

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 21, 2018

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are pleased to recommend Ms. Patricia Tolliver Giles and U.S. Magistrate Judge David J. Novak for the vacancy in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Richmond Division following Judge Henry E. Hudson's decision to take senior status in June. Both would serve with great distinction and have our highest recommendation.

Last December, we recommended Ms. Giles to fill the vacancy in the Alexandria Division along with your eventual nominee, Judge Rossie David Alston, Jr. We continue to believe that Ms. Giles has a distinguished record of service as Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District, which includes the capital murder trial of MS-13 gang members and other work for the Major Crimes Unit. Recommendations from various Bar Associations in the Commonwealth, coupled with the previous review by our advisory panel, continue to reflect that practitioners would respect her rulings and that litigants would have reassurance of receiving a fair trial.

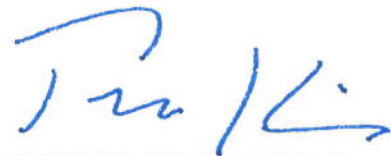
Likewise, we recommend Judge Novak, who has served as U.S. Magistrate Judge in the Eastern District since 2012. He was previously nominated to fill a seat in the Richmond Division during the 110th Congress but his nomination expired before Congress could confirm him. At that time, the American Bar Association rated him "Well Qualified," and numerous Bar Associations in the Commonwealth and our advisory panel agree. We believe his record as a federal prosecutor against Zacarias Moussaoui, the infamous "20th hijacker" convicted in the September 11th attacks, has prepared him to handle even the most complex cases. In addition to national security matters, Judge Novak has prosecuted cases related to Mexican drug cartels. This distinguished record gives us confidence in our recommendation.

Ultimately, we believe either of these individuals would win confirmation from the Senate and serve capably on the bench. We are honored to recommend them to you.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator