



January 13, 2020

The Los Angeles County Democratic Party
533 S. Fremont Avenue, Suite 410
Los Angeles, CA 90071

RE: Qualifications of Myanna Dellinger

Dear Committee:

I have become aware that you have not endorse Myanna Dellinger in her judicial candidacy. I write this letter to defend Prof. Dellinger's extensive judicial experience and thorough knowledge of the law, both of which would aid her admirably in fulfilling the judicial function.

First, Prof. Dellinger is intimately acquainted with the complex intricacies of the work of a judge – far more acquainted than you can become from the opposite side of the bench. Prof. Dellinger has worked closely with state and federal judges on various levels, gaining an appreciation for the details of the job. As a former judicial clerk myself, I can tell you that invaluable knowledge is gained from experience with the inner workings of a judge's chamber, providing keen insight into what it takes to be an excellent judge. Prof. Dellinger has already learned how to manage a docket, how to mediate conflicts, how to analyze and apply the law fairly and accurately, and how to do all of this quickly and efficiently. It is unclear how being a judicial clerk working closely with a variety of judges would fail to help qualify you to be a judge yourself.

Second, though, Prof. Dellinger has also gained a wealth of experience in legal thinking and reasoning. Throughout her impressive academic career, Prof. Dellinger has researched and written thorough and well-received law review articles that helped earn her a tenured position. Prof. Dellinger also gained the familiarity with the law that can only come from teaching it to others, which places her in a perfect position to judge cases involving people often unfamiliar with the law and in need of education regarding its operation.

Professors and judicial clerks have long made excellent judges. History is full of them. I am unclear exactly what about Prof. Dellinger's background precipitated the decision not to her endorse her candidacy as a judge, but to the extent that it was doubts regarding the utility of years of working with judges or thinking deeply about the law in academia, I fervently hope you will reconsider.



Thank you for your consideration of this letter. If you have any questions or need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me (e-mail: lantagne@olemiss.edu; phone: 401.465.7787).

Sincerely,

/s/ Stacey M. Lantagne
Associate Dean for Faculty Development
Associate Professor of Law
The University of Mississippi School of Law