

Sixth Floor
1250 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
20005-5937
(202) 626-3463
FAX (202) 626-3453

Sections EventLine
(202) 626-3455



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SECTIONS

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BAR

TRANSMITTED VIA FAX ONLY

TO: 1998-99 Board of Governors
1997-98 Section Steering Committee Member designated to receive
Public Statements

FROM: Carol Ann Cunningham 

DATE: June 30, 1998

SUBJECT: EXPEDITED PUBLIC STATEMENT to Senator Orrin G. Hatch,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate,
supporting the prompt confirmation of James Klein as U.S.
District Judge for the District of Columbia

48-hour Expedited Consideration Requested on behalf of the Criminal Law and Individual Rights Section

Enclosed for your review is a one-page letter prepared by the Criminal Law and Individual Rights Section. If you wish to have this matter placed on the next Board of Governors' agenda on Tuesday, July 21, please call me at 202-626-3463 by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 2, 1998.

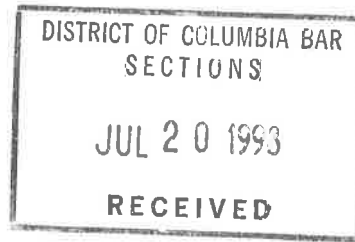
If you will no longer be a Section Steering Committee member after today, please forward this information to the appropriate person on your Steering Committee for review and action as deemed necessary.

Please note that, according to the D.C. Bar Section Guidelines and Procedures on public statements (pp. 30-39), your telephone call "must be supplemented by a written objection lodged within seven days of the oral objection." For a complete copy of the relevant Guidelines, please contact me.

Enclosure

cc: Andrew H. Marks, Esq.
Joan H. Strand, Esq.
Neil R. Ellis, Esq.
Robin E. Jacobsohn, Esq.
Katherine A. Mazzaferri, Esq.
Cynthia D. Hill, Esq.

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July 17, 1998

Senator Orrin G. Hatch
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

On behalf of the Criminal Law and Individual Rights Section of the District of Columbia Bar, I write to express our unqualified support for the prompt confirmation of James Klein as U. S. District Judge for the District of Columbia. ¹ The members of our Section include prosecutors, private defense attorneys, and public defenders who practice in the federal and local courts of the District of Columbia. The seat for which Mr. Klein has been nominated has been vacant since February 1996 and urgently needs to be filled. Mr. Klein is superbly qualified to become a District Judge. We therefore respectfully urge prompt and favorable action on his nomination.

In 20 years of public service in the District of Columbia, Mr. Klein has earned deep admiration and respect from the bench and bar. He has earned the strong support of prosecutors and judges. For the past 15 years, he has been Chief of the Appellate Division of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia. Under his leadership, that office has become a model for public defender agencies nation-wide. His fellow lawyers respect him enormously. His stature with the District of Columbia Court of Appeals is such that he has become a standing "friend of the court." Prosecutors and judges alike attest to their belief that, as a judge, he will be rigorously impartial.

Thomas N. Bulleit Jr.
Chair, Council on Sections

Shelley G. Robinson
Vice Chair,
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Carolyn B. Lamm
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Carol Ann Cunningham
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¹ The views expressed herein are those of the Criminal Law and Individual Rights Section and not those of District of Columbia Bar or its Board of Governors.

Senator Orrin G. Hatch
July 17, 1998
Page 2

We have no doubt that Mr. Klein will be a first-rate judge. We strongly hope that the Senate promptly confirms his nomination to the District Court.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William J. Mertens". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

William J. Mertens, Chair

Criminal Law and Individual Rights Section

CRIMINAL LAW AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS SECTION



The District of Columbia Bar

Sixth Floor
1275 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
20005-5937
(202) 626-3463
FAX (202) 626-3453

Sections EventLine
(202) 626-3455

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Respectfully submitted,

William J. Mertens, Chair
Criminal Law and Individual Rights Section

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