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January 8, 2017

VIA FACSIMILE OR EMAIL

The Honorable Mark D. Obenshain
Chair, Courts of Justice Committee
Senate of Virginia
P.O. Box 555
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22803

The Honorable David B. Albo
Chair, Courts of Justice Committee
General Assembly Building
P.O. Box 406
Richmond, Virginia 23218

**Re: Vacancy in the Circuit Court
of the Twentieth Judicial Circuit**

Dear Senator Obenshain and Delegate Albo:

On behalf of the Virginia Women Attorneys Association ("VWAA"), a regional committee (the "Committee") was impaneled to evaluate candidates for the vacancy on the Circuit Court of the 20th Judicial Circuit occasioned by the retirement of the Honorable Burke McCahill.

The VWAA, through its regional Committee, invited candidates to participate in our judicial screening process. The process requires each candidate submit a completed VWAA Judicial Candidate Questionnaire and resume and encourages the appearance of the candidate for an interview with the Committee.

In screening the candidates for the judiciary, the following rating categories are used by the VWAA:

(1) NOT QUALIFIED: Applied to any applicant who fails to meet the minimum requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, integrity and/or other basic criteria set forth in the ABA Guidelines.

(2) QUALIFIED: Applied to any applicant who meets the minimum requirements for fairness, experience, intellect, temperament, professionalism, integrity and/or other basic criteria set forth in the ABA Guidelines.

(3) RECOMMENDED: Applied to applicants whose qualifications are sufficiently above the minimum requirements to warrant the Committee's affirmative recommendation.

(4) HIGHLY RECOMMENDED: Reserved for any candidate who is especially well-qualified for the position and merits special recommendation.

The VWAA's procedures provide that ratings of "Qualified" and "Recommended" require a vote in support by at least a simple majority of the Committee. A rating of "Highly Recommended" requires a vote in support by at least a two-thirds majority of those voting. For the Committee to find that a candidate fails to meet the minimum qualifications and is "Not Qualified," at least two-thirds of those voting must so find.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the VWAA has approved, in accordance with its procedures, the following ratings reached by the Committee for this vacancy:

Alexander N. Levay, Esquire is found *highly recommended*.
Lorrie A. Sinclair, Esquire is found *highly recommended*.

Sean P. Morgan, Esquire is found *recommended*.

Germaine B. Lawless, Esquire is found *qualified*.
James P. Magner, Esquire is found *qualified*.
Alejandra Rueda, Esquire is found *qualified*.
Zaida C. Thompson, Esquire is found *qualified*.

Executive summaries of the qualifications of each of the above candidates are attached to this letter.

For your further information, the Committee members participating in the interview process were:

Li-Shann Durst, Esquire: Ms. Durst is a principal of the Law Office of Li-Shann Durst, PLLC and is the current president of the Loudoun Chapter of VWAA. She focuses her practice on domestic and family law with an emphasis on collaborative practice and mediation. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2001.

Mariam Ebrahimi, Esquire: Ms. Ebrahimi is the sole Member of Mariam Ebrahimi, PLLC, which she founded in 2006. With offices in Vienna and Leesburg, Virginia, she specializes in family and immigration law. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2000.

Bonnie Hoffman, Esquire: Ms. Hoffman is the Deputy Public Defender for the Loudoun County Public Defender's Office and has been with that office since 1995. Her practice is exclusively in the field of criminal defense where she handles a variety of felony, misdemeanor, and juvenile cases. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 1994.

Autumn D. McCulloch, Esquire: Ms. McCulloch is an associate with McCandlish Lillard, P.C. and focuses her practice in the areas of wills, trusts, estates, elder law and fiduciary litigation. She served as the 2015-2016 President of the Loudoun Chapter of VWAA. She has been a member of the Virginia State Bar since 2006.

Betsy Sue Scott, Esquire: Ms. Scott is the principal of the Law Office of Betsy Sue Scott and focuses her practice in the areas of export and trade compliance, wills, trusts, estates, guardianships/conservatorships and elder law. She has served as the President of VWAA statewide and, for two terms, as the President of the Loudoun Chapter of VWAA. She has been a member of the Virginia Bar since 2007.

