



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
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*Peter F. Neronha*  
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February 5, 2024

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

The Honorable Lindsey Graham, Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate  
211 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham,

As colleagues who have worked with Melissa DuBose, or who are familiar with her legal career, we write to offer our unreserved endorsement of her nomination as U.S. District Judge for the United States District Court in Rhode Island.

Melissa DuBose was appointed as an Associate Judge for the Rhode Island District Court by former Governor Gina Raimondo on January 1, 2019. In addition to hearing cases, Ms. DuBose sits on the Court's Committee for Racial and Ethnic Fairness to identify systemic racism in judicial institutions and processes. She graduated from Providence College with a degree in political science and became a teacher in Providence Public Schools teaching history and civics at a public charter school when a student committed a murder of another student as a result of gang violence. At that time, she decided to take evening courses at Roger Williams University School of Law while teaching at Central High School in order to be able to advocate for youth like her students. After she graduated from Roger Williams University School of Law, she joined the Rhode Island Attorney General's Office as a Special Assistant Attorney General, where she initially prosecuted juvenile cases in Family Court and then was assigned to the Superior Court Daily Criminal Calendar. After working as a prosecutor until 2008, Melissa DuBose was recruited to be the U.S. Legal Counsel for Schneider Electric where she worked in corporate compliance, ethics and fair trade until 2019, when she was appointed to the Rhode Island District Court by former Governor Gina Raimondo.

Moreover, as prosecutors committed to the rule of law and fairness to all litigants, we were impressed by Melissa DuBose's commitment to seek justice in all cases assigned, and her appreciation for the day-to-day and institutional challenges faced by law enforcement. As well, in our dealings with Ms. DuBose, we have recognized and appreciated her practical approach to problem solving, her easy accessibility, and her innate mindfulness as to the human, real-life consequences of her decisions.

For these reasons, we strongly recommend your favorable consideration of Ms. DuBose's nomination to the United States District Court in Rhode Island. She is an exemplary and highly qualified judge, who will serve with distinction and honor.

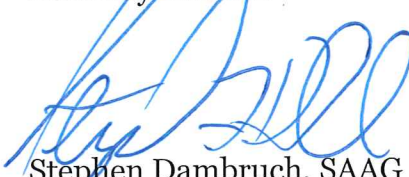
Respectfully submitted,



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