

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

May 5, 2016

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
437 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
437 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Reid, Chairman Grassley, and Ranking Member Leahy:

Each of us headed the Office of the Solicitor General. Our service took place under both Republican and Democratic Presidents. We write collectively in support of Judge Merrick Garland's qualifications to serve as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court. We believe that Judge Garland has demonstrated the temperament, intellect, and experience to serve in this capacity.

Merrick Garland has a history of excellence in the Law. He served in high ranking Justice Department posts, as a partner at a major law firm, an Assistant United States Attorney, a law clerk on the United States Supreme Court, a law clerk on the Second Circuit for the legendary Judge Henry Friendly, and, of course, for nearly the last two decades, as a Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. He presently serves as the Chief Judge of that Circuit, where he is known for his collegiality and is widely respected by his colleagues and litigants who have come before him.

As a group, we have argued hundreds of cases before the United States Supreme Court and the federal Courts of Appeals. Each of us has served as the United States Government's top representative before the Supreme Court. And while we have served in different Administrations, we are unified in our belief that Judge Garland is superbly qualified to serve on the Supreme Court if he were confirmed.

We are confident that Judge Garland would bring his brilliance, work ethic, and broad experience to the cases that come before him. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Neal K. Katyal (Acting Solicitor General, 2010-2011)

Gregory G. Garre (Solicitor General, 2008-2009)

Paul D. Clement (Solicitor General, 2005-2008)

Theodore B. Olson (Solicitor General, 2001-2004)

Barbara D. Underwood (Acting Solicitor General, 2001)

Seth P. Waxman (Solicitor General, 1997-2001)

Walter E. Dellinger III (Acting Solicitor General, 1996-1997)

Drew S. Days III (Solicitor General, 1993-1996)

Kenneth W. Starr (Solicitor General, 1989-1993)