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April 18, 2023

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

Dear Senator Carney and Representative Moonen:

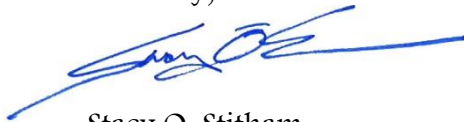
On behalf of the Maine State Bar Association and its members, I am pleased to inform you that the Association fully supports the nomination of Justice Harold L. Stewart, II to the Maine Superior Court.

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.

Justice Stewart received an overall rating of good or excellent by 97% of the attorneys who evaluated him. The results of his evaluation show that Maine lawyers believe him to have a very deep understanding of the law, and able to apply that knowledge in his legal analysis. He is described as measured, patient, fair, and impartial. Attorneys also find Justice Stewart to be extremely intelligent, personable, compassionate, and well-prepared. These traits have earned him the support and respect of MSBA members, and Maine citizens will benefit from his continued service on the Bench.

The Maine State Bar Association urges the Judiciary Committee to give its unanimous support to the nomination of Justice Harold L. Stewart, II to the Maine Superior Court.

Sincerely,



Stacy O. Stitham
President



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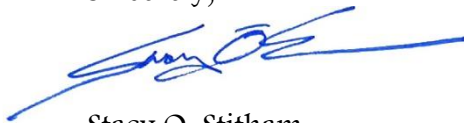
On behalf of the Maine State Bar Association and its members, I am pleased to inform you that the Association fully supports the nomination of Judge James F. Martemucci to the Maine Superior Court.

The MSBA sends surveys to all practicing lawyers in Maine to evaluate trial court judges in the sixth year of every judge's current 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. However, the MSBA also evaluates all judges in the second year of each judge's first term to provide feedback to the judge. Judge Martemucci was evaluated in March 2023 after serving two years on the District Court. The Board of Governors is making this recommendation in support of Judge Martemucci's nomination to the Superior Court based on his second-year evaluation. The MSBA does not make recommendations on new appointees to the bench.

The results of Judge Martemucci's evaluation show that Maine lawyers find him to have excellent judicial temperament. He is described as thoughtful, compassionate, diligent, patient, kind, and competent. He is also commended for his effective management of trials and proceedings, and his maintenance of a safe and controlled courtroom. Attorneys respect his strong understanding of the law and evidence, and they are confident they will be treated fairly and with respect in his courtroom. These traits have earned Judge Martemucci the support and respect of MSBA members.

The Maine State Bar Association urges the Judiciary Committee to give its unanimous support to the nomination of Judge James F. Martemucci to the Maine Superior Court.

Sincerely,



Stacy O. Stitham
President

