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July 29, 2024

Awards Committee
New York State Bar Association
Trial Lawyer's Section
1 Elk Street
Albany, New York 12207

Re: Nomination Letter for Jacqueline Hattar, Esq.
*NYSBA Trial Lawyers Section Annual
Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award*

Dear Awards Committee:

My name is Sherry A. Bishko and I am President of the Westchester Women's Bar Association (WWBA) which is a chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York (WBASNY). It is with great pleasure that I write this letter in support of the WWBA's long time leader and devoted member, Jacqueline Hattar, Esq. for the *NYSBA Trial Lawyers Section Annual Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award for 2024*. Jacqueline embodies the core values and essence of this award through her exemplary and long-standing work in promoting and raising awareness of issues of diversity, equity and inclusion in the legal community as a trial lawyer in New York State.

Jacqueline is a partner at Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker, LLP in White Plains, New York and has had an extraordinary career as a litigator handling complex, high exposure claims on behalf of defendants from inception through trial and appeal on matters involving general tort liability, construction accidents/New York State Labor Law §§ 200, 240 and 241, wrongful death, commercial and residential premises liability, trucking and transportation liability in all state and federal courts in New York State. Her reputation is one of professionalism, preparedness and fairness.

Simultaneously, Jacqueline has had a concurrent career forging and cementing the elements of diversity, equity and inclusion into her work. Specifically, she has been a member of her firm's national Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee since 2011; she has assisted with establishing, coordinating and presenting various diversity programs, including mentorship of women attorneys, in-house diversity training and lectures; and she has chaired the annual

Diversity Day event at Wilson Elser. Jacqueline is one of five women partners who established Wilson Elser's Women Attorneys Valued & Empowered ("WAVE") Initiative in 2015 to advance the professional and personal well-being of its women attorneys. Jacqueline is tireless in her efforts in addressing and raising awareness about issues of equity, diversity and inclusion at Wilson Elser.

Jacqueline's efforts do not cease in her workplace – they extend throughout the legal community in Westchester County and New York State. On a personal level, I know Jacqueline as a long-time co-chair and leader of the WWBA's Diversity & Inclusion Committee where she regularly mentors law students and young attorneys, organizes CLEs and programs on diversity. Justice Ginsberg took "bold risks" while recognizing and uplifting diverse voices. This is Jacqueline! Specifically, Jacqueline has established a WWBA initiative on mentoring in Westchester County law firms where she has organized mentorship roundtables that focus on mentoring in law firms – specifically for women and diverse groups.

Jacqueline provides a wealth of support, advice and 'roll-up-your-sleeves' work to our Westchester Women's Bar Association and embodies her commitment to our community and its diversity. She was born and raised in Yonkers, NY and educated in the Yonkers Public Schools. She is one of eight children, who was born to Jordanian immigrants and the first person in her family to become a lawyer. Jacqueline has never forgotten where she came from and is passionate about giving back to her community. This includes serving as a volunteer reader in the Yonkers Public Schools to promote literacy through programs such as the Read Across America program which she coordinates for our WWBA.

Tireless, fearless, bold...these are the characteristics of Justice Ginsberg and that which are mirrored in Jacqueline Hattar. Our WWBA stood on the shoulders of Justice Ginsberg. She was our mentor and pioneer in forwarding women and diverse groups in the law. I believe, we now stand and will continue to stand on Jacqueline's shoulders as we look forward and continue to promote diversity, equity and inclusion in our legal community and beyond.

Jacqueline has provided longstanding significant involvement and a lifetime of constancy of purpose in advancing the status of women and diverse groups in both the law and society in general. Consequently, I unequivocally recommend Jacqueline Hattar, Esq. for *the NYSBA Trial Lawyers Section Annual Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award for 2024*.

Do not hesitate to contact me to discuss Jacqueline's nomination further.

