

August 29, 2018

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

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

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We are writing to supply information about Judge Brett Kavanaugh and his work with students at Harvard Law School.

Judge Kavanaugh reached out to the Harvard Law School chapter of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) in 2017 to express interest in planning a clerkship event for our members. On March 27, the Judge participated in a panel—jointly with Judge Paul Watford of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals—to provide information to BLSA students about the clerkship hiring process. While the event was marketed for first year students, all three class years were represented.

Judge Kavanaugh explained that one of his priorities is to encourage more students of color to apply for judicial clerkships. Several recent reports have indicated that minority law students are significantly underrepresented in clerkship positions in the Federal Judiciary. The Judge provided his insights and advice on how students should navigate the entire process, including: developing a list of judges, handling interviews, and succeeding as a law clerk. But most critically, he continually reiterated the value and importance of clerkships.

The Judge not only graciously offered his time for that panel, but also has continued to mentor numerous Harvard students whom he has taught or worked with in a number of capacities.

Please note that this letter is not a statement from BLSA as an organization. The students who have signed below write to express appreciation for the Judge's enthusiasm on this issue and hope that his efforts will be taken into consideration.

Sincerely,

The following members of Harvard BLSA in their individual capacity:

Princess Daisy Akita
HLS '20

Bradley Pough
HLS '18

Cameron Pritchett
HLS '18

Adrian Perkins
HLS '18

Brett Johnson
HLS '18

Hussein Elbakri
HLS '18

Abraham Williamson
HLS '18

William Smith
HLS '18