

February 1, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-6050

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-6050

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We were Judge Neil M. Gorsuch's classmates at Georgetown Prep, a Jesuit High School in Rockville, Maryland, and we respectfully ask that you provide Judge Gorsuch the opportunity for an up-or-down vote and to support his nomination as an Associate Justice to the U.S. Supreme Court in the full Senate. We are doctors, lawyers, teachers, writers, engineers, actors, civil servants, bankers, coaches, artists, consultants, entrepreneurs, and yes, the General Manager of a Major League Baseball team that has won the most World Series Championships in history. We are prominent and active Democrats, Republicans, Independents, liberals, conservatives and moderates. Most important, however, we have been friends with Neil Gorsuch for over thirty-five years, and he has not changed since we chose him to be the President of our student body.

In high school, Neil was a serious and dedicated student. Besides being elected to lead our student body, Neil was a national leader in the Model Organization of American States, the Model U.N., and an accomplished debater in the Forensic Society. His scholarly pursuits paid dividends, and his devotion to the study of the law carried him through Columbia, Harvard Law and as a Marshall Scholar at Oxford University (where one of his classmates was Senator Cory Booker). Throughout his many achievements as a law clerk to Justices White and Kennedy, in private practice, in the highest levels of the U.S. Department of Justice, and as a Judge on the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, Neil is still the same humble, unassuming, dedicated and loyal person who we first met in 1981. Whether it is a letter when a loved one passes away, or the quiet advice and support when a fellow classmate faces adversity, Neil's humanity has been demonstrated through his many unnoticed deeds.

In this highly-charged political atmosphere, we understand that there is a strong desire to prevent one party's agenda from prevailing over the other's. Although each party believes its ideas and policies will best serve the nation's interests, both parties share a common goal of ensuring the integrity of our judiciary by appointing only the

best jurists to the Supreme Court. Neil Gorsuch is one of the few who – by any objective standard – is uniquely qualified for the High Court.

To those of us who have known Neil Gorsuch for over thirty-five years, we are confident that his sole intention in accepting a nomination as an Associate Justice to the U.S. Supreme Court is to serve our great country without any regard to the pursuit of any partisan policy or objective. His singular focus is, and has been, the fair and unbiased application of the law to those cases and litigants who have had the privilege of appearing before him. Judge Gorsuch possesses the three traits most desirable in any jurist: knowledge, integrity and a strong appreciation that his decisions will impact real people.

We are very proud of our friend and classmate, Judge Neil M. Gorsuch, and we know that he will serve our nation well as an Associate Justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. We respectfully ask that you give Judge Gorsuch the chance for confirmation by the full Senate.

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