Very truly yours,

Sherry A. Bishko

Sherry A. Bishko, Esq.
President

(914.582.0109 - Mobile)



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July 30, 2024

Christian Soller, Esq., Chair
Trial Lawyers Section
New York State Bar Association
One Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207

**Re: Letter in Support of the Nomination of Jacqueline Hattar for the
New York State Bar Association's Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award**

Dear Mr. Soller and members of the selection committee:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Jacqueline Hattar, Esq. for the New York State Bar Association's 4th Annual Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award. I have known Jacqueline Hattar for nearly two decades and can verify her reputation as a competent, able and zealous advocate and litigation/trial attorney who not only excels in the practice of complex law but who still finds time to volunteer within her firm and through various bar association and community activities to engage in substantial efforts to address and raise awareness about the important issues of diversity, equity and inclusion.

With regard to her trial skills and litigation abilities, her recognitions and awards speak for themselves. Just to name a few, she has been named to the New York Super Lawyer's list for general litigation, as a Top Lawyer in Hudson Valley Magazine, awards within her own firm, and in the Marquis' Who's Who of American Women going back to the mid-2000s.

I first came to know Ms. Hattar through the Westchester Women's Bar Association ("WWBA") when I joined its Litigation Committee in the mid-2000s. In that connection, I could see even then her talent and skill in the field of litigation. Since that time, my professional relationship with her has grown to include collaborations on the development and delivery of continuing legal education programs and seminars in particular in the area of diversity, equity and inclusion.

Ms. Hattar has co-chaired the WWBA Diversity and Inclusion Committee since 2011. She has orchestrated and presented annual seminars and CLEs on the topics of diversity, equity and inclusion to the members of the WWBA and others in the legal community.

When I was President of the WWBA in 2018-2019, she developed two CLE program for the Association's General Membership Meetings. The first in September 2018, titled "Implicit Bias is Real: A Candid Discussion on Subconscious Stereotyping" featuring Hon. Shira A. Scheindlin, ret. U.S.D.J. and Of Counsel to Strook, Strook & Lavan, Taa Grays, Esq., VP and Associate General Counsel Met Life, and Nikki Adame-Winningham, Esq., Corporate Counsel, Pfizer, Inc.. The second was in April 2019 titled "A Town Hall with Women Leaders in Politics" featuring Hon. Andrea Stewart-Cousins, NY Senator/Senate Majority Leader, Hon. Shelley Mayer, NY Senator, and Hon. Catalina Cruz, NY Assemblywoman. Both programs addressed issues of bias and discrimination, explicit and implicit, in various legal sectors and provided attendees with advice and guidance as to how to navigate these issues in their respective practices of law. Both programs were excellent, well attended, and I was very grateful to have Ms. Hattar as an advocate educating others on these important and timely subjects.

Ms. Hattar is well known, long time, routine presenter and collaborator on programs centered around diversity, equity and inclusion. Just this past year I was fortunate to serve on two of those programs' panels with her – one for the Westchester Women's Summit and the other for the WWBA on the topic of the Power of Mentorship and Sponsorship. I found that her knowledge in this area was excellent, and although I was one of her co-panelists, I personally benefitted from the information and practical advice she shared.

In addition to presenting diversity and inclusion programs, Ms. Hattar takes a personal interest in sharing advice for newer attorneys to encourage them in overcoming obstacles presented by explicit and implicit bias. When I was President of the WWBA in 2018-2019, I started a formal mentor program for law students attending the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University. Ms. Hattar has volunteered her time to the program since its inception, not only serving as a mentor to many law students but also as a panelist for programs orchestrated toward law students in substantive and practical skills areas. I have witnessed her give sage advice and encouragement to these students when they are faced with adverse circumstances as she shared tips based on how she was able to personally overcome adversity when being overlooked for advancement as a result of her protected characteristics. She always brings a perspective which imparts and demands notions of equitable treatment and fairmindedness to the forefront of these discussions.

