

From: [Jeffrey W. Robinson](#)
To: [Kelli Toth](#)
Subject: Samantha Cherot
Date: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:15:54 AM

Ms. Toth:

I am writing to support the confirmation of Samantha Cherot as Public Defender. I understand the Senate Judiciary Committee will take testimony on March 31, 2021 regarding the appointment, and I ask that you kindly forward on this reference to Senator Reinbold.

I am a partner with Ashburn & Mason in Anchorage. Ms. Cherot and I formally overlapped at the Public Defender Agency for approximately five years. She was, at the time, one of the most accomplished trial lawyers in the Agency. It did not surprise me at all that she continued up the chain to eventually serve as the Interim Public Defender. Ms. Cherot brings an incredible amount of poise, consensus-building, and seriousness to her administrative functions. She is a natural leader, a good listener, and well-respected by all. As a native-born Alaskan with experience in the private sector, Ms. Cherot could easily find a prestigious job in the public sector. However, she is committed to public service, and possesses the institutional knowledge to guide the Agency efficiently into the future. I recommend her confirmation without hesitation.

Please feel free to reach out if you have additional questions.

JWR

Jeffrey W. Robinson
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