



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
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February 25, 2011

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Caitlin J. Halligan

Dear Senator Leahy:

I write in support of the nomination of Caitlin J. Halligan for a seat on the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. Ms. Halligan's experience and accomplishments as an appellate lawyer make her an ideal appointee to that Court.

Ms. Halligan, currently employed by the New York County District Attorney's Office as General Counsel, has served as First Deputy Solicitor General, then Solicitor General of the State of New York and as head of the appellate practice section at the New York law firm of Weil, Gotshal and Manges LLP. In her time as First Deputy and then Solicitor General, she was responsible not only for briefing and arguing her own cases, but for supervising the appellate litigation conducted by New York State's Attorney General as well.

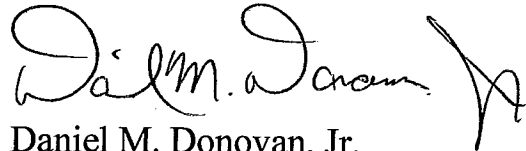
In her time in private practice and in the Office of the New York State Solicitor General, Ms. Halligan has briefed and argued cases at all levels of appellate courts in the United States, ranging from the United States Supreme Court to New York State's intermediate appellate court, the Appellate Division and has also supervised briefs filed in those courts. The cases in which she has been involved, either as principal attorney or supervisor, span such diverse areas as prisoner civil rights matters, environmental, voting rights and free speech issues, and commerce clause matters. This breadth of practice areas – both in terms of the courts in which Ms. Halligan has appeared and the nature of the cases in which she has been involved – certainly has provided Ms. Halligan with the background necessary for success as a Circuit Court judge, particularly in view of the wide variety of matters that will come before Ms. Halligan should she be confirmed to a seat on the D.C. Circuit.

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In short, Ms. Halligan's experience as an appellate practitioner and the wide variety of issues with which she has dealt will serve her well in her capacity as a Circuit Judge and I am pleased to offer my support for her confirmation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel M. Donovan, Jr." followed by a stylized flourish.

Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.
District Attorney

cc: The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510