While most of my interactions with Ms. Hattar are through the WWBA, I am aware that she volunteers for other association's diversity and inclusion committees, including the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York, Westchester County Bar Association, and Claims and Litigation Management Alliance. Even within her law firm, Ms. Hattar regularly mentors newer attorneys – even ones that are not "assigned" to her through her law firm's system of assigning associates to more senior attorneys and partners. Her willingness to keep her door open to all has allowed her to positively impact equity and inclusion in her firm. . She has also shared highlights of how she has contributed to propelling the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee forward since joining in 2011.

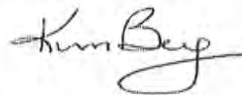
Throughout all of the years I have known Ms. Hattar, I can honestly say that she is an ally and an advocate for many. Ms. Hattar continues to provide one on one mentorship to the

students assigned to her as mentees. Through this mentor program, and the other programs she has participated in, she has provided mentorship, guidance, sponsorship and opportunities to so many law students and young lawyers

In sum, Ms. Hattar epitomizes the highest attributes of professionalism and integrity while at the same time showing commitment to the advancement of the legal profession in her own individual practice and firm as well by educating others on topics involving litigation and recent developments in her substantive areas of practice. On top of these commendable qualities, her commitment to mentoring both newer attorneys in her firm, as well as law students and recent graduates outside of her firm, readily demonstrates her contributions to the legal profession. She has shows a passion and commitment to educating others about the perils of explicit and implicit bias, the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion, and to aid many in overcoming artificial barriers to their advancement.

It is therefore my privilege to support Ms. Hattar's nomination fully as there is no better candidate for the New York State Bar Association's 4th Annual Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vangaurd Award.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kim Berg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Kim Berg

KB:nb

August 7, 2024

Stuart A. Miller Esq.
(direct) 212.915.5204
(mobile) 212.203.3757

New York State Bar Association
1 Elk Street
Albany, New York 12207

Attn: Panelists of the Trial Lawyers Section

Re: Nomination of Jacqueline Hattar, Esq.
Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award

Dear Panelists:

I write this letter in support of my partner Jacqueline Hattar's nomination for the Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award. I have been a partner with Jackie at Wilson Elser for approximately twenty years. I was fortunate enough to convince her to join my team several years ago when we were seeking a seasoned attorney to help mentor, teach and guide our young recruits.

Jackie is known inside our firm and within the legal community as a champion of diversity and inclusion. Jackie has been at the forefront of promoting diversity, inclusion and women-focused initiatives before there were any fancy titles, committees and organized efforts. Jackie seeks out diverse individuals to teach. She provides them with sound mentoring on how to practice law and how to push through barriers and challenges. Jackie does this with grace and fierce commitment. She is relentless in her pursuit of fairness for all.

Jackie's positive impact on her mentees has a cumulative effect on the legal community. Those whom she has influenced have gone on to great positions of leadership, including sitting judges and attorneys in senior management. A "Jackie Hattar-developed" attorney knows no ceiling and no limitation.

Not surprisingly, Jackie is one of the chief architects of our firm's formal diversity initiatives. This is a monumental task as it encompasses programs for our law firm of more than 1000 attorneys in more than forty offices nationwide. Jackie gets people at the local and national levels involved

and committed. We often have national Zoom and local meetings to learn, educate and celebrate diversity led by Jackie and the talented speakers she brings to the events.

I highly recommend Jackie for this prestigious award as she exemplifies the passionate and committed virtues of Justice Ginsburg.

Best regards,

Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP



Stuart A. Miller, Esq.



Cindy Kanusher, Esq., Executive Director
Phone: 914.422.4625
ckanusher@law.pace.edu · www.law.pace.edu/wjc

78 North Broadway · White Plains, NY 10603

August 7, 2024

Awards Committee
New York State Bar Association
Trial Lawyer's Section
1 Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Awards Committee Members,

It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of Jacqueline Hattar's nomination for the New York State Bar Association's 5th Annual Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award. I am the Executive Director of the Pace Women's Justice Center (PWJC), a non-profit legal center that provides free legal services to survivors and victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and elder abuse throughout Westchester and Putnam Counties. Each year, we serve 3000 clients and provide close to 150 outreach and training events.

