



March 20, 2022

Dear Senators,

On behalf of our organizations across the country working to ensure the safety and well-being of individuals, we write to you about Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, nominated to the Supreme Court of the United States. Together, we represent thousands of victim service providers and the millions of victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault they serve.

Judge Jackson is eminently qualified to sit on the Supreme Court. Retiring Justice Breyer described her by saying, "She is great, she is brilliant. She is a mix of common sense, thoughtfulness. She is decent. She is very smart and has the mix of skills and experience we need on the bench." Judge Jackson is one of America's brightest legal minds. Having been a public defender, a private practice lawyer, a member of the U.S. Sentencing Commission, a federal district court judge, and a federal circuit court judge, Judge Jackson is a respected jurist with broad legal experience.

Judge Jackson's rulings reflect the judicial consensus. During her time on the bipartisan US Sentencing Commission, she was in step with her colleagues, regardless of the political party of the appointing president. Additionally, her decisions have rarely been overturned and her rulings have been consistent with those of her judicial peers. Her nomination to the Supreme Court has been met with broad support from colleagues on both sides of the aisle, who praise her fairness and commitment to the even-handed application of justice. For example, Judge Thomas Griffith, formerly of the DC Circuit, said that he "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's career has been a testament to her personal integrity as well as to her commitment to ensuring that *Gideon vs. Wainwright* is upheld and those who face serious criminal charges have a right to counsel. Public defenders play a critical role in ensuring that the justice system is, in fact, just. And, public defenders devote themselves to safeguarding fairness over the financial incentives and prestige that exist with corporate firms. Judge Jackson's service as a public defender exemplifies her commitment to the most basic principle underlying our country's judicial system — that everyone is entitled to equal justice no matter their resources.

As a Black woman, Judge Jackson will also bring an important perspective that has been unrepresented in our nation's highest court for two-and-a-half centuries. Her lived experience gives her a unique insight into the injustices that women, communities of color, and women of color in particular face simply due to their gender and their race and ethnicity. Diversity is not just an ideal with no real-world impact; it is critical to the equal carriage of justice.

Judge Jackson is highly qualified for the position, as her career and record demonstrate. Her historic confirmation as the Supreme Court's first Black woman and the sixth woman overall will represent monumental progress toward a nation it is charged to serve, and that values all of its citizens equally.

Sincerely,

Futures Without Violence

Jewish Women International

National Alliance to End Sexual Violence

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

National Council of Jewish Women

National Resource Center on Domestic Violence

The National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault

Ujima Inc., The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community

YWCA USA