

JUDGE GREGORY M. SLEET (RETIRED)

February 18, 2022

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chair
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: *Arianna J. Freeman, Esquire*
Judicial Nominee to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

Dear Senators Durbin and Grassley:

I am writing to you in support of the nomination of Arianna J. Freeman to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. Having served as both the United States Attorney for the District of Delaware and for 20 years on the District Court for the District of Delaware, 7 of them as Chief Judge, I am well acquainted with the qualities and qualifications that make a make a good federal judicial officer.

When asked, I was initially hesitant to write this letter because I do not know Ms. Freeman personally. That reluctance changed quickly, however, when I spoke with a number of individuals whose opinions on matters such as this I respect, especially Judge C. Darnell Jones of the District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania (EDPA). Judge Jones is an old friend and former colleague for whom Ms. Freeman served as a law clerk. He was effusive in his praise for her intellect, her analytical skills, her writing ability, work ethic and finally, and, of particular importance for a circuit judge, her collegial nature. Ms. Freeman is a graduate of Yale Law School and, in addition to clerking for Judge Jones, she clerked for Judge James T. Giles, formerly of the EDPA court. In these roles she worked on a wide variety of civil and criminal cases. As a member of the Federal Community Defender Service for the EDPA since 2009, she has litigated dozens of post-conviction cases in that court, appearing frequently to examine witnesses at evidentiary hearings or to present oral argument. She has been lead or co-counsel in 28 appeals in the Third Circuit, and has presented oral argument in that court on seven occasions.

I believe that Ms. Freeman is well qualified to serve on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. I urge the Committee and the full Senate to promptly review her qualifications and confirm Arianna J. Freeman's nomination.

Should the Committee have any questions, please contact me at the above number.

Respectfully submitted,

Judge Gregory M. Sleet (retired)