We hope that this information will prove helpful to you during your selection process for this very important judicial position. Please feel free to contact VWAA President Joan C. McKenna at (804) 403-7100 should you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely yours,



Betsy Sue Scott
Judicial Chair, Loudoun Chapter
Virginia Women Attorneys Association

Enclosures: Executive Summary of Germaine B. Lawless, Esquire
Executive Summary of Alexander N. Levay, Esquire
Executive Summary of James P. Magner, Esquire
Executive Summary of Sean P. Morgan, Esquire
Executive Summary of Alejandra Rueda, Esquire
Executive Summary of Lorrie A. Sinclair, Esquire
Executive Summary of Zaida C. Thompson, Esquire

Cc (by email only): Germaine B. Lawless, Esquire
Alexander N. Levay, Esquire
James P. Magner, Esquire
Sean P. Morgan, Esquire
Alejandra Rueda, Esquire
Lorrie A. Sinclair, Esquire
Zaida C. Thompson, Esquire

Cc (by email only): Senator Richard H. Black
Senator Barbara Favola

Senator Jill Holtzman Vogel
Senator Jennifer Wexton
Delegate John Bell
Delegate Jennifer Boysko
Delegate Thomas A. Greason
Delegate David LaRock
Delegate James M. LeMunyon
Delegate Randy Minchew
Delegate Kathleen J. Murphy
Delegate Michael Webert

ALEXANDER N. LEVAY

Experience and Legal Ability: Mr. Levay received a Juris Doctor from George Washington University in 1987 and was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1987.

He served as Assistant Public Defender in the 19th Judicial Circuit from 1987 to 1990. From 1990 to 1996, Mr. Levay served as the Chief Public Defender of the 20th Judicial Circuit. He transitioned to private practice in 1996 as a partner at Moyes & Levay, PLLC from 1996 to 2006 and later as principal in Alex Levay Attorney, PLLC from 2006 to present. During his more than twenty years in private practice, Mr. Levay has focused on trial and appellate matters involving criminal defense, civil litigation, domestic relations and personal injury law.

The Committee was impressed with Mr. Levay's wide range of experience. His background in criminal as well as civil practice is rare and would be an asset to the Bench. In addition to his broad practice, Mr. Levay is dedicated to public service and is extensively involved in his community as evidenced not only by his activities within the Bar, including committee service to the Supreme Court of Virginia and leadership roles in the Virginia State Bar, the Hispanic Bar Association, the Loudoun County Bar Association and the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association (VTLA), but also his involvement in the greater Loudoun County community. He has served as President and five-term Board member of the Loudoun County Bar Association as well as President and Vice President of the Hispanic Bar Association and as a faculty member for the Virginia State Bar (VSB) Professionalism Course. From 2002-2011, he was a member at-large of the VSB's Bar Council and Chair of the VSB's Indigent Defense Task Force. He has been a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation, a Board member of the VTLA and Chair of its Diversity Committee. He has been a member of the Indigent Defense Commission and served on several Committees of the Virginia Supreme Court.

Mr. Levay has participated in hundreds, if not thousands, of trials throughout his nearly three decade career resulting in a number of published decisions. He is a frequent lecturer on a variety of topics and has made numerous Continuing Legal Education presentations in criminal trial and appellate practice. He has received several peer-review awards.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions and interview, as well as by reputation, Mr. Levay demonstrates the intellect and temperament required of a Circuit Court judge. He is known to be even keeled and able to work collegially and collaboratively.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Levay exemplifies the professionalism and integrity required of a Circuit Court judge. The Committee was particularly impressed by Mr. Levay's awareness of and considered thoughts on providing greater access to the justice system.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee was extremely impressed by Mr. Levay's leadership skills and dedication to public service and found him to be a candidate of outstanding professionalism and integrity. The Committee found that his experience, fairness, temperament, intellect, and professionalism make Mr. Levay especially well-qualified for the position of a Circuit Court judge and therefore merit special recommendation and designation of **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**.

