

July 6, 2011

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee:

We write in our personal capacities in support of the nomination of our law school classmate, Jesse M. Furman, to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

We were Jesse's classmates at Yale Law School, and in that time, we observed him both in and outside of the classroom. Regardless of the setting, we were struck not merely by Jesse's outstanding mind but by the strength of his character, work ethic, and personality. In a community of many highly intelligent and able individuals, Jesse stood out. He not only had a keen grasp of the law, but he was able to apply a common sense understanding to its implications. Equally importantly, Jesse was (and remains) a pleasure to discuss any issue with, both due to his intellect and his open-mindedness. In any academic institution, one learns not merely from the teachers but also from classmates, and we all learned from Jesse.

None of us has been surprised by the professional successes Jesse has achieved since graduating from law school. He has consistently served in positions where he has worked to further the public interest, including as a law clerk—on the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the Court to which he has been nominated—and as a public servant in the Department of Justice, both as an Assistant United States Attorney and as Counselor to Attorney General Mukasey. The career path that Jesse has taken and the positions he has held underscore that his loyalty is not to any party but to the public at large.

Regardless of our political affiliations or legal philosophies, we recognize the outstanding abilities and attributes that Jesse would bring to the bench and have no doubt that Jesse would make an outstanding jurist. His temperament and intellect would ensure a fidelity to the law that is essential in any judge. We respectfully urge his confirmation.

Michael B. Abramowicz
Professor of Law
George Washington University Law School

April Adams-Johnson
North Haven, Connecticut

Laura I. Appleman
Associate Professor of Law
Willamette University

John G. Balestriere
Balestriere Fariello

Elena Baylis
Washington, DC

Jeanette Melendez Bead
Levine Sullivan Koch & Schulz LLP

R. Bhaskar
Independent Scholar,
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Alix Biel
New York, New York

Rob Bonta
Vice Mayor, City of Alameda, California

Greg Bowman
Washington, DC

Jonathan Boyarin
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Clifton L. Brinson
Partner, Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell & Jernigan, LLP

Julius Buchanan
Hong Kong, China

William A. Burck
Partner, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

Christina Duffy Burnett
Columbia Law School

Steve Charnovitz
Associate Professor of Law
George Washington University Law School

Partha P. Chattoraj
Greenwich, Connecticut

Jennifer M. Chacon
Professor of Law
U.C. Irvine School of Law

Gregory S. Chernack
Partner, Hollingsworth LLP

Iris Chiu
New York, New York

Polly Clark

Sandra Cohen
Partner, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

John Collins
White Plains, New York

J. Aaron Cook
Kansas City, Missouri

James R. Copland
Director, Center for Legal Policy
Manhattan Institute for Policy Research

Florence A. Crisp
Partner, Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP

Ben Davis
Partner, Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard, LLP

Melvin Davis
Raleigh, North Carolina

Marie T. DeFalco
Lowenstein Sandler PC

Derek R. Douglas
Washington, DC

Ariela Dubler
Professor of Law
Columbia Law School

Rebecca Keating Edelstein
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Kianga Ellis
Avail Art, L.L.C.

Matthew J. Fader
Baltimore, Maryland

Steven Farr
Washington, DC

Christina G. Forbush
Baltimore, MD

Brett Gerry
Seattle, Washington

Mark Gerson
Gerson Lehrman Group

Elizabeth Goitein
Washington, DC

Robin S. Golden
Yale Law School

Robert Gordon
Washington, DC

Risa L. Goluboff
Caddell & Chapman Professor of Law
Professor of History
University of Virginia School

Kara Hailey
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP

Rachel J. Harris
Los Angeles, California

Kendra K. Hartman

Damon J. Hemmerdinger
Senior Vice President, ATCO

Steve J. Hess
Munster, Indiana

Stephen Hsu
Global Fund Derivatives
Deutsche Bank AG London

Bacardi L. Jackson
Counsel, Tucker Law Group LLC

Stephen M. Juris
Partner, Morvillo, Abramowitz, Grand, Iason, Anello & Bohrer

Ben Kerschberg
Fairfax, Virginia

Tahia Z. Khan
Vinson & Elkins

Matthew Klein
Executive Director, Blue Ridge Foundation New York
New York City, New York

Jay L. Koh

Jonathan M. Landy
Bethesda, Maryland

Cynji Lee
Assistant County Attorney for Miami-Dade County
Miami, Florida

Eva Lehman
Assistant General Counsel, Litigation and Compliance
Western Digital Corporation
Irvine, California

Amy L. Levine
Washington, DC

Goodwin Liu
Professor of Law
University of California Berkeley School of Law

Jessie K. Liu

Andrea Luby
Kansas City, Missouri

Joseph W. Luby
Kansas City, MO

Juli Ann Lund
Washington, DC

Gerard N. Magliocca
Samuel R. Rosen Professor of Law
Indiana University — Indianapolis

Paul Mandell
Bethesda, Maryland

Michael L. McCabe
Buffalo, New York

Hannah McElhinny
Washington DC

Dmitri Mehlhorn
Chief Operating Officer
StudentsFirst

Robin M. Meriweather
Washington, DC

Paul Meyer
Chairman & President
Voxiva, Inc.

Catherine J. Motz
Baltimore, Maryland

Hari M. Osofsky
Associate Professor
University of Minnesota Law School

Amanda Perez
New York New York

Richard Primus
Professor of Law
The University of Michigan

Gina M. Raimondo
Providence, Rhode Island

Alex Raskolnikov
Charles Evans Gerber Professor of Law
Columbia Law School

Camille Gear Rich
Pasadena, California

Paul B. Rollins
University of Georgia School of Law

Andrea Roth
Assistant Professor, UC Berkeley School of Law

Eve L. Runyon
Washington, DC

Benjamin I. Sachs
Harvard Law School

Amy M. Sanford
Nashville, Tennessee

Michael Saul
National Wildlife Federation
Boulder, Colorado

Greg Schwartz, MD JD
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Harvard Medical School

Thomas E. Shakow
Washington, DC

Christian Shea
CEO, Equitas Capital

Alison Siegler
University of Chicago Law School

Jason Small
Director, Financial Stability
United Way of the National Capital Area

Joshua Steinglass
New York, New York

Gloria Tan
Deputy Director, Criminal Justice Institute
Harvard Law School

Mark R. Trachtenberg
Houston, Texas

Rebecca Tushnet
Professor of Law, Georgetown

Shelley White
Dallas, Texas

Mark Whitaker
Partner, DLA Piper LLP (US)

Petra Renée Wicklund
Brooklyn, New York

Harry Wingo
Washington, DC

John Fabian Witt
Allen H. Duffy Class of 1960 Professor of Law
Yale Law School

Craig A. Wolfe
Partner, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP

Andrea R. Wood
Chicago, Illinois

Stephen G. Yoder
Washington, DC

Monica Youn
New York, New York

Jonathan Zhu
Partner, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati P.C.

Institutional affiliations are listed for identification purposes only; individuals are signing solely in their personal capacities.