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Honorable Senator Carla Joseph
Chairwoman
Committee of Rules and Judiciary
36th Legislature of the Virgin Islands
Capitol Building
P.O. Box 1690
St. Thomas, VI 00804

Dear Chairwoman Joseph:

It is with great pride and unwavering confidence that I write this letter in support of my childhood friend and esteemed colleague, Ms. Melanie Turnbull, as she ascends to the distinguished role of Family Court Judge. I have had the privilege of knowing Melanie since we were twelve years old, and even at that young age, she exhibited extraordinary qualities of fairness, accountability, wisdom, and discernment—traits that have only grown stronger throughout her remarkable career. From our early days at Charlotte Amalie High School, Melanie's character stood out as a beacon of compassion and leadership. I vividly recall an incident from over twenty-seven years ago when a group of students was working on a school project. One young lady was struggling to contribute due to personal circumstances, which led to tension within the group. Melanie, with her innate sense of empathy and fairness, stepped in not only to assist the struggling student but also to mediate and ease the friction among the group. This moment, striking in the context of how unkind children can sometimes be, showcased her ability to foster unity and understanding—a skill she has carried into her professional life. As an attorney, Ms. Turnbull has dedicated many years to advocating for those who could not afford legal representation, ensuring that justice remains accessible to all. This commitment to fairness is not a recent development but a continuation of the principles she has embodied since youth. Her pragmatic and

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open-minded approach allows her to listen carefully to all perspectives, weigh them thoughtfully, and arrive at rational, well-reasoned conclusions. This discernment, coupled with her steadfast insistence on accountability, has been evident in the numerous projects we have collaborated on over the years. Melanie consistently pushes for individuals to take responsibility for their actions or inaction, while maintaining a balanced and equitable outlook. As the U.S. Virgin Islands embarks on a period of renaissance, individuals like Attorney Turnbull are vital to preserving our rich cultural heritage while embracing the progressive changes needed to thrive in a dynamic world. Her wisdom, fairness, and dedication to justice make her an exemplary candidate for the role of Family Court Judge. She is not only a brilliant legal mind but also a compassionate leader who will serve with integrity and inspire confidence in our judicial system. I wholeheartedly recommend Ms. Melanie Turnbull for this esteemed position and am confident that she will uphold the values of fairness, accountability, and discernment in her service to the people of the Virgin Islands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JP Charles', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Jason P. Charles