LORRIE A. SINCLAIR

Experience and Legal Ability: Ms. Sinclair received a Juris Doctor from Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William & Mary in 1996 and was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1996. Ms. Sinclair is also admitted to practice in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Ms. Sinclair has been a principal at the law firm of Biberaj, Snow & Sinclair PC since January 2015. For the six and half years prior to that, she was a principal in the law firm of Sinclair Taylor PLLC, in Leesburg. Her practice encompasses a wide range of legal areas including criminal defense (felony and misdemeanors for both adults and juveniles), family law (including divorce, child custody, visitation and support), guardianships, conservatorships, personal injury, estate planning, probate and civil litigation. She has qualified as and regularly serves as guardian *ad litem* for juveniles and, formerly, for incapacitated adults, and court-appointed counsel in criminal cases for misdemeanors, felonies, and juvenile matters.

Since 2008, Ms. Sinclair has served as a Special Justice for civil commitments and has presided over hundreds of civil commitment hearings. In 2011, she was appointed as a substitute judge for the 20th Judicial Circuit and has sat in the General District and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Courts in Loudoun, Clark, Frederick, Prince William, and Spotsylvania Counties handling civil, criminal and domestic relations matters. In addition to her practice, she served, from 2012 to 2014, as a contractor at Pro-telligent, LLC, teaching comparative law and contractor legal responsibilities for the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs and was a Legal Instructor at the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy from December 2004 until July 2008.

Ms. Sinclair began her career as a Research Assistant at the Commonwealth's Attorneys' Services Council, and subsequently as Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in Virginia Beach. Moving to Northern Virginia in 1999, she worked as an associate attorney at The Trade Mark Institute and then at a law firm in Sterling. In 2001, Ms. Sinclair returned to public service as Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in Loudoun County where her experience included both felony and misdemeanor bench trials and jury trials. Ms. Sinclair has served on the Virginia Supreme Court's Court Reporters Committee (2007), the Virginia State Bar (VSB) Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Board (2011-2017), and as an at-large member of the VSB Bar Council (2012-2018), the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Ethics and Professionalism Committee (June 2016 to present). She is a past President and Board member of the Loudoun County Bar Association.

The Committee noted Ms. Sinclair's expansion of practice areas in recent years as she has sought a position in the Judiciary. With increased knowledge of and experience in fields of law with which she was less familiar, e.g., domestic relations, tort and estate law and general civil litigation, Ms. Sinclair has gained additional knowledge of the substantive and procedural aspects of the law in her ongoing service as Substitute Judge and Special Justice. In these positions, she has utilized opportunities for further training.

Fairness and Temperament: Through her submission and interview, Ms. Sinclair demonstrated to the Committee that she has a keen sense of justice and possesses the requisite fairness and temperament expected of a Circuit Court judge. As a Substitute Judge and Special Justice, she has demonstrated a balance of patience and decisiveness that is desirable in a jurist.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Ms. Sinclair possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the Circuit Court bench.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee found that Ms. Sinclair's fairness, temperament, intellect, experiences, particularly those on the Bench, and professionalism make her especially well-qualified for the position of a Circuit Court judge and therefore merit special recommendation and designation of **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**.

SEAN P. MORGAN

Experience and Legal Ability: Mr. Morgan received his Juris Doctor with honors from the University of Oklahoma in 1987 and was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2003. He is also admitted to the Bars of the District of Columbia, Oklahoma, and the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma.

Mr. Morgan currently serves as Deputy Commonwealth Attorney in the Loudoun County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, which he joined in 2005. His primary focus is managing the litigation and prosecution of criminal cases. His duties include recommending and implementing litigation strategy, managing a litigation team, and acting as a management liaison with judges, law enforcement, public officials, and attorneys. Prior to his tenure in this Office, he worked at the American Prosecutors Research Institute from 2001–2005. There, he was responsible for the development and training of prosecutors on computer crime, identity theft, elder abuse and telemarketing fraud. From 1995 to 2001, Mr. Morgan worked at the Office of the District Attorney in Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, where he prosecuted criminal and fraud cases. In addition to his extensive background in criminal law, Mr. Morgan also litigated contract claims and protest of awards of federal government contracts during his tenure with Eckert, Seamans, Cherin & Mellott (1994-1995) and Saul, Ewing, Remick & Saul (1989-1993). Mr. Morgan was a Judicial Clerk with the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma in 1988-1989.

