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National Network to End Domestic Violence Applauds Obama Pick for top Justice Spot

Washington, D.C. – The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) today praised President Obama’s nomination of New Hampshire Judge Susan B. Carbon to lead the Office on Violence Against Women in the Department of Justice. Her nomination last evening came on the first day of October, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

”President Obama made an outstanding choice in nominating Judge Susan Carbon to lead the Office on Violence Against Women,” said Sue Else, NNEDV’s president. “Judge Carbon’s expertise, passion and tenacity will be formidable assets to the millions of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.”

“A special thanks goes to Catherine Pierce, Acting Director of the Office on Violence Against Women, for her indefatigable service and commitment to ending violence against women.”

Grace Mattern, executive director of the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence said, “Judge Carbon has been a national leader in efforts to develop effective, comprehensive responses to domestic and sexual violence. She is a role model known for judicial responses that support victims and hold perpetrators accountable.”

The White House released Judge Carbon’s biography:

Susan Carbon, first appointed to the bench in 1991, has been a Supervisory Judge of the New Hampshire Judicial Branch Family Division since 1996. She is a member of the Governor’s Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence and, until recently, chaired New Hampshire’s Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee.

Judge Carbon was also a President of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) from 2007 to 2008 where she still frequently serves as a faculty member. She also serves as faculty for the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence -- a partnership of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office on Violence Against Women, the Family Violence Prevention Fund, and the NCJFCJ.

In September 2006, she chaired Firearms and Domestic Violence: A National Summit for Community Safety in Los Angeles, an initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Justice. She also chaired the project which produced the multidisciplinary Effective Issuance and Enforcement of Orders of Protection in Domestic Violence Cases (The Burgundy Book), a document used throughout the country and U.S. territories to guide professionals in their work around civil protection orders.

Judge Carbon has trained judges and other professionals across the country and internationally on topics related to family violence, firearms, child custody, and child protection. She has published extensively on these and other topics, including on judicial selection and retention and judicial administration. She is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the DePaul University College of Law.

Else said, “Judge Carbon is a true champion in the movement against domestic and sexual abuse. We congratulate her on this well-deserved nomination. Her appointment, especially on the first day of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, extends President Obama’s vision of hope to survivors of abuse and those who work tirelessly to help them escape violence.”

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NNEDV, a 501(c)(3) organization, is a leading voice for domestic violence victims and advocates. Its members include the 56 state and territorial coalitions against domestic violence. It works closely with them to understand the needs of domestic violence victims and advocacy programs. NNEDV has been a premiere national organization advancing the movement against domestic violence for the past 15 years, after leading efforts among domestic violence advocates and survivors in urging Congress to pass the landmark Violence Against Women Act of 1994. To learn more about NNEDV, please visit www.nnedv.org.

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