

Office of Governor Scott Walker

Attention Chief Legal Counsel

115 East State Capital

Madison Wisc. 53707

Letter of recommendation for Ellen Nowak.

It is my understanding, that Ellen Nowak is under consideration for appointment to the Wisconsin Supreme court. I have known Ms. Nowak since 2002, when she served as the Chief of Staff to Waukesha County Executive Dan Vrakas. During that time, we interacted on a regular basis. I always found Ms. Nowak to have the highest professional standards, diligent work ethic, and an understanding of legal principles and government standards second to none. She always represented the County Executive in a positive and professional way, and had the ability to bring together groups and individuals with conflicting points of view.

In July of 2011 Ms. Nowak was appointed by Governor Scott Walker as the Commissioner to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission, where she continues to serve today. I have followed her career at the Public service commissioner thru the years, and know she is widely respected in the community for her attention to the issues before her. Ms. Nowak has always prided herself on timely response and through research. I feel that Ms. Nowak has the temperament and understanding to work on complex cases and issues. It has also been my experience to observe Ms. Nowak to make recommendations and prepare supporting documents based on facts and circumstances, while leaving personal opinion aside.

It is for the above stated reasons; I highly recommend Ellen Nowak for appointment to the Wisconsin State Supreme Court. Should you have any questions or wish to contact me regarding this recommendation, it would be my pleasure to support her in any way possible.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. Trawicki", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel J. Trawicki

Sheriff Waukesha County (Ret)

GOV Judicial Appointments

From: Mike Huebsch <mdhuebsch@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2016 3:54 PM
To: GOV Judicial Appointments
Subject: Supreme Court recommendation for Ellen Nowak

Dear Governor Walker and Supreme Court Selection Committee

I write to extend to you my strongest recommendation for Ellen Nowak for appointment to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. Ellen is an intelligent, experienced, hardworking and thoughtful person who will serve the people of Wisconsin with distinction on our highest court.

Like you, Governor, I have had the opportunity to know and work with Ellen for over a decade. From serving in the legislature as legal counsel and chief of staff to the Assembly Speaker to chief of staff for the county executive in Waukesha, Ellen has, by all accounts, excelled in every position.

Ellen's experience of serving in diverse branches of public service provides her the knowledge of the role of each branch of government. Too often judges are willing to shape the law as they wish it were rather than as it is written. I believe Ellen's knowledge will imbue her with the respect necessary to interpret the law, not invent it. Of all of her qualifications, this is her most important and most valuable on the Supreme Court.

She has built an impressive resume and it is in her current position as Chair of the Public Service Commission that Ellen has rounded out her experience and proven herself to be the best choice to replace Justice Prosser on the Supreme Court. The PSC is essentially a judicial body, where records and testimony are compiled and decisions must be made through interpreting and applying administrative rules, as well as state and federal law. Ellen guides the Commission well and has earned the respect of stakeholders in every facet of the utility sector. She reviews the record and adheres to strict interpretation of the law to arrive at sound decisions to the issues at hand. Beyond Wisconsin, Ellen's ability was recently recognized by her regulatory colleagues when they elected her to their national board of directors.

Thank you for your time and consideration of Ellen Nowak for appointment to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. This is an important decision, one I am confident you will determine wisely.

Sincerely,

Mike Huebsch, Commissioner
Wisconsin Public Service Commission

James R. Klauser
W281 N3416 Taylors Woods Road
Pewaukee, WI 53072-3350

16.May, 2016

Office of Governor Scott Walker,
Attn: Chief Legal Counsel,
115East State Capitol,
Madison, WI, 53702

To All Whom It May Be Of Concern:

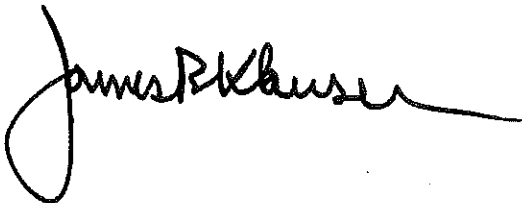
I am delighted to submit this letter of recommendation for Ellen E. Nowak as she applies for a vacant position on the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I believe I am qualified to comment on her capabilities since I have been a member of the Federal Nominating Commission and have been involved with Wisconsin judicial appointment processes.