As result of his knowledge and experience in the prosecution of fraud cases and computer crimes, Mr. Morgan received the Virginia State Police Fraud Fighter Award in 2006 and 2008. He has participated as a Continuing Legal Education faculty member on nine (9) occasions between 2002-2010, and lectured on various topics primarily focused on criminal law and fraud. In 2003, Mr. Morgan co-authored articles on elder abuse and fraud; and in 1995, he was a contributing author to the "Construction Claims Deskbook."

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submission and interview, Mr. Morgan demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament expected of a Circuit Court judge.

Professionalism and Integrity: Mr. Morgan has demonstrated a willingness and ability to disregard prejudices and administer the law fairly. The Committee finds that he possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity expected for the Circuit Court bench.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee was impressed with Mr. Morgan's scholarly research and legal knowledge, his willingness to learn new skills, and his attention to judicial procedure and administration. The Committee finds that Mr. Morgan's qualifications are sufficiently above the minimum requirements for the position of a Circuit Court judge and merit the Committee's rating of **RECOMMENDED**.

GERMAINE B. LAWLESS

Experience and Legal Ability: Ms. Lawless received a Juris Doctor from University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law in 1998 and was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2003. Ms. Lawless is also admitted to practice law in the District of Columbia, State of Tennessee, and United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee.

Ms. Lawless has worked as a Senior Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney for Loudoun County since February 2003 and directly supervises the Office of Commonwealth's Attorney's Child Sex Crimes and Domestic Violence Unit. She has been the Director of the Loudoun County Victim Witness Program since March 2012. In this position, she oversees the Program's day-to day operations, manages case workers, hires staff, and manages a budget of approximately \$40,000. Her areas of practice encompass a wide range of criminal prosecution litigation (felony and misdemeanors for both adults and juveniles) with a specialty in child sex crimes. Additionally, Ms. Lawless has an appellate practice with regard to research and drafting of appellate petitions for submission to the Court of Appeals of Virginia. Ms. Lawless has spent a great deal of her legal professional career protecting the rights of women and children.

Ms. Lawless has been a member of the Advisory Board of Loudoun County Child Advocacy Center, Child Advocacy Center Multi-Disciplinary Team, Domestic Abuse Response Team, and Human Trafficking Multi-Disciplinary Team. She has received the 2016 Virginia S. Duvall Distinguished Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court Award, 2013 Outstanding Multi-Disciplinary Team Member Award, and 2005 Victim Services Award. Ms. Lawless is proficient in reading, writing and speaking the Spanish language.

Prior to relocating to Virginia, Ms. Lawless served, from April 2001 to December 2002, as the Assistant District Attorney for the Office of the District Attorney General in Nashville, Tennessee. During her tenure, she prosecuted, in state court, adult offenders in felony and misdemeanor jury trials on charges that included homicide, kidnapping, robbery, rape, drug offenses, and other serious crimes. Prior to that position, from December 1998 to April 2001, Ms. Lawless was the Assistant Public Defender for the Office of the Metropolitan Public Defender in Nashville, where she defended indigent persons in state court on a range of felony and misdemeanor charges.

Ms. Lawless has some experience in the civil practice area. She worked as an associate in two law firms, one in Nashville and the other in Chicago, Illinois (summer associate), handling both criminal and civil litigation matters in the late 1990s. She conducted discovery to include depositions, and worked on personal injury cases. In Fall 1997, she was a legal extern at the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Tennessee where she assisted with prosecuting criminal cases in federal court. She has expressed a willingness to learn areas of law with which she is unfamiliar.

Fairness and Temperament: Through her submissions and interview, Ms. Lawless demonstrated to the Committee a long career of public service and a strong commitment to the furtherance of

justice. Ms. Lawless' career has focused on fighting for victims' rights and for the rights of women and children. The Committee finds that Ms. Lawless possesses the requisite fairness and temperament expected of a Circuit Court judge.