Jacqueline has been involved with PWJC for over ten years, and has actively served on PWJC's Advisory Board for the past eight years. During this time, I have had the privilege of working closely with her and observing her intelligence, dedication, and wide breadth of experience, which have helped PWJC in so many different ways. Her fresh ideas and passion for our work has inspired and activated the rest of our board, directed us on our diversity, equity and inclusion work, expanded our fundraising efforts, and she has been a leader in the community for our work.

Jacqueline has supported, advised and guided PWJC as we have grown and expanded, doubling our organizational capacity and budget over the past 11 years. Jacqueline consistently brings her over 30 years of legal experience to help PWJC make strategic decisions about expanding our services and creating new programs. In addition, she has worked for many years with us on issues of diversity and equity. In her capacity as the WWBA representative for WBASNY's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, she has collaborated with PWJC to present CLE and other programs that highlight PWJC's mission of supporting survivors of abuse and working toward improving access to justice for so many in our community.

Additionally, Jacqueline has been an active member of our Host Committees for numerous PWJC events, helping us to raise significant funds to support our legal services work and outreach to the community about our services. As well, Jacqueline Co-Chaired our 2015 annual fundraiser, and was

presented with PWJC's prestigious *Making a Difference* Award at our 2018 annual fundraiser, where we recognized her leadership and enduring commitment to improving the lives of women and families in our community.

Jacqueline's participation with PWJC is just a small part of a wide- range of volunteer work that she has done over the years. Jacqueline is dedicated to giving back to her community, which is evidenced by her work with numerous organizations in our community. She is an advocate for women, children and families and strives to create opportunities for those in need. As well, she works to lift up and better our legal community by mentoring new attorneys and helping these colleagues to succeed.

Jacqueline's dedication to her work is extraordinary, as is her commitment to giving back to her community. She stands out as role model for both new attorneys and her colleagues. Jacqueline Hattar is the perfect person to receive the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cindy Kanusher". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Cindy J. Kanusher, Esq.
Executive Director

Lisa Margaret Smith
9 East Street
South Salem, NY 10590
July 29, 2024

Christian Soller, Esq., Chair
Trial Lawyers Section
New York State Bar Association
One Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mr. Soller and Committee Members,

As a Past President and active member of the Westchester Women's Bar Association ("WWBA"). I am pleased to write a letter in wholehearted support of the nomination of Jacqueline Hattar for the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award. Jackie's resumé reflects that she absolutely fulfills all of the requirements for receiving this award, but that is merely an outline of the work she has done and the commitment she has shown to equality and diversity in the legal profession.

Jackie has served as an attorney, predominantly a trial attorney, in New York State since her graduation from Pace University School of Law in 1991. She was an Assistant District Attorney ("ADA") in Bronx County from her graduation until 1997, both as an appellate attorney for two years and as a trial attorney in a variety of bureaus for four years. As a former ADA myself (Kings County), I am firmly aware of the challenges faced by Jackie in preparing for and taking cases to trial, especially when the crimes in question involved sexual assault, rape, and other crimes of violence. Typically, due to financial constraints, there is limited support for ADAs, both in the investigative stage and during trial preparation, and yet Jackie succeeded in trying multiple cases to verdict as the lead prosecutor. Her ability to try cases in the New York state courts continued after her tenure with the DA's office, through her time at Goodman & Jacobs, where she managed complex tort litigation, including taking cases to trial, and into her employment with the Frontier Insurance Group, where she was also responsible for complex tort litigation.

In 2001 Jackie joined Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker ("Wilson Elser"), where she is currently a partner. At Wilson Elser Jackie has continued to serve as an attorney in a variety of types of cases, handling them from inception through trial and appeal. At Wilson Elser Jackie has been instrumental in fostering both inclusion and diversity; she has served as a member of the firm's national Diversity and Inclusion Committee since 2011; she has assisted with various diversity programs; she has engaged in in-house diversity training and other programs; and she has chaired the firm's annual Diversity Day event. Jackie is one of just five women who helped to establish Wilson Elser's "Women Attorneys Valued and Empowered Initiative" in 2015, for the purpose of advancing both the professional and the personal well-being of women attorneys at the firm. This has resulted in Wilson Elser achieving Mansfield Rule 5.0 Certification Plus,

and being certified in 2022 as a “*Gold Standard Firm*” by the Women in Law Empowerment Forum. Jackie’s diversity and inclusion work at Wilson Elser also included serving as a mentor for women attorneys at the firm.

