

April 29, 2020

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne G. B. Feinstein, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of the Honorable Justin R. Walker to be a Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

Dear Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Feinstein:

I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Judge Justin R. Walker to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

I have had the privilege to know Judge Walker for the past six years, as a friend and colleague at the University of Louisville, where he teaches law and serves as part of the law school's Ordered Liberty Program, an academic program established by the university to support the advanced study of political theory and constitutional law.

Judge Walker is undeniably gifted. He is a former law clerk to Justice Anthony Kennedy of the United States Supreme Court and then-Judge Brett Kavanaugh of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and holds degrees from Duke University and Harvard Law School, where he was a Notes Editor of the *Harvard Law Review*. He possesses an incisive legal mind, sound judgment, and a deep understanding of constitutional law, further enriched by a decade of scholarly attention to important questions surrounding the role of federal agencies.

In addition, Judge Walker stands out for his strong commitment to our nation's future lawyers and judges. He is regarded as a skillful and dynamic teacher of law, not to mention a cherished mentor. He invites law students into his home, he joins them in their celebrations, and he keeps track of their lives. He makes it a point to know their families, their interests, and their plans. As a tenure-track professor, he hired as many research assistants as the budget would hold, sometimes more. Now that he is a federal judge, he calls them his law clerks. If that were not enough, he writes articles with them in the bar journals and law reviews. And I do not mean he just thanks them with a footnote. He actually lists them as co-authors. (Judge Walker has co-authored six articles with our students.)

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Although Judge Walker's standards are high, they are always set in the spirit of kindness, fairness, and generosity. He works right alongside his students and clerks, patiently and respectfully, until they hit their marks. His sense of duty toward future lawyers and judges is unsurpassed and I have no doubt he will continue to give the fullest expression to this noble commitment, for the rest of his years as a member of the federal judiciary.

In closing, Judge Walker has the integrity, intelligence, temperament, courage, experience, and dedication to the legal profession to serve with distinction on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. I urge the Senate to approve his nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luke M. Milligan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Luke M. Milligan
Professor of Law
Co-Director, Ordered Liberty Program