



PRESIDENT
RAKIM BROOKS

CHAIR
PAULETTE MEYER

May 24, 2022

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Chairman Durbin:

On behalf of the Alliance for Justice (AFJ), a national association representing more than 130 public interest and civil rights organizations, I write to strongly support the confirmation of Tiffany M. Cartwright to the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington.

As a civil rights and employment litigator, Ms. Cartwright has dedicated her career to ensuring that our legal system works for all. After graduating from Stanford Law, she clerked for the Honorable Dana Fabe of the Alaska Supreme Court and the Honorable Betty B. Fletcher of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Ms. Cartwright then joined Jenner & Block LLP in Chicago, where she litigated a variety of complex civil cases in federal court while maintaining an active *pro bono* practice focused on death penalty appeals.

Ms. Cartwright has been with the Seattle civil rights firm MacDonald Hogue & Bayless since 2014 and was promoted to partner in 2018. During her time with the firm, Ms. Cartwright has achieved significant civil rights victories for her clients in cases involving police misconduct, gender discrimination, sexual harassment, and more. For example, she obtained a \$549,000 federal jury verdict for an incarcerated individual who was denied pain medication in [*Choquette v. Warner*](#) and a \$15 million federal jury verdict for the family of an unarmed Black man who was killed by a SWAT sniper in [*Thomas v. Cannon*](#). Ms. Cartwright has also represented a wide range of plaintiffs in employment disputes, including restaurant workers, agricultural workers, healthcare workers, and prison guards.

In addition to her work as a litigator, Ms. Cartwright has devoted substantial time to professional and civic involvement. Since 2018, she has served on the Board of Directors for Legal Voice, an organization dedicated to advancing women's rights throughout Washington state. Additionally, she has served on the Rules Committee of the Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Washington since 2016, where she helps identify and draft annual revisions to the local civil court rules. Ms. Cartwright has received numerous accolades for her work, including being recognized by Super Lawyers as a "Rising Star" in Washington for 2019–2021.

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While President Biden has prioritized professional diversity, civil rights attorneys are still vastly underrepresented on the federal bench. Ms. Cartwright's confirmation would bring our courts one step closer to reflecting the full breadth of the legal profession. She would also be the first woman to serve as a federal district court judge from the Tacoma, Washington courthouse.

Given her exemplary qualifications, extensive federal court experience, and proven track record seeking justice for some of the most vulnerable individuals in our society, the Senate should expeditiously confirm Tiffany Cartwright to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington.

Sincerely,

Rakim H.D. Brooks

Rakim Brooks
President, Alliance for Justice