



May 5, 2021

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Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles L. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Nomination of Tiffany P. Cunningham to the United States
Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

The Intellectual Property Law Association of Chicago (IPLAC) is pleased to submit this letter in support of President Biden's nomination of Tiffany P. Cunningham as Circuit Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. IPLAC believes strongly that Ms. Cunningham's professional experience shows that she is qualified to serve in that capacity and would make an excellent addition to the Federal Circuit.

Founded in 1884 in Chicago, Illinois, IPLAC is the country's oldest bar association devoted exclusively to intellectual property matters. IPLAC has nearly 1,000 members, including attorneys in private and corporate practices in the areas of copyrights, patents, trademarks and trade secrets. IPLAC members include attorneys representing clients before federal courts throughout the United States, as well as before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, the U.S. Copyright Office and the International Trade Commission.

IPLAC is acquainted with Ms. Cunningham as she has been practicing as a patent litigator in Chicago for almost twenty years. We believe her experience as a Federal Circuit clerk, and extensive private practice in IP litigation, including patent litigation, make her well suited for the Federal Circuit. Ms. Cunningham received an undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering from MIT and a law degree from Harvard Law School.

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After receiving her J.D., she was a law clerk for the Honorable Timothy Dyk of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Ms. Cunningham is currently a partner at the law firm of Perkins Coie, residing in their Chicago office and serving on the firm's executive committee. Before that, she practiced law at Kirkland & Ellis in Chicago, rising from associate to partner. Her practice focuses on patent litigation and appellate advocacy. She has served as trial and appellate counsel for Fortune 500 companies, small enterprises and individuals in complex patent and trade secret disputes in federal courts, the ITC and the Federal Circuit. She has represented both plaintiffs and defendants. Her nearly twenty years in private practice include litigation experience over a wide variety of technologies such as chemicals, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, computer science, automotive and mechanical technologies.

For her outstanding achievements, Ms. Cunningham has received professional recognition over the years. Most recently, she was listed in "The Best Lawyers in America 2021: Patent Litigation," selected to Illinois "Super Lawyers" list 2016-2021 by *Super Lawyers*, and recognized as one of Chicago's Notable Women in Law by *Crain's Chicago Business*, 2020.

Ms. Cunningham is bright and articulate and can draw from her real world experience, when appropriate, while adjudicating from the bench.

For all the above reasons, IPLAC is delighted to support Ms. Cunningham – we have full faith in her ability to adjudicate cases impartially and carefully. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at my email address listed below.

Sincerely,



Marc V. Richards
President
Intellectual Property Law Association of Chicago
mrichards@brinksgilson.com