February 23, 2021

The Honorable Anne Carney, Senate Chair
The Honorable Thomas Harnett, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0100

Dear Senator Carney and Representative Harnett:

On behalf of the Maine State Bar Association and its members, I am pleased to inform you that the Association fully supports the nomination of Judge Charles Dow to the Maine District Court.

The MSBA sends surveys to all practicing lawyers in Maine to evaluate trial court judges in the sixth year of every judge's term. These evaluations are used to determine the Association’s support of or opposition to the nomination of a judge and, in turn, to make recommendations on nomination to the Governor and the Judiciary Committee. The MSBA does not make recommendations on new appointees to the bench.

In Judge Dow’s evaluations, attorneys describe him as intelligent, thoughtful and very fair. He is also described as decisive yet courteous, and excellent in explaining his decisions—especially to pro se litigants. Judge Dow is commended for his strong management of the courtroom and docket while still making all parties feel like they were heard and their questions answered. These traits have earned Judge Dow the support and respect of MSBA members. Maine citizens will benefit from his continued service on the Maine District Court.

The Maine State Bar Association urges the Judiciary Committee to give its unanimous support to the nomination of Judge Charles Dow to the Maine District Court.

Sincerely,

Kelly McDonald
President