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Date: 3/15/2013 4:58 PM
Subject: Nomination for Unsung Hero Award

A copy of this e-mail has been sent to the State Bar of Michigan and to the nominator of the award.

Name of nominee: Elizabeth Stafford
 Title: Assistant U.S. Attorney
 Firm or Organization: U.S. Attorney's Office, E.D. Michigan
 Address: 211 W. Fort St., Ste. 2001, Detroit MI 48226
 Phone: 313-226-9692
 Fax: 313-226-3265
 E-mail: elizabeth.stafford@usdoj.gov

Name of nominator: Barbara McQuade
 Title: United States Attorney
 Firm or Organization: U.S. Attorney's Office
 Address: 211 W. Fort St., Ste. 2001, Detroit MI 48226
 Phone: 313-226-9500
 Fax: 313-226-4609
 E-mail: barbara.mcquade@usdoj.gov

 Explain the merits of your nomination, submit any supporting materials for your nominee by email, fax, or mail. Give specific examples.

Elizabeth Stafford is a career prosecutor who has been with the U.S. Attorney's Office for over 10 years. She has tried numerous cases ranging from bank robberies and firearms charges to multi-state drug conspiracies. She currently serves in the office's Public Corruption unit where she oversees investigations involving allegations of criminal activity among elected, appointed and career government officials. Elizabeth has also argued extensively before the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals. Beyond her excellent courtroom skills, Elizabeth has contributed substantially to the bar here in Michigan. In addition to serving on the Executive Board of the Federal Bar Association, she has co-chaired the FBA Diversity Committee for a number of years. During that time, Elizabeth spearheaded the FBA Diversity Mentoring initiative, which pairs newer members of the bar with more seasoned members to help them successfully develop a federal practice. She also partnered on behalf of FBA with the Just the Beginnings Foundation, a judge-led effort to create a pipeline to the legal profession beginning with high-school students of color. She also co-chaired the FBA Diversity Summit, held on March 6, 2013, which brought together lawyers from various firms and organizations to share ideas about advancing the cause of diversity in the legal profession

 Please provide a complete resume that includes dates of:
 -Service to and on behalf of the State Bar of Michigan
 -Other service to the legal profession
 -Service to the public
 -Any awards the nominee may have received

ELIZABETH ANN STAFFORD
 211 West Fort Street, Suite 2001
 Detroit, Michigan 48226
 (313) 226-9692

elizabeth.stafford@usdoj.gov

EXPERIENCE:

United States Attorney's Office,
Eastern District of Michigan
Assistant United States Attorney - April 2002 to Present

- Prosecute violators of federal criminal laws. Assigned to the Public Corruption Unit in June, 2010; prior practice has primarily been in the areas of narcotics and firearms.
- Responsibilities include handling jury trials and evidentiary hearings, writing district court and appellate briefs, conducting district and appellate court oral arguments, supervising criminal investigations and presenting matters for grand jury indictments.
- Have tried fifteen cases as sole counsel and four as lead counsel; defended approximately 20 motions to suppress, with about half requiring an evidentiary hearing; resolved approximately 90 cases by plea; and handle upwards of 100 sentencings.
- Received extensive training in federal criminal law and practice at the National Advocacy Center, including courses pertaining to Basic Criminal Trial Advocacy, Appellate Advocacy, Criminal Federal Practice, Title III, Evidence for Criminal Litigators, Financial Investigations and Working with Cooperators.
- For years 2005 through 2011, received the highest evaluation ("substantially exceeds expectations" in 2005 and "outstanding" for years 2006 through 2011) for my overall performance.

The Chambers of the Honorable Victoria A. Roberts
United States District Court, Detroit, Michigan
Law Clerk - August 1998 to April 2002

- Began judicial clerkship at the initiation of Judge Roberts' tenure as an United States District Judge. Assisted Judge Roberts in establishing policies and procedure for her chambers that promoted the effective and efficient management of the docket.
- Researched and wrote bench memoranda and drafted opinions regarding a wide variety of legal issues, including alleged employment discrimination; personal injury; contract and other commercial litigation; patent, trademark and copyright litigation; ERISA litigation; social security appeals; prisoner civil rights and habeas corpus matters; constitutional challenges to state laws; tribal disputes; insurance claims; civil discovery disputes; and criminal matters.
- Prepared original drafts of several published opinions, including two published Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals opinions.
- Assisted Judge Roberts during bench trials, and drafted findings of facts and conclusions of law.

Goodman, Eden, Millender & Bedrosian, Detroit, Michigan
Associate - November 1993 to February 1998; Law Clerk -September 1991 to November 1993

- Was one of a limited number of law clerks hired to become an associate of this historic law firm.
- Practiced in various areas of personal injury litigation including automobile negligence, products liability, civil rights, governmental immunity, wrongful discharge and general negligence.

