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PRESIDENT

Rachel Rossi

CHAIR

Madeline deLone

September 16, 2025

Senator Charles Grassley
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee

Senator Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin,

The nomination of Rebecca Taibleson to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit raises profound concerns about whether the federal judiciary will continue to safeguard the rights of all people or become a staging ground for ideological projects. Her career clearly demonstrates that she has repeatedly aligned herself with far-right movements, championed originalist theories that erode fundamental freedoms, and advanced legal arguments that shield powerful actors at the expense of others.

Throughout her work as a corporate lawyer, prosecutor, and appellate advocate, Taibleson has shown a troubling pattern of fighting to limit victims' access to justice, and her record reveals a consistent hostility to remedies for victims of abuse, violence, and corporate negligence:

- Taibleson argued that Dow Chemical should not face accountability for exposing communities to radioactive waste, dismissing the jury's multimillion-dollar award to residents harmed by the company's negligence.
- Taibleson argued in a Supreme Court brief that a person shot by police is not "seized" under the Fourth Amendment if they manage to flee, a position rejected by the Supreme Court.
- Taibleson argued against accountability under the Torture Victim Protection Act for a U.S. citizen who alleged he was unlawfully detained and tortured abroad.

Her arguments strike at the core of constitutional freedoms. By defending Trump's decision to block critics on Twitter, Taibleson further validated arguments that the president has the authority to silence dissent in digital public forums — a dangerous precedent that Trump himself has only escalated in increasingly authoritarian ways. If confirmed, how can the public trust her to safeguard free expression in similarly situated cases moving forward?

Taibleson's public advocacy for and her loyalty to Justice Brett Kavanaugh, whom she clerked for, has gone beyond professional respect. She not only defended him, she testified in his support during his confirmation hearings even after credible allegations of sexual assault were raised, dismissing Dr. Christine Blasey Ford's testimony in favor of her own proximity to Kavanaugh.

This episode illustrates her willingness to privilege institutional power and partisan loyalty over the lived experiences of women — a deeply troubling lens for someone entrusted with administering equal justice under law.

Taibleson's record demonstrates that her guiding philosophy is not one of neutrality, but of allegiance to far-right ideologies increasingly supported by Trump. A lifetime appointment would empower her to enshrine those positions into binding precedent for decades to come.

For these reasons, Alliance for Justice strongly opposes the confirmation of Rebecca Taibleson to the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. The federal judiciary demands judges whose commitment to fairness, equality, and the Constitution is steadfast. Taibleson's record shows she cannot meet that standard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel Rossi".

Rachel Rossi
President, Alliance for Justice