



BRIAN M. HOFFSTADT
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SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT
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October 15, 2021

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of myself and my colleague Judge Lisa Rodriguez of the San Diego Superior Court, I urge you to confirm Judge Maame Frimpong to serve as a judge of the United States District Court for the Central District of California.

Judge Rodriguez and I chair the Criminal Law Advisory Committee, which is the judicial branch body tasked with making recommendations to California's Judicial Council regarding matters affecting the administration of the criminal law in the State of California. Specifically, our committee (1) reviews proposed legislation to evaluate any unforeseen effects it may have on criminal case, (2) proposes amendments to the California Rules of Court affecting criminal cases, and (3) proposes and drafts new forms to assist litigants and courts in implementing the criminal case. In reviewing legislation, we defer to the Legislature's policy determinations and confine our review solely to issues in how the proposed legislation implements that policy.

Judge Frimpong joined the committee last year, and immediately became one of our "go to" members. This past year, the California Legislature was incredibly prolific in introducing bills to reform our State's criminal justice system. Judge Frimpong was diligent and careful in her

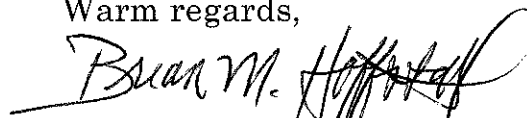
analysis of the bills, and their likely effects. She was tireless in staying on top of the large volume of bills. Perhaps most critically, her contributions were always balanced and free from an ideological bent: She looked at the potential impact of the bills from all angles, and examined how that impact would affect *all* litigants.

In the course of this committee work, Judge Rodriguez and I have both observed Judge Frimpong to exhibit a wonderful demeanor: She has been thoughtful, open to contrary viewpoints, and unfailingly pleasant.

I also served as an Assistant United States Attorney for over six years, and regularly appeared before judges in the Central District of California. The judges I most admired were those who were always prepared, engaged, courteous, and concerned about following the law as prescribed by Congress and the higher federal courts. From what I have seen, Judge Frimpong exhibits these same qualities.

For all these reasons, Judge Rodriguez and I urge you to confirm Judge Frimpong's nomination to serve on the Central District bench.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brian M. Hoffstadt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" being the most prominent.

Hon. Brian M. Hoffstadt
Associate Justice