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Family Court of the State of Rhode Island
One Dorrance Plaza
Providence, RI 02903-3975

LAUREEN D'AMBRA
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE

February 4, 2016

The Honorable William Tong
Co-Chair Judiciary Committee
Connecticut Representative
Legislative Office Building, Room 2502
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Re: Reappointment of Superior Court Judge Linda Pearce Prestly

Dear Representative Tong:

It is a distinct privilege to write this letter to recommend *Superior Court Judge Linda Pearce Prestly* for reappointment to the Connecticut Superior Court. For the past 12 years I have served as an Associate Justice for the Rhode Island Family Court. In this capacity, as well as during my service as Child Advocate, I have had the pleasure to know and work with Judge Prestly.

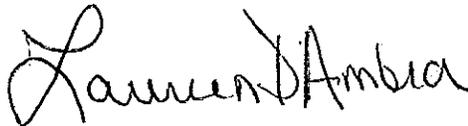
I first met Judge Prestly in 1997 while I was serving as the Child Advocate for the State of Rhode Island. I personally observed her to be a hardworking, dedicated Child Advocate. We presented at national conferences and worked on many initiatives to mutually benefit the children and families we served.

When I was appointed to the Family Court in 2004, we continued to collaborate on judicial issues confronting children and families who appear before us. The Family Court is a challenging court because we see families in crisis on a daily basis. It is our role and mandate to protect vulnerable children and victims of abuse. Removal of a child from a parent's care is often necessary, yet difficult. Judge Prestly is a dedicated and compassionate judge. She understands her judicial role and treats her litigants fairly.

I also had the pleasure of working with Judge Prestly to draft legislation and I testified on two separate occasions before the Connecticut General Assembly. We have developed a trusted friendship and professional relationship. My support for Judge Prestly's reappointment is unwavering. Her passion, honesty and dedication were revealed to me immediately. Her appointment in 2000 offered the citizens of Connecticut an appointment of the highest caliber.

As a Superior Court Judge, *Judge Linda Pearce Prestly* conducts herself with the highest standards and ethics. She is a professional and tireless public servant. Judge Prestly understands the importance and legal significance of all cases before her and the fact that each decision rendered affects the lives of all litigants who come before her. She is a fair, caring and conscientious jurist. It is without hesitation that I support her reappointment to the Connecticut Superior Court bench.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren A. D'Ambra". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laureen A. D'Ambra
Associate Justice

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