

## Exceptionally Qualified D.C. Circuit Nominees

In June 2013, President Obama nominated three exceptionally well-qualified people to fill the three vacancies on the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals: Patricia Millett, Cornelia “Nina” Pillard, and Robert Wilkins. These three nominees – two women and an African American man – have had exceptional careers and would bring important racial, gender and career diversity to the federal bench.

All three have received the highest possible rating of their qualifications from the nonpartisan American Bar Association. No one can doubt their qualifications.

**Patricia A. Millett** is one of the nation’s leading appellate lawyers, with 25 years of experience litigating in appellate courts across the country.

- Has argued 32 cases before the Supreme Court – until recently, more than any other woman in legal practice
- Spent a decade as an assistant to the United States Solicitor General
- Currently is a partner, head of the Supreme Court Practice, and co-leader of the National Appellate Practice at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld in Washington, D.C.
- Named by the National Law Journal as one of the 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America

**Cornelia “Nina” T.L. Pillard** is a fair-minded, nationally respected law professor and experienced appellate lawyer with an extraordinary record of service.

- Has briefed 25 Supreme Court cases and personally argued eight
- Has won historic Supreme Court victories, including opening one of the last male-only public colleges to women, and protecting the Family and Medical Leave Act.
- Served in the Department of Justice in the prestigious Office of Legal Counsel and as an Assistant to the Solicitor General
- Currently a top professor at Georgetown University Law Center and co-director of its Supreme Court Institute, which assists lawyers from around the country in preparing for Supreme Court arguments without regard to which side they represent

**Robert L. Wilkins** is a conscientious and fair-minded jurist who is currently a judge on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

- Named by the Legal Times as one of the 90 Greatest Washington Lawyers of the Last 30 Years
- Worked for over a decade as a public defender, representing those who could not afford an attorney, then became a partner at a major law firm working on complex corporate defense/white collar, technology, and commercial litigation
- Nominated to the district court by President Obama in 2010 and confirmed by the Senate unanimously
- Helped plan and create the National Museum of African American History and Culture
- Personally challenged racial profiling when he was stopped while driving, resulting in landmark settlements that have influenced the entire nation