

Dear Senator Hashim,

I am writing to urge you to reject the confirmation of Christina Nolan and Michael Drescher for the Vermont Supreme Court. Both candidates have practiced law in the Federal Courts, and they lack experience with Vermont State judicial practice and law. Several highly qualified and exceedingly more bi-partisan candidates who spent much or all of their legal careers working in the State judicial system applied for these critical positions. These candidates include long serving and highly respected Superior Court Judges. Clearly Governor Scott's appointments represent a slap in the face to the State and its Judicial System.

Ms. Nolan is or has been for a long time a member of the Federalist Society. She is opposed to a woman's right to choose, which would be disastrous on the Vermont Supreme Court. She endorsed Donald Trump for President even in the primaries, clearly indicating her far right position and her support for his highly controversial policies and practices. Such support is particularly damaging within the judicial branch, which is the last protection against Mr. Trump's dictatorial, anti-immigrant and pro ICE policies. She carries a gun everywhere and even attempted to bring one into a courthouse, which is illegal and demonstrates a highly concerning lack of judgment.

Michael Drescher remained the US Attorney under Donald Trump. He was instrumental in the Trump Administration's attempt to incarcerate and deport Rumeysa Ozturk for doing nothing more than penning an op-ed in her college student newspaper. He did everything he could to keep Ms. Ozturk's case out of Vermont (article [here](#)) and then once a federal court ordered her back to Vermont, he did everything he could to keep her incarcerated (article [here](#)). The government's case against Ms. Ozturk was disturbingly weak, and a principled prosecutor would not have pursued it. See [article](#).

These appointments by the Governor represent a major affront to the values and beliefs held by most Vermonters.

Sincerely,
Laura Lomas