



**2008-2009 Officers**

**Jennifer Maree**  
Patton Boggs LLP  
*President*

**Consuela Pinto**  
Center for WorkLife Law  
*President-Elect*

**Jill Dash**  
American Constitution Society for  
Law & Policy  
*Treasurer*

**Tracy Muller**  
Sterne Kessler Goldstein  
& Fox P.L.L.C.  
*Treasurer-Elect*

**Kerri Castellini**  
Feeney & Kuwamura, P.A.  
*Secretary*

**2008-2009 Board of Directors**

**Jessica Adler**  
The Law Office of Jessica E. Adler

**Ferdose al-Taie**  
U.S. Department of Justice,  
Antitrust Division

**Brigida Benitez**  
WilmerHale LLP

**Linda Chanow**  
Project for Attorney Retention

**Heather Hodges**  
Crowell & Moring LLP

**Sheila Slocum Hollis**  
Duane Morris LLP

**Tina Hsu**  
Shulman, Rogers, Gandal,  
Pordy & Ecker, PA

**Angela Fisher Jaffee**  
BNA, Inc.

**Holly Loiseau**  
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

**Monica Parham**  
Crowell & Moring LLP

**Lorelie S. Masters**  
Jenner & Block LLP  
*Immediate Past President*  
*Ex-Officio*

VIA FACSIMILE

May 21, 2009

President Barack Obama  
Attention: Gregory Craig and Stephanie Cutter  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

**Re: Supreme Court Nomination**

Dear President Obama:

The announced retirement of Associate Justice David H. Souter from the Supreme Court of the United States has created an opportunity for you to move the nation's highest court toward a more representative body. The Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia urges you to nominate a woman to fill this vacancy.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, women make up 51% of our population, and constitute more than 46% of our civilian workforce. Women are an integral part of the fabric of our nation. Women represent 24% of all federal judges, 29% of judges sitting on the 13 federal Courts of Appeals, and 25% of state judges. Women comprised 25% of law school faculty in 2005. Fifty percent of law school graduates are women, and 40% of associates in major law firms and 17% of partners in law firms are female.

Despite these compelling statistics, only one woman serves on the Supreme Court. Considering the number of qualified women judges and lawyers available for this position, we believe you have many excellent choices among the country's women to serve on the Court. A Supreme Court that more closely resembles our nation's population is imperative for public support of the Court. As shown by decisions like *Ledbetter* and this week's *Hulteen* decision, a female perspective can be crucial to economic and other issues that are key to strengthening our families and thus society. Another woman Associate Justice would strengthen the diversity of perspectives and enhance the Court's credibility, the jurisprudence of the country, and justice and equity for all.

Very truly yours,

Jennifer Maree  
President

cc: Eric Holder, Attorney General

**Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia**  
2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 446, Washington, DC 20006  
Phone: 202-639-8880 Fax: 202-639-8889  
Email: admin@wbadc.org Web: www.wbadc.org