

June 23, 2017

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Chairman, United States Senate  
Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Member, United States Senate  
Committee on the Judiciary  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We write in emphatic support of Beth A. Williams's nomination to serve as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy. Although we all have worked with Ms. Williams as partners and colleagues at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, we write this letter of support in our personal capacity.

For many years, each of us has worked with and alongside Ms. Williams. While we have worked on different cases together and in various contexts, our opinion is the same: Ms. Williams is a true professional, a skilled lawyer, a gracious colleague, and an honorable person. Ms. Williams has a powerful intellect; we have been first-hand witnesses to her thorough analysis of complex legal issues and her courtroom success. Perhaps more importantly, though, Ms. Williams is even-tempered, unflappable, and has excellent judgment. In our line of work, we handle high-stakes litigation and stressful situations frequently. Ms. Williams is invariably thoughtful and composed: she is exactly the type of person you want at the Department of Justice.

Ms. Williams uniformly treats everyone with whom she works with dignity and respect. Many of us are associates or staff and have been fortunate to work under Ms. Williams's supervision. It has been our privilege to work with her—someone who consistently takes the time to teach and mentor.

Ms. Williams's legal work has included a deep and abiding commitment to *pro bono* representation. From 2009-2015, she won the Kirkland & Ellis Pro Bono Service Award for her work. In four of those years, she performed over 200 hours of *pro bono* service each year, and in the remaining three years, over 100 hours each year. Ms. Williams's *pro bono* representations have included appellate victories in both the Second and Sixth Circuits on behalf of indigent prisoners, including one client who was kept by the New York prison system in solitary confinement for 23 years. Ms. Williams approaches her *pro bono* service with the same incredible determination and dedication to her clients as she does for paying clients.

While Ms. Williams is a talented litigator, that is not the only hat she wears. Since 2010, Ms. Williams has been Chair of the Women's Leadership Initiative in the Washington, D.C. office, where she has spent innumerable hours improving the experience for female lawyers at our firm and mentoring more junior women. She also serves on the Firmwide Diversity Committee and Gender Subcommittee as well as the Recruiting Committee.

Our support for Ms. Williams is not driven by politics. We are Democrats and Republicans, and hold views across the political spectrum. Some of us disagree deeply with the policies and politics of this Administration. But we are all united in our view that Ms. Williams is fair, intellectually honest, and judicious—a person of great integrity. In short, the White House has nominated an excellent choice for Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy.

We encourage her swift confirmation.

Respectfully,

K. Winn Allen  
Devin S. Anderson  
Ronald K. Anguas, Jr.  
Hedy J. Aponte  
Eugene F. Assaf  
Daniel F. Attridge  
Heather A. Bloom  
Alexia R. Brancato  
Daniel A. Bress  
Jonathan D. Brightbill  
Kathleen A. Brogan  
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William H. Burgess  
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Jeanne Cohn-Connor  
Elizabeth Dalmut  
Susan M. Davies  
Devin A. DeBacker  
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Michael F. Williams  
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