

Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Washington P. O. Box 21006 Seattle, Washington 98111-3006 www.fba-wdwash.org THEODORE ANGELIS, PRESIDENT MOLLY TERWILLIGER, VICE-PRESIDENT ROBERT FLENNAUGH II, TREASURER JAMIE LISAGOR, PAST PRESIDENT

September 13, 2022

By Email and U.S. Mail

Senator Richard Durbin, Chairman Senate Committee on the Judiciary Hart Senate Office Building, SH-711 Washington, DC 20510 Senator Charles Grassley, Ranking Member Senate Committee on the Judiciary Hart Senate Office Building, SH-135 Washington, DC 20510

Re: Support for <u>Kymberly Evanson's</u> Appointment as United States District Court Judge for the W.D. Washington

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

The Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Washington ("FBA-WDWA") strongly supports the confirmation of Kymberly Evanson as a United States District Judge. Ms. Evanson is dedicated, thoughtful, and hard-working, and she is a widely admired member of our bar. I have canvassed our membership for feedback on Ms. Evanson, and I received extremely complimentary and strong support for her candidacy. This letter summarizes the information received.

One of our members, who formerly served as president of FBA-WDWA, has worked closely with volunteers for nearly two decades. She reports that Ms. Evanson has strongly distinguished herself among this already exceptional group. In 2012, in an effort to be of service to the federal courts and our legal community, Ms. Evanson reached out seeking a volunteer position in the FBA-WAWD's Federal Civil Rights Legal Clinic. Volunteers for the clinic are closely vetted. They must understand federal civil rights issues and federal court procedure, be seasoned and wise enough to carefully manage a diverse client group, and be incredibly reliable. Ms. Evanson, with then-Chief Judge Pechman's endorsement, was hired on the spot. She demonstrated such broad knowledge of federal issues and dedication, that her value was absolutely clear, and she quickly became one of the "go to" attorneys for the clinic. She has provided professional and competent legal advice with compassion, as she routinely fills in for other attorneys. She has shown herself to be intelligent, insightful, measured, and flexible. She listens, educates, and mentors. The leaders of the Federal Civil Rights Legal Clinic strongly believe that Ms. Evanson has the personal and professional qualifications worthy of a lifetime appointment. They believe that she would quickly transition from the role of an advocate to that of a federal judge, bringing both independence and comradery to our new bench.

Another member of our organization reported that Ms. Evanson is scrupulously fair and even-tempered, and she is smart and thoughtful. Practitioners in our legal community—no matter their practice—would feel confident that, with Ms. Evanson, the parties will receive fair and impartial treatment. Ms. Evanson would conduct every proceeding with integrity and impartiality.

Another member of our organization, who knows Ms. Evanson from her leadership of the District's Constitution Day, reports that she has been diligent and creative about the program and took it to new levels with enthusiasm. Our Constitution Day program provides outreach into the community and teaches pre-teens about courts and the U.S. Constitution. Constitution Day is a complicated program to run effectively, and Ms. Evanson has managed it brilliantly.

Finally, an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Washington, who was opposite Ms. Evanson in a case involving hotly disputed issues, gave Ms. Evanson her highest praise. The Assistant Attorney General reported that, despite the many issues in dispute, her relationship with Ms. Evanson was among the most professional and productive relationships ever with opposing counsel, particularly in terms of negotiating various discovery issues and staging motions practice in a way that made sense for the case. Ms. Evanson earned the Assistant Attorney General's trust and proved that she would act in good faith at all times. The Assistant Attorney General reports that Ms. Evanson truly is a model of the way attorneys are meant to deal with each other when representing clients with opposing interests.

Our members uniformly believe that Ms. Evanson would be an excellent U.S. District Court judge. She has the personal and professional qualifications worthy of a lifetime appointment. She has our highest recommendation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information or have questions.

Very truly yours,

Theodore Angelis President Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Washington (206) 370-8101 (office telephone) (206) 719-4539 (mobile telephone theo.angelis@klgates.com