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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**White House Announces Nominees to U.S.  
District Court for Western District of Washington**

**SAN FRANCISCO** –President Trump has made nominations for two vacancies on the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. Announced by the White House on July 13, 2018, the nominees are:

- Assistant U.S. Attorney Tessa M. Gorman, who will fill a judicial vacancy created when District Judge Robert S. Lasnik assumed senior status on January 27, 2016; and
- Seattle attorney Kathleen M. O’Sullivan, who will fill a judicial vacancy created when District Judge Marsha J. Pechman assumed senior status on February 6, 2016.

Ms. Gorman, 47, joined the Office of the U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Washington as an assistant U.S. attorney in 2001 and became chief of the Criminal Division in 2013. Prior to joining the office, Ms. Gorman served as an honors trial attorney from 1998 to 2001 in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, where she was assigned to the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Section. While an honors attorney, she also did details at the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Virginia and at the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of Columbia.

Born in Ukiah, California, Ms. Gorman received her B.A. from Yale University and her J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, where was a member of the California Law Review. Following law school, Ms. Gorman clerked for Judge Douglas P. Woodlock of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

Ms. O’Sullivan, 48, has been a partner since 2004 in the Seattle law firm of Perkins Coie, where she leads the litigation practice as firmwide chair. She joined the law firm as an associate in 1997. She served as a Ninth Circuit appellate lawyer representative from 2010 to 2013.

Born in New York City, Ms. O’Sullivan received her B.A., cum laude, from Yale University in 1991 and her J.D., cum laude, in 1996 from Georgetown University Law Center, where she was the senior notes editor for the Georgetown Law Journal. Following law school, she clerked for Judge Harold H. Greene of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, 1996-1997, and for Judge M. Margaret McKeown of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, 1998-1999. Ms. O’Sullivan is a board member of the Ninth Judicial Historical Society.

The U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington had 3,768 new case filings in fiscal year 2017. The court is authorized seven judgeships and has three current vacancies.

Appointed under Article III of the Constitution, federal district court judges are nominated by the president, confirmed by the Senate and serve lifetime appointments upon good behavior.

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