

September 13, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Durbin and Grassley:

We are attorneys who have spent decades practicing law at law firms or as in-house counsel. We are writing to express our support for the confirmation of the nomination of Julie Rikelman to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Each of the undersigned worked with Ms. Rikelman at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLC or at NBCUniversal Media, LLC. We write in our individual capacities, not on behalf of these entities, and this letter reflects solely our personal opinions.

During the years Ms. Rikelman held these positions, we collectively worked with her on a broad and diverse array of litigation, including contract, securities, regulatory, intellectual property, defamation, employment and tort cases. We collaborated with her on legal research and analysis, drafting briefs, document production and depositions. Ms. Rikelman advised clients, prepared and defended witnesses and argued cases in court.

Julie Rikelman is a superb lawyer and would be an exceptional Judge. She is extremely intelligent, adept at analyzing the facts and law of a case in detail and skilled at posing insightful questions that get to the heart of a matter. She is thoughtful, open-minded and carefully considers every argument without prejudice and without regard to her personal views. Ms. Rikelman is diligent and strives for excellence, devoting whatever time and energy is necessary to master a new or challenging area.

Ms. Rikelman communicates clearly and succinctly, both orally and in writing, and can make complex matters readily comprehensible. She is a highly skilled and experienced oral advocate who has appeared in courts across the country and argued twice before the United States Supreme Court. She is also an excellent writer. Her writing is well-reasoned, persuasive and based on established legal principles. She does not shy away from contrary precedent and recognizes the need to address or adhere to countervailing legal authority.

Ms. Rikelman was a highly valued colleague who forged strong working relationships at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett and NBCUniversal. She is supremely collegial, truly cares about her co-workers and treats everyone respectfully and considerately. She is also admired for her strong work ethic, sound judgment, forthrightness and unquestionable integrity. Ms. Rikelman

possess tremendous equanimity and poise. Even in high pressure or stressful situations, she maintains her composure, focus and impeccable temperament.

Julie Rikelman has tremendous respect for our judicial and legal system. Her background and life experience, education, two judicial clerkships and extensive legal practice have instilled in her an abiding commitment to the rule of law and to the equitable treatment of all parties before a court. We are confident that Ms. Rikelman would be an exemplary Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for First Circuit and wholeheartedly support her confirmation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Weiner  
Retired, Executive Vice President, NBCUniversal

Linda H. Martin  
Partner, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer US  
Former Partner, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett

Thomas C. Rice  
Retired, Partner, Simpson Thacher & Bartlett

Daniel Kummer  
Senior Vice President, NBCUniversal

Mariano Schwed  
Senior Vice President, NBCUniversal

Gillian Lusins  
Senior Vice President, NBCUniversal

Stephanie Franco  
Senior Vice President, NBCUniversal

Lanier Saperstein  
Partner, Dorsey & Whitney

Matt Katz  
Partner, Schindler Cohen & Hochman

Jeff Hoeh  
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Liz Yap  
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Beth Lobel  
Former Senior Vice President, NBCUniversal

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Christine Ford  
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Peter Greenspan  
Global Head of Real Estate, WeWork

Elizabeth Newell  
Senior Vice President, Global M&A -Legal  
Warner Bros. Discovery

Andy Fossett  
Retired, Senior Vice President, NBCUniversal