All of the things I have listed so far are evident from Jackie’s resumé, but they do not begin to reflect all that Jackie has done to encourage diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. In particular, since 1998 Jackie has been a very active member of the Westchester Women’s Bar Association, to which she has brought her passion for supporting diversity and inclusion. She established a Diversity Lecture program for WWBA in 2010; she has served as a mentor for law students from the Elisabeth Haub School of Law (formerly Pace University School of Law); she has organized programs for Women’s History Month and Black History Month, involving WWBA and other bar associations and organizations, including the New York State Bar Association. She has been co-chair of the WWBA Diversity and Inclusion Committee since 2011, and has served as the WWBA representative to the Diversity and Inclusion Committee for the Women’s Bar Association of the State of New York. For many years Jackie has organized and facilitated programs for children led by members of WWBA, most especially the Read Across America program, which has allowed elementary school children to see and talk to women attorneys. She has organized numerous programs for WWBA, and for other bar associations, involving diversity and inclusion, including programs on mentorship, implicit bias, LGBTQ+ issues, and leadership, among many others. Her activities in support of diversity and inclusion education have extended to other professional associations of which she is a member, including the Westchester County Bar Association, the White Plains Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance. Jackie is also a member of the Gender Fairness Committee for the Ninth Judicial District, for which she serves as a judge of the Gender Fairness Essay Contest annually.

In sum, Jacqueline Hattar is an attorney who is committed to excellence as a trial attorney in the State of New York, and who is also committed to the twin goals of diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. She has used her organizational skills and many professional connections to develop and foster diversity and inclusion among children, law students, attorneys, and other professionals. She is a worthy candidate for selection as the recipient of the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award.

If you need any further information with regard to this recommendation, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Very truly yours,
Lisa Margaret Smith
Lisa Margaret Smith
(914) 441-7243
lisasmith@rocketmail.com

August 7, 2024

Angela W. Russell
410.962.5287 (direct)
202.329.5760 (mobile)
Angela.Russell@wilsonelser.com

Elizabeth Barnhard
Co-Chair Awards Committee
Westchester Women's Bar Association

Dear Ms. Barnhard and Award Committee:

I am pleased to provide a letter of support for Jackie Hattar in connection with the New York State Bar Association Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award. I was thrilled to hear that Jackie was nominated for this award and believe it is absolutely well-deserved. Jackie has worked as a colleague with me at Wilson Elser since 2001, which is the same year I joined the firm. She has a successful litigation practice in the areas of general liability, construction and other complex commercial matters. She is an accomplished attorney and is well-respected in the firm. During her tenure at Wilson Elser she has worked tirelessly on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee of the firm for more than 10 years. I am the Chairperson of that Committee. She has served in various positions in the firm and is the chair of our "Diversity Day" which happens annually and is the committee's signature event. In connection with this program, Jackie has helped to secure various well-known speakers to provide training, instruction and inspiration to the members of the firm. Diversity Day is a firm-wide broadcast and Jackie is a driving force behind that effort. During her tenure at the firm Jackie has also served as a mentor various associates.

Jackie has also been extensively involved in the community and has been a long-standing member of the Westchester Women's Bar Association serving as a member of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee of that organization. Jackie established a continuing diversity lecture program for the WWBA and also served in various leadership positions including the vice-president, co-chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, co-chair of the Litigation Committee among other things. Significantly, Jackie currently serves as the State Director for the Westchester Women's Bar Association and has held this position for several terms. She is a member and fellow of the New York State Bar Foundation, the Westchester County Bar Association and the White Plains Bar Association. There is little question that Jackie has been significantly involved in the community and has had an important impact. She also served as the president of the Claims and Litigation National Alliance for the New York chapter from 2013 to 2017 and has been a member of the Diversity, Inclusion Construction committees for CLM. This a national organization that is committed to the practice of litigation.

