

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to decry the defamatory ad attacking Betsy Rader that is being run on television by Jerry Cirino and the Republican State Senate Caucus. We have personally known and worked with Betsy Rader for over twenty years. She is a respected member of the legal profession and is known as an advocate for women's rights. Ms. Rader is held in great esteem by members of the bar representing both plaintiffs and defendants in employment matters. She is an attorney who exhibits the highest degree of integrity and professional excellence, and we know from personal experience working with her that she stands up for what is right.

Ms. Rader's excellent reputation in the legal community is evidenced by her selection as a Life Member of the 8<sup>th</sup> District Judicial Conference, her election to the Board of the Ohio Employment Lawyers Association, her selection to join the Cleveland Employment Inn of Court, her past election as President of the Northeast Ohio Association of Corporate Counsel, and her recognition as a YWCA Woman of Professional Excellence. Her dedication to women and to the community is exemplary, and includes eight years of service on the Board of Cleveland Legal Aid as well as extensive pro bono representation of low income individuals including victims of sexual harassment and children who are victims of abuse. Ms. Rader has consistently been invited to speak on panels for organizations such as the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association because of her expertise and advocacy on issues such as sexual harassment in the workplace.

We know that Ms. Rader is running for office because of her genuine commitment to public service and desire to give people a voice who otherwise are not heard. We deplore that her bravery in running for office has led to a vicious and meritless attack on her reputation.

The opinions expressed in this letter are entirely ours, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or views of the CMBA or its members. The CMBA does not endorse any candidates for public office.

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