

Hello, My name is Justin Goulet. Its such a great honor to be here and speak in support of my friend Christina Nolan. Before I get into my relationship w Christina, I would like to give you a little background on who I am and how we crossed paths,

So, I am a proud native Vermonter. I grew up in the WRTJ area. My family now lives in Royalton, Burlington + Colchester. I worked at both Norwich university + UVM + have fond memories at both places. My trade is working as a strength + cond coach. I was also a comp powerlifter. I worked my way up the collegiate ranks from sienna to <sup>rhode island</sup> Rhode Island, to Norwich university to Merrimack college, albany eventually to UVM. Even though I had professional success, I was injured competing in powerlifting along the way. I was prescribed oxy contin ~~for~~ ~~injury~~ + as the common story goes, the oxy became a bigger problem than the injury. This culminated with me catching a federal drug case. Bc of my addiction I lost most of my relationships, my career, my freedom + <sup>even</sup> my soul for a ~~while~~ <sup>while</sup>.

This is where I met Christina. She was an assistant U.S. Attorney + was prosecuting my case. When I met her, I was a broken man. For some reason, Christina saw the humanity in me + had empathy for me when I was at my Rock bottom. I remember During that time period, I thought that my life was over. She helped give me the opportunity to take responsibility for what I did. She also helped me get access to treatment that most certainly saved my life. She was always very warm and wished me good luck. I found that odd at times bc we were on opposite sides of the courtroom.

I took the opportunities that I was given and by some miracle, I have been clean now for over a decade one day at a time. I have also started + ran a successful business + am very involved in my community. I fell in love, got married + now have the greatest gift one can receive: a four year old son. I'm often mistaken for his grandfather bc of my age but thats o.k.

When I finished my supervised release, I wrote Christina a letter thanking her for holding me accountable + also giving me the opportunity to work on my recovery. She called my phone + left me a vmail. I will never forget it. Through tears she said, "I have never been thanked by a defendant Bt. It warms my heart to know that bc of your experience, you were able to change your life. Ultimately, thats what we want for everyone." We came up with an Idea to help others who were struggling with addiction. We made a short documentary called "Face of Recovery". We spoke at schools, Rehabs + comm centers. It was some of the most rewarding work I have ever done. We even went to D.C. to speak at a D.O.J summit. This was the point that I got to see what type of Person Christina Really was. I watched her stand up in front of Hundreds of U.S. Attorneys + say, "This opioid epidemic is not something we can prosecute our way out of. We need a balance of prevention, treatment + enforcement." That was not a popular opinion in that room. She interacted with my family, was kind and personable with my wife, and even cried with my mom talking about how proud they were of me.

Since then, we have formed a bit of an oddball friendship. A former  
mis. attorney + a defendant. I now consider her to be a part of my family.  
Like a sister. She has visited my family lakehouse and interacted with  
my son. Consolated me when my mother died + counseled me on all matters  
of life. I have done the same for her.

So what type of person is she really? She's loyal, honest, brave,  
kind, humble, intelligent, objective, Impartial, relentless, charitable, (empathetic,  
analytical) optimistic, loving + a little nerdy. But Nerds are cool.

If I were ever charged w/ a crime again, I would pray for a  
prosecutor like her who would judge me on who I am and not what I did.  
In the same respect, In the same situation, I would want someone to represent  
me like I saw her represent her clients as a defense attorney. with passion,  
diligence + respect.

To sum things up, I could only think of this to say: I know that there  
are some parents in the room. I think a lot about what type of person I want  
my son to be. I want him to know right from wrong, good from evil, to be  
assertive + not aggressive, to be tough + brave but not a bully, to be kind but not  
a pushover + to treat others as he would like to be treated. If I could choose  
one person for my son to grow up and be like, its Christina Nolan. There isn't  
a greater compliment to give.

~~I DK if any of these things make~~

I'm not an expert on what it takes to be a supreme court  
judge. Frankly, I'm an old beat up powerlifter. w/ my past, I'm hoping to stay  
out of courtrooms and far from being in front of judges. What I do know is that  
I would trust Christina to look at any situation, analyze the information + make  
the best decision that is right + true + just. I would trust her if my life  
was on the line. That trust is based on knowing what an exceptional person  
she is.

Thank you for listening.

  
Justin Goulet