indispensable traits for success as a Justice on the Supreme Court.

Judge Jackson is immensely qualified to serve on the Supreme Court and should be confirmed by the Senate. She has a demonstrated record of excellence throughout her academic and professional career, which she will bring to the Supreme Court. She graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard College, *cum laude* from Harvard Law School, and clerked at every level of the federal court system, for judges appointed by both Democratic and Republican presidents, including for Justice Stephen Breyer of the U.S. Supreme Court. Prior to her service on the bench, Judge Jackson distinguished herself with an exemplary legal career in both public service and private practice, as a federal public defender, private trial and appellate attorney, and as Vice-Chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission. Subsequently, Judge Jackson served as a District Court Judge for the District of Columbia and she is currently a Circuit Court Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals, D.C. Circuit.

This is an important time for the Supreme Court and the people of the United States. I applaud President Biden on this historic and exceptional nomination and await Judge Jackson's appointment to the Court.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas B. Griffith". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Judge Thomas B. Griffith (ret.)
U. S. Court of Appeals for the D. C. Circuit (2005-2020)

cc: Phillip Brest, Esq.
 Ms. Emily Hampsten
 Ms. Jenna Valle-Riestra
 Michael Fragoso, Esq.
 Mr. Aaron Cummings