• Performed all functions of civil practice, including case development; extensive writing of legal briefs to trial and appellate courts, as well as mediation summaries; oral arguments in trial courts and the Michigan Court of Appeals; discovery practice, including depositions, interrogatories and requests for production of documents, and motions to compel the same; alternative dispute resolution, such as mediation, facilitation and arbitration; and trial work.

=CEDUCATION:

Wayne State University Law School, Detroit, Michigan
Juris Doctor, May 1993

Honors and Activities:

- Bodman, Longley & Dahling Scholarship Recipient (1992 to 1993)
- Kenneth Cockrel Scholarship Recipient (1992 to 1993)
- Wolverine Bar Association Scholarship Recipient (1992 to 1993)
- Law Alumni Scholarship Recipient (1990 to 1991 and 1991 to 1992)
- Book Award Recipient for highest grade in Constitutional Law (1991)
- Third Place Award in Moot Court Appellate Brief Competition (1991)
- President, Black Law Student Association (1992 to 1993)

Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan
Bachelor of Arts, June 1989
James Madison College
Dual Major - Urban Policy Problems; Minority/Majority Intergroup

Relations

OTHER
INVOLVEMENT:

- Adjunct Professor, Federal Courts Practice, Cooley Law School, Auburn Hills, Michigan (January 2010 to April 2010)
- Instructor, Intermediate Criminal Trial Advocacy Seminar at the National Advocacy Center (March 2013)
- Instructor, Basic Criminal Trial Advocacy Seminar at the National Advocacy Center (January 2007, November 2007, May 2009 and September 2012)
- Member, American Constitution Society (2008 to present)
- *Member, State Bar of Michigan United States Courts Committee (2011 to present)
- Member, State Bar of Michigan Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee (2010 to present)
- Life Member, Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference (2006 to present)
- Member, Fellows of the Michigan State Bar Foundation (2007 to present)
- Member, Board of Directors, Federal Bar Association (2007 to 2012); Co-chair, Diversity Committee (2009 to present)
- Member, Board of Directors, Wolverine Bar Association (1996-2003)
- Member, Board of Directors, Jack and Jill of America, Detroit Chapter (2005 to 2011)
- Member, Board of Directors, Barristers of the Detroit Metropolitan Bar Association (1993 to 1995)
- Member, Board of Directors, Michigan Trial Lawyers Association (1996 to 1998)

Optional: List news, magazine, radio, and TV features about the nominee's accomplishments (do not submit actual articles or DVDs).

State date/page and media e.g. 12/12/07, p. 12, Lansing State Journal, "Lawyer Begins TLC Program in Schools"

January 2013, Laches, Oakland County Bar Association, ""Five Questions" with Elizabeth Stafford," pp. 25-26

Please provide a letter written by the nominator explaining why the nominee should be considered for the award. The letter should be signed by the nominator and any additional supporters. One dated and signed letter is required, it can be e-mailed to Anne Smith at asmith@mail.michbar.org, faxed to her attention at (517) 372-2410, or sent by mail. Please note in your communication the name of the award and the nominee's name.

Ms. Anne Smith
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012
Phone: (517) 346-6374

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U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
Eastern District of Michigan

Barbara L. McQuade
United States Attorney

211 West Fort Street, Suite 2001
Detroit, Michigan 48226-3211
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March 15, 2013

Ms. Anne Smith
Representative Assembly Awards
State Bar of Michigan
306 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933-2012

Dear Ms. Smith:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to nominate Elizabeth Stafford for the State Bar of Michigan Unsung Hero Award for 2013. Elizabeth has served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in this office for eleven years. During that time she has distinguished herself as an outstanding trial attorney, prosecuting everything from violent crimes and large-scale drug conspiracies involving complicated money laundering schemes to public corruption by government officials. During one murder-for hire case that she prosecuted, she fell and broke her shoulder in the middle of trial, yet completed examinations of her witnesses before seeking medical treatment. The jury convicted the defendant.

Elizabeth has not limited her professional aspirations to prosecuting cases. She has contributed mightily to the bar with both her academic pursuits and her service to the bar. For two years, Elizabeth taught a very well-received Federal Practice course at Cooley Law School - even taking her students on a field trip to the U.S. Attorney's office and U.S. District Court to meet with practicing lawyers and judges. Additionally, as Co-Chair of the Federal Bar Association Diversity Committee, Elizabeth has done yeoman's work in opening the bar to historically under-represented groups. She spearheaded the FBA Mentoring program and she developed and organized the FBA Diversity Summit, which has been held for the last two years. The goal of the most recent summit was to develop the Metropolitan Detroit Pipeline Coordinating Council, a group to facilitate the development of young Detroiters into desirable candidates for the legal profession.

Very truly yours,

Barbara L. McQuade
United States Attorney