Ellen by education, experience and temperament is uniquely qualified for the position. She is pleasant and understands the role of judges in our society; i.e. they don't make the law (that is a function of the legislature and Governor) but rather apply the law.

Her unique experience, understanding the development of public policy, will serve her to understand the judicial limitations. She is a hard and industrious worker who will certainly put in all the time necessary to research and develop the issues which present them to the Court.

If I can be of further help in this matter please call on me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James R. Klauser". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

(262) 695-7095
klaus@wi.rr.com



N A R U C
National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

May 20, 2016

Dear Governor Walker and Supreme Court Selection Committee,

It is an honor to give my highest recommendation for a position on the Wisconsin Supreme Court to the Honorable Ellen E. Nowak, Chairman of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin.

Over the past five years, I have come to know Chair Nowak very well, first as we served together as public utility Commissioners in our respective States of Wisconsin and Michigan, and more recently as she ascended into leadership positions within the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, where I now serve as Executive Director. During that time, Chair Nowak and I have served together on various committees, councils, and boards. Given the close proximity of our States, and the common issues and circumstances of the cases before us, I came to know and appreciate her work as a Commissioner, and as Chairman of a major State public service commission.

As a Commissioner on the Public Service Commission, Chair Nowak presides over complex legal and administrative cases involving economic regulation of public utility companies, including electric, natural gas, water, and certain telecommunications services. She serves the public interest by assuring reliable utility services at fair, just, and reasonable rates. This is not an easy position. The cases have significant impacts on the lives of Wisconsin citizens and businesses. Chair Nowak must hear, consider, and weigh the facts of the cases, based upon the record, and apply the law accordingly when rendering decisions.

It has been my observation that Chairman Ellen Nowak has demonstrated all of the appropriate attributes to be effective in such an important position. She would bring to the court strong character and intelligence, as well as the proper temperament and demeanor.

I highly recommend her for your nomination to the Supreme Court. Please contact me if you have any questions, or if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Greg R. White
Executive Director
National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

RAYMOND P. TAFFORA

1630 FORDEM AVENUE #312
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53704

May 20, 2016

Office of Governor Scott Walker
Attn. Chief Legal Counsel
115 E. State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Re: Application of Ellen E. Nowak for Supreme Court Justice

To Whom This May Concern:

I write to recommend for your consideration Ellen E. Nowak for appointment to fill the vacancy left by the retirement of Justice David T. Prosser, Jr.

I have known Ellen since the time she served as Chief of Staff and Chief Legal Counsel in the Office of the Speaker of the Assembly. I have also interacted with Ellen while I was in private law practice, during my time as Deputy Attorney General at the Wisconsin Department of Justice and in my current capacity as Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs at UW-Madison. In all of my dealings with Ellen, I have found her to be bright, temperamentally sound, and exceptionally capable. Ellen is also disciplined and has excellent judgment, two qualities essential in a judge of a court of record. I think she would make an excellent Supreme Court justice.

I recommend Ellen for your consideration without hesitation or qualification.

Sincerely,



Raymond P. Taffora

RPT/cm

GOV Judicial Appointments

From: Dan <danvrakas@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2016 11:31 AM
To: GOV Judicial Appointments
Subject: Wisconsin Supreme Court nomination.

To whom it may concern,

I am forwarding this letter of recommendation to you on behalf of my former chief-of-staff, Ms. Ellen Nowak.

Ellen is in an ideal candidate and would make a fantastic Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice.

I had the opportunity to work with Ellen while serving in the Wisconsin State Assembly representing the 33rd Assembly district. As the Majority Caucus Chair, I had the opportunity to work very close with Ellen in her capacity in service to the Speaker of the Assembly. She did an outstanding job and treated all members with respect. Her attention to detail and knowledge of the law was indispensable to our Caucus.

As I moved from the State Capitol to the Waukesha County Courthouse to serve as County Executive, Ellen was the first person I thought of when I found myself in need of a chief-of-staff. I hired Ellen and she served with competence and earned the respect of everyone in our County's Courthouse and Waukesha County government.

She was so well-liked and respected, that we were all sad to see her leave to become a Public Service Commissioner, but know that, again, she has served so competently in that position.

I can truly say that of the many people I have worked with in a public service career of 25 years, Ellen Nowak sets the standard for integrity, competence, and service above self.

She would serve Wisconsin well as a member of the Supreme Court!

Sincerely,

Dan Vrakas

Waukesha County Executive, ret.