



September 6, 2022

The Honorable Dick Durbin  
Chair  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

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

Re: Recommendation for Kelley B. Hodge  
United States District Court Judge  
Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

I write with great enthusiasm to recommend Kelley Hodge for the position of United States District Judge, Eastern District of Pennsylvania. I have known Kelly since 2002. My perspective is that of a colleague. Presently I serve as Deputy Director of the Virginia Indigent Defense Commission. Previously I practiced criminal defense law as a private practitioner, Assistant Public Defender for the City of Richmond, Assistant Federal Public Defender for the District of Columbia and in a South Carolina law firm.

Kelley is the consummate professional. She is intelligent, hardworking, honest, diligent and able to exercise common sense and discretion. Her ability to give each case a unique perspective is what I admire most. I am sure this is due in part to her experience but also to her character. Kelley and I were colleagues in the Richmond Public Defender office where I watched first hand her skills as a writer, oral advocate, team player, open minded learner and steadfast advocate.

Kelley brings a depth and breadth that few attorneys have experienced. As demonstrated by her resume, Kelley has served in almost every capacity a lawyer can experience. Unlike others, Kelley knows what it means to stand with a person during what is likely their lowest point and darkest hour. Kelley will never lose sight that in almost every case real people are involved. Victims, accused, and a circle of others who are impacted by our actions as stakeholders in the judicial system. Kelley's experience as a District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, and Public Defender will give her credibility with litigants on the criminal side and her vast experience in private practice will do the same on the civil side. Kelley has handled a wide variety of cases. Each case calls on us to learn something new or look at the case from a different angle. She is a quick study and patient listener. Kelley's balance and well-rounded skills will make her the perfect candidate.



In my career I have been appointed by the Governor and Speaker of the House of Delegates to serve on Boards within the Commonwealth of Virginia. A while ago I was selected by then Chief Judge Spencer to serve as CJA panel representative for the Eastern District of Virginia. As a Federal Public Defender, I served as visiting Federal Defender to the United States Sentencing Commission. My community involvement includes service on charitable and educational boards. I state all this to demonstrate the diversity of engagement I have both within and beyond the legal community. On many levels I work with many different types of people. Kelley is that well rounded balanced person you want to work with no matter what venue.

Sincerely,

Maria Jankowski