

Civil Rights

April 26, 2018

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Hon. Chuck Grassley 135 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

On December 20, 2017, President Donald Trump nominated Gordon Giampietro to a seat on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin. Wisconsin Senator Tammy Baldwin has had four months to return her home-state blue slip on his nomination, but has yet to do so.

As president of the nation's largest Catholic civil rights organization, I urge you to exercise your prerogative and commence hearings on the nomination of Mr. Giampietro. The Trump administration has consulted with both Wisconsin senators, thus paving the way for a hearing by the Senate Judiciary Committee.

On February 28, I wrote to Senator Baldwin defending Mr. Giampietro against those who were attempting to smear him. I noted that "nothing he has said is outside the domain of settled Catholic theology [on the subject of marriage and the family]. That is why the bishops of Wisconsin stand with him. So do we."

Thank for your attention to this matter.

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Sincerely