

March 10, 2015

The Honorable Charles L. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Kara Farnandez Stoll to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Leahy:

The American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA) is pleased to submit this letter in response to President Obama's nomination of Kara Farnandez Stoll as Circuit Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. AIPLA believes that Ms. Stoll's background and professional experience demonstrate that she is qualified to serve in that position, and that she would make an excellent addition to the Federal Circuit.

AIPLA is a national bar association with approximately 15,000 members who are primarily lawyers in private and corporate practice, in government service, and in the academic community. AIPLA's members represent a wide and diverse spectrum of individuals, companies, and institutions, and are involved directly or indirectly in the practice of patent, trademark, copyright, and unfair competition law. Our members represent both owners and users of intellectual property.

AIPLA is well acquainted with Ms. Stoll, and her extensive patent-related background. We believe that her experience in government service, academia, and private practice make her well suited to excel as a Circuit Judge on the Federal Circuit. After receiving her degree in Electrical Engineering from Michigan State University, Ms. Stoll worked for a number of years as a patent examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, while she attended the Georgetown University Law Center. After receiving her J.D., she served as a law clerk to the Honorable Alvin A. Schall of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Ms. Stoll is currently a Partner at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett and Dunner LLP, where her practice focuses on patent litigation and appellate advocacy. As a highlight of her impressive practice, she has represented clients in over 35 appeals before the Federal Circuit. In addition, as an adjunct professor at the George Mason University School of Law and the Howard University School of Law, she has lectured on current issues of patent law and public policy.

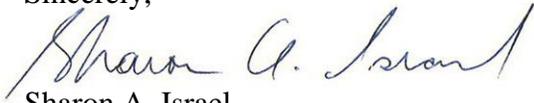
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Ms. Stoll has been an active and valued member of many professional associations, including AIPLA itself, the American Bar Association – Intellectual Property Law Section, the Hispanic National Bar Association, and the Federal Circuit Bar Association. She received well-deserved recognition in 2013 as a Washington DC “Super Lawyer in Intellectual Property Litigation” from Super Lawyers Magazine, and was honored in 2012 as a recipient of the Committee Individual Leadership Award from the Federal Circuit Bar Association.

Ms. Stoll is bright, thoughtful and articulate and would be a very deliberate and conscientious member of the bench. She exhibits high intellect, excellent legal skills, sound judgment, and professional and personal integrity.

For all of these reasons, AIPLA enthusiastically endorses Ms. Stoll as qualified to serve as a Circuit Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. We urge you to move forward with her nomination. Thank you in advance for your consideration of these views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon A. Israel". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sharon A. Israel

President

American Intellectual Property Law Association