



March 31, 2014

Judiciary Committee
231 Capital Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

ATTN: Judiciary Committee

I am not a lawyer. I am not a politician. I am an ordinary Connecticut Citizen that is writing a letter to commend you for selecting Manchester Mayor and attorney Leo Diana for one of the 16 positions as a Supreme Court Judge.

I am the Northeast Regional Director and Chief Communications Officer for the national non-profit Purple Heart Homes. We renovate homes for Service Connected Disabled Veterans.

I had the great fortune, pleasure and honor of working with Mayor Diana in the town of Manchester to renovate a home for our first female wounded Service Connected Disabled Veteran – Staff Sergeant Sandra Lee. We worked together side by side for over a year on this community – town wide project.

Just as a diamond has five 'c's' that describe its gemstone value – Mayor Leo Diana exudes five 'c's' that describe the value and importance of his selection as a Supreme Court Judge:

Character: Attorney Diana/Mayor Diana exemplifies the character one would want to make fair and proper judgments of cases that will come into his court. He is fair. He is thoughtful. He is impartial. He is decisive. These are the qualities of his character.

Capacity: He has the capacity to gather all of the information with his vast skill sets – first as an attorney, from his life experiences and as issues heat up or become voluminous he has the capacity to remain calm under pressure to keep order in his court.

Class: Mayor Diana/Attorney Diana is a class act. I have known him to treat everyone as an equal. I had the pleasure of seeing him preside over heated Town Board meetings to taking off his bow tie off and putting on a pair of work boots to haul singles to the top of a roof on a hot humid summer day to help renovate this home in his community.



Clarity: Like a diamond – Attorney Leo Diana has clarity of his convictions. He will gather all of information; listen to all the facts and rule with great clarity, which are needed qualities for a future Supreme Court judge.

Collegial: Collaborative and collegial are two words that I would use to further describe Attorney Diana's strengths that he brings to his court because in today's day – and with the lofty position as a Supreme Court Judge – seeking guidance from others to help him carefully weigh a tough and needed decision is often times best made gaining advice from others that have been in similar situations.

I highly recommend Attorney Diana – former Mayor Diana to the lofty position as one of the Connecticut Supreme Court Judges.

Thank you for taking time to read my letter of support and I look forward to hearing about his confirmation.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vicki Thomas".

Vicki Thomas
Chief Communications Officer/Northeast Regional Director
Purple Heart Homes