

March 18, 2022

Dear Senators,

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) writes to you to urge you to confirm Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court of the United States. NCADV is the nation's oldest national grassroots domestic violence organization, representing domestic violence programs and survivors directly. Established in 1978, our mission is to lead, mobilize, and raise our voices to support efforts that demand a change of conditions that lead to domestic violence such as patriarchy, privilege, racism, sexism, and classism. We are dedicated to supporting survivors and holding offenders accountable and supporting advocates.

Judge Jackson is eminently qualified to sit on the Supreme Court. Described by retiring Justice Breyer as "great, brilliant, decent, with a mix of common sense and thoughtfulness," 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. She has more judicial experience than half of currently sitting Supreme Court justices did at the time of their confirmations.

Judge Jackson's rulings reflect the judicial consensus. During her time on the bipartisan U.S. Sentencing Commission, she was in lockstep with her colleagues, regardless of the political persuasion of the appointing president. Her decisions are rarely overturned, and her rulings are consistent with those of her judicial peers. Her nomination was met with broad support from judicial colleagues, who praise her integrity and commitment to the even-handed application of justice. For example, Judge Thomas Griffith, formerly of the D.C. 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 all people have access to equal justice under the law, without favor. Public defenders play a critical role in ensuring that the justice system is, in fact, just. Public defenders choose to devote themselves to the public good over the higher salaries and greater prestige that working in private practice can bring. Judge Jackson's service as a public defender exemplifies her commitment to the most basic principle underlying the US's judicial system – that all people are entitled to equal justice, regardless of wealth.

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.

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Judge Jackson is known for her character, her brilliance, and her sense of fair-play, and is a respected and accomplished jurist. She is an ideal pick to join the Supreme Court. NCADV urges the Senate to swiftly confirm Judge Jackson and for all senators to vote in her favor.

Sincerely,

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence