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November 23, 2005

United States Senate
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Samuel A. Alito

Dear Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic and unqualified recommendation that Samuel A. Alito be confirmed as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

I worked with Judge Alito in 1987. He was appointed United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey. At that time I was the Deputy Chief and Acting Chief of the Special Prosecutions Unit. I continued in that capacity for approximately eight months after Sam arrived at the U.S. Attorney's Office. He was an exemplary U.S. Attorney. He was also an exemplary boss He was at all times knowledgeable, thoughtful and supportive of me and the other lawyers in the office. In his quiet and wryly humorous way, he demonstrated wonderful leadership. It was clear that he was very conscious of the responsibilities of that office and he fulfilled those responsibilities admirably. I was very proud to work for Sam Alito.

After leaving the U.S Attorney's Office, I became a private practitioner. I have had the pleasure of appearing as an advocate before Judge Alito in the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in a number of cases. It is a pleasure to appear before Judge Alito due to his genial demeanor and obvious professionalism. His opinions – even when against my cause – were thoughtful, considerate, justifiable and well written.

Judge Alito did not ask me to write this letter; I volunteered. I am a lifelong Democrat. I am the President-elect of a national women's bar association. I chair the Corporate Integrity and White Collar Crime group at a national law firm. I do not speak on behalf of either my law firm or the women's bar association. I speak for myself only. But by providing my credentials as an outspoken women's rights advocate and liberal-minded criminal defense attorney, I hope you will appreciate the significance of my unqualified and enthusiastic recommendation of Sam Alito for the Supreme Court.

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Sam possesses the best qualities for judges. He is thoughtful, brilliant, measured, serious, and conscious of the awesome responsibilities imposed by his position. I cannot think of better qualities for a Supreme Court Justice. It is my fervent hope that politics will not prevent this extraordinarily capable candidate from serving as Associate Justice on the United States Supreme Court.

I will be happy to provide any further details or information in any private or public forum.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Fleming