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In addition to serving in various capacities in the firm and in the community Jackie has been engaged in various volunteer and mentor organizations. She has helped to volunteer and coordinate WWBA's role in the Read Across America program for the Yonkers Public Schools where she has served in this capacity from 2007 to the present. She's also a contributor and supporter of the PACE Women's Justice Center as well as the Gender Fairness Committee for the Ninth District where she helps coordinate with the WWBA to present diversity programming. She serves as a WWBA mentor which she has done from 2018 to the present. Jackie's accomplishments are too numerous to list but suffice to say that her role as an attorney in the community, as a lawyer at Wilson Elser, as a mentor are truly impressive.

It has been my pleasure to work with Jackie for over 20 years at this point and I am honored to support her nomination. I am hopeful that the committee sees fit to recognize her long-standing efforts.

Sincerely,

Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP

Angela

Angela W. Russell
AWR/wl wp



PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

August 20, 2024

Christian Soller, Esq., Chair
Trial Lawyers Section
New York State Bar Association
One Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207

Re: Nomination of Jacqueline Hattar for NYSBA 4thAnnual Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award

Dear Mr. Soller:

I am pleased to recommend Jacqueline “Jackie” Hattar for the New York State Bar Association’s 4thAnnual Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Beacon Award! Jackie is the perfect candidate for this award as a trial attorney who has made extraordinary efforts in addressing and raising awareness about issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion. I have worked with Jackie for over 12 years as co-chairs of the diversity and inclusion committee of the Westchester Women’s Bar Assc. Jackie and I have collaborated on numerous events highlighting the importance of diversity and inclusion in the legal community and beyond. We have also partnered with other organizations such as the Westchester Black Bar Assc and the Puerto Rican Bar Assc to further our outreach to lawyers of color to continue to keep diversity and inclusion as priority for programing and Continuing Legal Education.

Not only have I known Jackie as a co-chair of the Diversity Committee but I know Jackie as a well respected and seized trial attorney who has practiced substantially as a trial lawyer in courts in New York State. Despite looming deadlines, long depositions and trial preparations Jackie remains committed to our committee by helping to organize, moderate and attend our programs continuing to show her dedication to diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. Most recently, Jackie and I organized and held a program highlighting the importance of mentorship in the legal community for young lawyers with diverse backgrounds and were successful at signing up 20 mentors to be paired with graduating diverse students from Pace Law School on the same night as the program was held. Jackie has also been responsible for bringing additional co-chairs onto the diversity committee and encouraging them to provide topics and ideas for programs and additional outreach to continue to support diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.

After reviewing Jackie’s extensive resume highlighting her accomplishments as a trial attorney and champion of diversity, I think you will agree that she is the perfect candidate for this years award. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (845) 634 - 7278 or via email at stephanie.melowsky@mypcsb.com.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Melowsky Esq.
Vice President

July 29, 2024

Christian Soller, Esq.
Chair, The Trial Lawyers Section
New York State Bar Association
One Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207

Re: Letter in Support of the Nomination of Jacqueline Hattar for the
New York State Bar Association's Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award

Dear Mr. Stoller and members of the Trial Lawyers Section,

I am writing to express my strongest support of the nomination of Jacqueline Hattar, Esq. for the New York State Bar Association's 5th Annual Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award. I have known Ms. Hattar and worked closely with her for more than sixteen years. As long-standing board members of the Westchester Women's Bar Association (WWBA), a Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York (WBASNY), Ms. Hattar and I have collaborated closely on projects and programs for the benefit of the WWBA membership and the broader community. Ms. Hattar is a leader and role model in the WWBA. She has been recognized and received numerous awards from a range of organizations and publications for her outstanding contributions to advance diversity and inclusion in the field of law and her achievements as a civil litigator.

