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Senator Richard Durbin, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington D.C. 20510

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

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Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

Thank you for your consideration of this letter in support of Arianna Freeman's nomination to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Ms. Freeman possesses an extraordinarily acute legal mind, has exhibited sound legal judgment throughout her career, and has a temperament that will ensure that she will be a fair, sharp, and consistent judge. I accordingly offer her my highest recommendation.

Ms. Freeman and I became acquainted when she joined the adjunct faculty at the Drexel University Kline School of law, where I served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the time. When I had the chance to meet Ms. Freeman in person at a training event for new adjunct professors that I led, I could not have been more impressed. Knowledgeable, inquisitive, and empathetic, Ms. Freeman struck me as an ideal adjunct faculty member.

By the end of her first semester teaching, it was clear that in addition to her obvious gifts as a public defender, Ms. Freeman is an excellent teacher. Though her reviews were uncommonly strong for a first-year adjunct professor, she was eager to meet with me about how to make their course even more effective.

When we spoke, I was struck by how deeply committed Ms. Freeman was to honing her craft as an educator. She welcomed the opportunity to discuss ways in which she might improve her course and encourage greater student engagement in classroom conversations in a fair and impartial manner. Though such a commitment to pedagogical excellence and fundamental fairness might seem unexceptional, let me assure you that, having had many such conversations, Ms. Freeman's is unlike any I have ever seen.

By the next iteration of her course, Ms. Freeman had revamped the syllabus and altered her pedagogical approach, to great effect. Though her first effort had conveyed the material effectively and earned strong reviews, Ms. Freeman improved her class significantly the second time around. That Ms. Freeman sought to and did improve from excellent to extraordinary as a professor indicates that she will always endeavor to listen, be reflective with respect to feedback, and endeavor to be as fair and impartial a judge she can be, never satisfied with the status quo. Overall, I could not imagine a better candidate to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit or any other court. Thank you again for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any inquiries.

Respectfully,

Bret D. Asbury
Professor of Law