Professionalism and Integrity: Ms. Lawless has expressed a strong belief in the accountability in the courtroom for litigants and judges. The Committee finds that Ms. Lawless possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the Circuit Court bench.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee found Ms. Lawless to be experienced in criminal prosecution with a strong sense of fighting for victims' rights. The Committee notes, however, that Ms. Lawless has had a narrow scope of practice area, which has been primarily in criminal law. Overall, the Committee finds that Ms. Lawless meets the requirements for the position of a Circuit Court judge and merits the designation of **QUALIFIED**.

JAMES P. MAGNER

Experience and Legal Ability: Mr. Magner received his Juris Doctor from George Mason University School of Law in 2000. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management with a minor in Psychology from Virginia Tech in 1992. Mr. Magner was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2000.

Since 2015, Mr. Magner has been the managing member of Magner Law, PLLC. Prior to forming this firm, he was a partner with Clark, Park, Magner & Dennis P.C. for approximately four (4) years. Mr. Magner was an associate with Leiser, Leiser & Hennessey, PLLC for approximately two (2) years, and proprietor of James P. Magner, Attorney at Law for ten months. Between the years 2001- 2008, Mr. Magner had four other attorney positions primarily focused on civil litigation. Upon graduating law school, Mr. Magner worked with the Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals as a law clerk.

Mr. Magner is a member of the Bar of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Loudoun County Bar Association and the Fairfax Bar Association. He has taught college level courses including litigation preparation and pre-law courses. He has also taught a Continuing Legal Education course on jury selection and psychology. Within the community, Mr. Magner's personal interest includes coaching baseball and soccer, and he serves as a sailing instructor.

Mr. Magner's current practice is primarily focused on real estate, estate planning, contract law, and elder law; as well as, some personal injury and divorce matters. He appears in court regularly, with approximately eighty percent (80%) of his time spent in state courts of record. He has tried ten (10) or more cases to conclusion in a court of record in the past five years. Mr. Magner reports that, over the last five years, his litigation involved ninety percent (90%) civil matters and ten percent (10%) administrative hearings.

Fairness and Temperament: Through his submissions and interview, Mr. Magner has demonstrated to the Committee that he possesses the requisite fairness and temperament expected a Circuit Court judge.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Mr. Magner possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the Circuit Court bench.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee finds that Mr. Magner's qualifications meet the requirements for the position of a Circuit Court judge. He warrants the Committee's rating of **QUALIFIED.**

ALEJANDRA RUEDA

Experience and Legal Ability: Ms. Rueda received her Juris Doctor degree from Washington and Lee University School of Law in 1993 after graduating *cum laude* with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1990 from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. She was admitted to practice in Virginia in 1993.

Ms. Rueda is currently a Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney in the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney in Loudoun County, where she has served in several positions since 2005 and has tried eighteen jury cases. Prior to this, she served as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in Arlington County from 1998 to 2005, and conducted more than fifty jury trials there. From 1993 to 1998, she worked as an Assistant Public Defender in Alexandria, Virginia. In 1992, while a law student, she worked, first, in the Alderson Legal Assistance Program helping inmates at the Alderson Federal Prison Camp in West Virginia with a wide variety of matters, including powers of attorney, child custody and transfer of benefits, and, then, at the former Immigration & Naturalization Service at the United States Department of Justice (DOJ).

Ms. Rueda practices exclusively in criminal matters, prosecuting cases in the Loudoun County Circuit Court, General District Court and Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. She serves as the lead supervisory attorney for the Sex Crimes and Domestic Violence Unit in the Office and is the designated Gang prosecutor there. She advises the Leesburg Police Department, Loudoun County Sheriff's Department and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority with investigations, training and obtaining search warrants. She is fluent in Spanish.