I have observed first-hand Ms. Hattar's leadership and deep commitment to advancing diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. I cannot imagine a person who better demonstrates a commitment to mentoring and sponsoring young and aspiring attorneys and attorneys from diverse backgrounds. As just one example, Ms. Hattar mentors Pace Law School students, imparting important advice on attorney professionalism, business etiquette, and career and internship opportunities. Her enthusiasm and passion for mentoring law students is contagious and inspired me to mentor a first-generation law student from an immigrant family.

Ms. Hattar not only elevates a diverse group of rising legal talent in her own law practice, but she also educates established attorneys in other law practices in strategies to elevate and advance attorneys from diverse backgrounds. In this way, Ms. Hattar's passion for uplifting women and attorneys from minority groups has a multiplier effect. I have consistently been impressed with Ms. Hattar's work as co-chair of the WWBA Diversity & Inclusion Committee. She is a prolific presenter, panelist and moderator and has coordinated numerous well-attended WWBA programs to raise awareness and address issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Of particular note, Ms. Hattar developed, hosted and presented as a panelist in one of the most compelling programs I have attended. During the April 2023 WWBA General Membership program entitled *Making a Difference: The Power of Mentorship and Sponsorship*, Ms. Hattar explained the important distinction between mentorship and sponsorship and the need for established attorneys to both mentor young and diverse groups of attorneys and to sponsor their ascendance in law practices. I

found her discussion and specific examples of strategies to sponsor attorneys to be gripping and profound, such that well beyond the night of the program I continued to think about the importance of focused, active, and deliberate advocacy to elevate others. I have often discussed the program with attorneys and nonlawyers who were not in attendance, because Ms. Hattar's messages are so persuasive and important that they must continue to be spread.

In 2007, Ms. Hattar established a strong connection between the WWBA and the Yonkers Public Schools. I have been privileged to work alongside Ms. Hattar as she collaborated with Yonkers school administrators in two community schools as well as WWBA board members to arrange for WWBA guest readers to participate in *Read Across America Day* in the Yonkers Public Schools. *Read Across America Day* commemorates Dr. Seuss's birthday and a love of reading in schools across the country. For the last several years, Ms. Hattar has nurtured a warm relationship between the WWBA and the Eugenia Maria de Hostos MicroSociety School leadership. The Hostos School is a pre-K through Grade 8 community school with 94.5% minority student enrollment and 94% students who are disadvantaged economically. The Microsociety community and curriculum are designed to create a microcosm of the real world, where each student has a valuable role in running the school. The MicroSociety program is purposefully aligned with the academic curriculum, so that student learning is relevant to the real world and students are excited and prepared to be future leaders. As a result of Ms. Hattar's efforts as liaison to The Hostos School, WWBA guest readers read storybooks to the students and share information about their legal careers. WWBA guest readers field student questions and inspire young learners to consider careers in law. It is always a highlight of my year to work with Ms. Hattar on *Read Across America* and serve as a guest reader with her.

Ms. Hattar is an ardent supporter of all attorneys who need added encouragement and support to demonstrate their potential. On a personal level, over the last several years Ms. Hattar encouraged and supported my deepening involvement in the WWBA. Her confidence in my skills gave me the confidence to take on leadership roles within the WWBA and beyond. In fact, Ms. Hattar sponsored me within the organization and advocated for my nomination as a WWBA Vice President three years ago. Due to Ms. Hattar's support, I have deepened my engagement in the organization and taken on additional leadership roles in the state-wide organization, WBASNY.

Ms. Hattar is an esteemed WWBA leader and an eager collaborator who consistently elevates people around her. It is her nature to personally reach out to WWBA members to compliment and praise their contributions and achievements and ensure that they are more broadly acknowledged by WWBA leadership.

I enthusiastically and wholeheartedly endorse Ms. Hattar's nomination for the Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg Vanguard Award. She is eminently qualified to receive this Award. Ms. Hattar fully embodies the Award criteria for a trial lawyer who strongly impacts the legal community through mentorship, sponsorship and a commitment to diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.

