

December 13, 2017
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about the courts. The independence of the branches of government is fundamental to our democracy. There is a long tradition of seeking competence first in judicial appointments. One check for this since President Eisenhower has been the bar association ratings. Another has been a consideration of nominees with bipartisan approval common. This system was badly strained by the scuttling of Justice Garland and a dozen Appellate positions. It is being further tested by your nomination of clearly unqualified people to the federal bench including Mr Goodwin and Mr Grasz found not qualified by the ABA, Mr Talley whose main qualification appears to be a relative working for you, Professor Barrett and again Mr Grasz who openly flout the constitution and Mr Talley with well documented and viciously bigoted views. Even the Republican chair of the Senate Judicial committee has balked at some. This suggests either a willful attempt to weaken the courts or a failure to put together an effective vetting procedure.

Please assure me that you will appoint competent jurists.

I am very proud to be a US citizen and a large part of that derives from our strong system of checks and balances.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson