



Eleven Dupont Circle NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20036
www.afj.org | 202-822-6070

Field Offices
Dallas | Houston | Los Angeles |
San Francisco

PRESIDENT
RAKIM BROOKS

CHAIR
PAULETTE MEYER

May 21, 2024

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Chairman Durbin:

On behalf of the Alliance for Justice (AFJ), a national association representing more than 150 public interest and civil rights organizations, I write to express our strong support for the confirmation of Stacey D. Neumann to the United States District Court for the District of Maine. Neumann's exemplary qualifications, extensive legal experience, and steadfast commitment to justice make her an exceptional choice for the federal bench. We urge the Senate to swiftly confirm her nomination.

Neumann's distinguished career as a public defender, prosecutor, and private practitioner uniquely positions her to understand the complexities of our legal system and to ensure equal access to justice for all. As a former Staff Attorney at the Chittenden County Public Defender's Office in Vermont, she zealously represented indigent clients facing felony and misdemeanor charges, including defending clients in high-stakes trials and appeals. Following her tenure as a public defender, Ms. Neumann served with distinction as an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Maine, where she prosecuted a wide range of criminal cases, including those involving child exploitation, firearms offenses, fraud, and immigration violations.

In addition to her experience in public service, Neumann has demonstrated exceptional leadership and legal acumen in her role as Director and Partner at Murray, Plumb & Murray in Portland, Maine. There, she has represented clients in complex criminal defense and civil litigation matters, including cases involving discrimination, wage violations, and other civil rights issues. Her leadership within the firm underscores her commitment to fostering a more just and equitable legal profession.

Earlier in her esteemed legal career, Neumann clerked at both the federal appellate and state supreme court levels, for the Second Circuit Court of Appeals and the Vermont Supreme Court respectively, further enriching her legal knowledge and sharpening her analytical skills. These experiences also gave Neumann a unique perspective on the interplay between the federal courts and state courts.

Neumann is also a faculty member of the Harvard Law School Trial Advocacy Program and was selected by the United States Sentencing Commission to be a member of the Practitioners Advisory Group (PAG). Her involvement in various advisory groups, commissions, and bar associations underscores her dedication to advancing the rule of law and improving the administration of justice in Maine and beyond.

Beyond her professional achievements, Neumann is deeply engaged in her community, volunteering her time and expertise to support organizations such as the Maine Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. Her commitment to public service and her advocacy for vulnerable populations reflect her character and values not only as a legal practitioner, but also as a civic leader recognized as a standout within the Maine State Bar who possesses excellent judicial temperament.

In conclusion, Stacey D. Neumann possesses the intellect, integrity, and temperament necessary to serve with distinction as a federal judge in the District of Maine. Her diverse experiences, exemplary record of achievement, commitment to the state of Maine, and unwavering dedication to justice make her an outstanding nominee for the federal judiciary. We urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to promptly advance her nomination and recommend her confirmation to the full Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rakim H.D. Brooks".

Rakim Brooks
President, Alliance for Justice