Respectfully,



Julie P. Passman

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August 23, 2024

Chrisitan Soller, Esq. Chair
Trial Lawyers Section
New York State Bar Association
One Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207

Re: Letter in Support of the Nomination of Jacqueline Hattar for the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award

Dear Mr. Soller:

It is with great pleasure that I respectfully submit this letter in support of the nomination of Jacqueline Hattar for the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award.

Jacqueline "Jackie" and I first met through the Westchester Women's Bar Association over twenty years ago. I have had the pleasure of co-chairing the WWBA Litigation Committee with Jackie for many years. Jackie is an experienced and accomplished litigator, who has extensive trial experience in all courts throughout the state of New York and dispute resolution. Despite her heavy caseload in high exposure cases, Jackie has always been so enthusiastic and generous about sharing her litigation experience and time with our fellow members, especially new attorneys. She has presented on many litigation topics at CLE programs and been instrumental in obtaining guest lecturers for the association. In addition, she is always very inclusive and willing to support other committees in their CLEs or lecture presentations. Jackie also is a co-chair of the Diversity Committee of the WWBA and is the co-founder of the WWBA Diversity Lecture Series. As a female litigator, she is very aware of the issues faced by both females and those of diverse cultures in litigation and through her lecture series has sought to educate our bar and community on these issues. At her firm, Wilson Elser, she was one of five women partners who helped establish the Women's Initiative in 2015 called Women Attorneys Valued and Empowered.

Jackie is not only dedicated to the bar, she is also devoted to making her community a better place for all its citizens. She recognizes the importance of

Chrisitan Soller, Esq. Chair
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supporting those less advantaged. She was awarded the Pace Women's Justice Center's Making A Difference Award in 2018. The Pace Women's Justice Center provides legal programs including representation for victims and survivors of domestic and elder abuse as well as providing community education and outreach services.

Recognizing the importance of mentoring and educating the youth in our society, Jackie also devotes a significant amount of time to events promoting literacy and has spearheaded the WWBA's participation in a Read Across America Program in the Yonkers Public Schools. She has organized the WWBA's participation in this national educational program allowing members of the WWBA yearly to participate in the program and read to children in the school system. Jackie also encourages our members to share their educational and employment experiences with the children, encouraging their scholastic efforts and inspiring their future achievements.

Jackie is well deserving of this award. She is an outstanding trial lawyer who has made significant efforts in addressing and raising awareness of equity, diversity, and inclusion issues both in our legal practice and community. She has demonstrated her commitment to these principles and continues to do so most enthusiastically both in her legal practice and life.

Very truly yours,



Angela Morcone Giannini

AMG:fmg

August 7, 2024

New York State Bar Association
1 Elk Street
Albany, New York 12207

Attention: Panelists of the Trial Lawyers Section

Re: Nomination of Jacqueline Hattar, Esq.
Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburgh Vanguard Award

Dear Panelists:

I write this letter in support of Jacqueline Hatter's ("Jackie") nomination for the Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Vanguard Award. I have known and been partners with Jackie for over twenty years. She is an exceptional lawyer who is devoted to not only the clients she serves, but to bettering those around her.

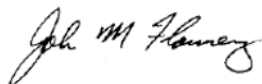
Throughout her career, Jackie has devoted herself to mentoring the attorneys whom she works with. Her success in mentoring lawyers is recognized and can be seen throughout the legal community in the lower Hudson Valley.

Jackie has also served as a principal architect of the firm's diversity and inclusion initiatives. She was a founder of our WAVE Program (Women Attorneys Valued and Empowered) and has brought those concepts to the New York State Bar Association, Westchester County Bar Association and Westchester County Women's Bar Association. Jackie is truly a pioneer in this area.

I highly recommend Jackie for this prestigious award as she exemplifies the passionate and committed virtues of Justice Ginsburg.

Very truly yours,

WILSON, ELSER, MOSKOWITZ, EDELMAN & DICKER LLP



John M. Flannery