



MARTINET

GREATER NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER

Ebony S. Morris
President

March 10, 2022

Valerie Fontenot
President-Elect

Via Email:

Michael D. Hunt

Fifth Circuit Representative, ABA Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary
400 Convention Street, Ste. 1100

Kennard Davis
*Vice President of
Membership*

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4412

Email: Michael.hunt@phelps.com

Bianca Moore
*Vice President of
External
Communications*

Dear Mr. Hunt:

I am writing on behalf of the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society. The Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society (“Martinet Society”) supports the swift confirmation of The Honorable Ketanji Brown Jackson to the United States Supreme Court. The Martinet Society is the oldest African American bar association in Louisiana and an active affiliate of the National Bar Association, the nation’s oldest and largest bar association of African American attorneys, judges, and legal professionals.

Megan Haynes
*Vice-President of
Internal
Communications*

Judge Jackson is more than qualified and equipped to be our next U.S. Supreme Court Justice. After graduating cum laude from Harvard Law School, Judge Jackson clerked for two federal judges. She briefly left the judiciary to work on civil subject matters as a litigation associate for Miller, Cassidy & Larroca; however, she later returned to complete a yearlong clerkship with Associate Justice Stephen Breyer. From 2005 to 2007, Judge Jackson worked as an assistant federal public defender in Washington, D.C., and her caseload included representing indigent clients and some detainees held at Guantanamo Bay.

Atoyia S. Harris
Treasurer

Judge Jackson’s nomination is historic in more ways than one. First, if confirmed, she will become the first female African American U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice. Next, given her background in public interest law, she will become the first federal public defender to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court bench and the only sitting Associate Justice to have represented defendants in criminal proceedings. Her criminal defense background brings balance and diversity of thought to the Court’s decisions that will impact our criminal justice system. We are more than confident that she will show much needed empathy in criminal matters that may be lacking in the other Associate Justices based on her background.

Camille Bryant
*Immediate Past
President*

It is no secret that women of color, particularly African American women, remain one of the most marginalized groups within the legal profession. According to the American Bar Association women of color made up 20 percent of first-year law students in all U.S. law schools. Yet, women of color make up only 9 percent of all attorneys at U.S. law firms and hardly 3 percent of equity partners. In its 233 years of existence and 115 sitting Justices, the U.S. Supreme Court has only had five women and three people of color serve as Justices. Of the three people of color, only one of them is a woman. Our Supreme Court should comprise Justices with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and thought to reflect the diversity of our country.

The Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Legal Society, Inc.

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Our Supreme Court undoubtedly needs Judge Jackson's presence, her diversity, and her broad experience as a public defender who fought for the constitutional rights of our citizens. We are confident that Judge Jackson will be a stellar addition to the U.S. Supreme Court, and the U.S. Senate should unanimously confirm her.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Ebony S. Morris

Ebony S. Morris, 2021-2022 President

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