Over more than twenty years, Ms. Rueda has taught numerous courses in Virginia criminal law. These include programs at the Virginia State Bar 29th Annual Criminal Law Seminar, the National District Attorneys Association's American Prosecutors Research Institute and the DOJ's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. She has also taught a trial advocacy course in Spanish at American University. She is a member of the Loudoun County Bar Association and served on its Judicial Candidates Qualifications Evaluation Committee. Within the community, Ms. Rueda is a board member of the Virginia Dog Park Association and a volunteer at Friends of Homeless Animals and Carry the Future nonprofits.

Fairness and Temperament: Ms. Rueda has demonstrated to the Committee, through her submission and interview, that she has the requisite temperament expected of a Circuit Court judge.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Ms. Rueda possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the Circuit Court bench.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee is satisfied with the extent of Ms. Rueda's legal experience and ability in the criminal law area and especially notes her career-long dedication to public service spanning more than two decades. Ms. Rueda has had minimal civil law experience since her law school clerk experience. The Committee finds that she meets the requirements for the position of a Circuit Court judge and merits the designation of **QUALIFIED**.

ZAIDA C. THOMPSON

Experience and Legal Ability: Zaida C. Thompson received her Juris Doctor degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology- Chicago Kent College of Law in 1993 after graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1985 from Loyola University in Chicago, Illinois. She is a member of the Virginia Bar (1994) and is admitted to the bar of the United States Supreme Court.

Ms. Thompson is currently an Assistant County Attorney in the Office of the County Attorney in Loudoun County. She has served in this position since 2001. Prior to this, she was an Assistant County Attorney in Fairfax County from 1998 to 2001. Her preceding position was as Staff Attorney for Legal Services of Northern Virginia in Arlington, Virginia, from 1995 to 1998 and for *Servicios Hispanos* in Herndon, Virginia from 1994 to 1995. In 1994, she held temporary legal positions in Washington, D.C. and, while a law student, she worked as a law clerk at Urban & Stone, P.C., Chicago, Illinois, from 1991 to 1993. Other positions before joining the bar included her 1985-1989 work as a criminalist/forensic scientist in the Chicago Police Department in Chicago, Illinois.

Ms. Thompson practices primarily in civil matters such as government enforcement matters, collection, and land use issues. She also serves as Special Prosecutor in criminal matters relating to violations of ordinances and appears in General District Court and state courts of record. In addition to litigation for Loudoun County, she provides legal advice to department heads and county staff, drafts and reviews county ordinances and supervises and mentors junior Assistant County Attorneys. She is fluent in Spanish.

Ms. Thompson served as Chair of the Virginia State Bar Lawyer Referral Committee, President of the Virginia Commission on Women and Minorities in the Legal System, the Bar Counsel Search Committee and the Seventh District Disciplinary Committee. She has contributed to the publication of the Virginia State Bar Annual Reports of Special Committees: *The Virginia Lawyer Referral Service* and has written for *El Sol* newspaper "Consejos Legales por Servicios Hispanos." Within the Loudoun County Bar Association, she has been a Board member and Parliamentarian and served as chair of the Judicial Qualifications Committee. She is a member of the Virginia Women Attorneys Association and is a founding member and past President of the Hispanic Bar Association of Virginia. Within the community, Ms. Thompson is a former member of the Virginia Youth Soccer Association and the Leesburg Football Club. She has volunteered in her church's Child Development Enrichment Program and other programs.

Fairness and Temperament: Ms. Thompson has demonstrated to the Committee, through her submission and interview, that she has the requisite temperament expected of a Circuit Court judge.

Professionalism and Integrity: The Committee finds that Ms. Thompson possesses the requisite professionalism and integrity for the Circuit Court bench. The Committee was especially impressed by Ms. Thompson's dedication in ensuring that members of the bar are afforded mentorship opportunities in order to prevent ethical violations.

Overall Evaluation: The Committee is satisfied with the extent of Ms. Thompson's civil legal experience, legal ability, fairness and temperament, and professionalism and integrity, but notes that she has had minimal criminal law, domestic relations, and jury trial experience. The Committee especially notes her career-long dedication to public service. The Committee finds that she meets the requirements for the position of a Circuit Court judge and merits the designation of **QUALIFIED**.

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