

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Chairman, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee

CC: Members of the United States Senate

Dear Senators Grassley and Feinstein,

On behalf of the Alliance for Justice, a national association of over 100 organizations committed to the creation of an equitable, just, and free society, I write to urge you to reject the nomination of Neil Gorsuch to the United States Supreme Court.

AFJ has recently completed a comprehensive report on Judge Gorsuch's career, [The Gorsuch Record](#). We have explored his rulings and his writings in areas including workers' rights, reproductive rights, LGBTQ rights, consumers' rights, criminal justice, immigration, First Amendment rights, and other critical areas of the law. Our review has left us deeply concerned about Judge Gorsuch's commitment to upholding the rights, legal protections, and freedoms of everyday Americans, especially when they are harmed by such powerful entities as large corporations or employers.

In short, we believe Judge Gorsuch would be a judge for the one percent, for wealthy corporations and special interests, for the privileged and the powerful. Meanwhile hardworking Americans – men and women whose lives and livelihoods literally depend on fair access to our justice system – would be forgotten and left behind.

Our research shows that Judge Gorsuch has repeatedly sided with large corporations and government officials that abuse their power. He has dismissed claims brought by workers trying to enforce their rights under anti-discrimination, labor, and disability rights laws. He has ruled against people harmed by police brutality, including a nine-year-old child. He has worked to undermine access to reproductive health care, and narrowed protections for persons with disabilities, including children trying to exercise their right to a quality education. He has written harshly about Americans who go through the courts to ensure constitutional rights, like LGBTQ couples who secured legal protections for the right to marry. And he has advanced radical positions rejected by even Justice Scalia that would undermine the ability of the federal government to protect clean air and water, safe food and medicine, and consumer and investor protections.

We also have serious questions about Judge Gorsuch's ability to maintain the independence of the judiciary from the executive branch. His record shows he has been willing, far too often, to countenance overreach and even constitutional abuses by an executive or government authority. In fact, as our report documents, Judge Gorsuch has consistently ruled against people who seek to hold government officials accountable. This is alarming at a time when the administration has shown willingness to continually test

the limits of its authority, under an executive who has publicly disparaged the federal courts as an institution and federal judges as individuals.

In conclusion, AFJ believes that a lifetime appointment to the Supreme Court should not be conferred on a person if there are any doubts about his or her support for core constitutional values. In Judge Gorsuch's case, these doubts are too serious to overlook.

If there are any questions about AFJ's research or position, I and my staff stand ready to help you at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nan Aron". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nan" and the last name "Aron" clearly distinguishable.

Nan Aron