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February 24, 2016

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Re: Nomination to the United States Supreme Court

Dear President Obama:

I am writing on behalf of the National Association of Women Lawyers to urge you to nominate a woman to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court serves many roles – protector of the people and the Constitution, ultimate enforcer of the rule of law, symbolic head of the American system of justice, and balance on the executive and legislative arms of government. The literal and symbolic heads of the country's judicial system should be made up of not only the top legal minds of generations, but should also bring to the bench a diverse set of life experiences that give context to the law they are charged with interpreting and applying. As such, the group of justices should mirror the gender and ethnic diversity of the country they serve.

Your record of appointments to the Supreme Court has given the Court a newfound breadth of experience giving those served by the justice system more certainty that their pleas will be heard by those charged with protecting them and gave so many young girls and minority children hope that one day they too can serve on the top Court of the land.

As you may know, the mission of the National Association of Women Lawyers is to provide leadership, a collective voice, and essential resources to advance women in the legal profession and advocate for the equality of women under the law. Since 1899, NAWL has been empowering women in the legal profession, cultivating a diverse membership dedicated to equality, mutual support, and collective success.

Our system of justice must reflect the life experiences and perspectives of all of its citizens, not just its male citizens. Your first two nominees have proven that there are a multitude of highly qualified women lawyers who would enthusiastically respond to this chance to serve our country. NAWL urges you to nominate one of them for this critical position.

Very truly yours,

Marsha Anastasia
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