

They take it down for a day, and the children are suffering from this.

Grace McComas: Now, Grace endured the torture of a man who had drugged and assaulted her. He used social media to make Grace feel isolated and afraid and worthless. From the summer of 2011, when she was subpoenaed to testify against him, until she died by suicide on Easter Sunday 2012, Grace's parents fought to save her, but there was nothing they could do to force those digital platforms to ban this evil monster who was her tormenter.

On June 23, 2020, 16-year-old Carson Bride quietly ended his life while his family slept. The night before, the whole family had celebrated Carson's first summer job. But what they didn't know is that he had been receiving hundreds of harassing, threatening, and sexually explicit messages from his classmates who were using anonymous apps to hide their identities. Carson asked his tormentors to identify themselves so that they could talk things out in person, but nobody ever did. Social media lets you be anonymous. The very last search on Carson's phone was for hacks to find out who was tormenting him.

David Molak: He was an Eagle Scout, a fantasy football aficionado, a hunter, a fisher, and, by all accounts, a truly great friend. But in the last few months of his life, he became overwhelmed with hopelessness over the barrage of threats, harassment, and abuse he experienced through text messages and on social media. On January 4, 2016, he took his own life. He was 16 years old.

There are hundreds more stories just like these, just like them. Senator BLUMENTHAL and I have talked with these parents and these kids.

Children are using social media platforms to torment other children to the point of death. But we also know that adults are leveraging the power these platforms have over underage users so that they can—do what?—make a profit. Overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids increased over 56 percent from 2019 to 2020, with prescription pill abuse highest among people ages 18 to 25. They are starting younger, and drug dealers are finding them—where?—on social media platforms.

When she was 15, Becca Schmill was assaulted by a boy she and her friends met on the social media party chat. The cyber bullying and harassment that followed destroyed Becca's sense of self, and, eventually, she started using drugs to cope. In a sane world, she never would have been able to get her hands on the pills that eventually killed her, but social media made it easy. On September 16, 2020, Becca died from fentanyl poisoning.

Olivia Green was 15 years old, a freshman in high school. She dreamed of becoming a marine biologist, but then she met an adult stranger on a social media platform. When she saw him in person, this man gave her a pill that he said was Percocet. It was actually

fentanyl. So when she took it, she laid down and died from an overdose.

Alexander Neville's mom describes him as someone who competed with himself to be successful with everything he did. He pushed himself to succeed in Boy Scouts, at fencing, skateboarding, and as a person and a dear, dear friend. At 14, Alexander bought pills online that he thought were pain relievers, but it actually was fentanyl, and that is how Alexander became another victim of fentanyl poisoning.

Big Tech executives would like us to write these deaths off as tragedies and just move on, which is exactly the attitude you would expect from people who have treated our congressional hearings like they are on some kind of PR tour.

I think that as they point to their glossy white papers laying out steps that parents and teens can take to protect themselves and they think they provide a little bit more information about the steps and they talk about what the company is going to do to try to get this under control, they think we are going to move on. But we are not. We are talking about our children and our grandchildren, and, no, we are not moving on.

The enduring refrain of my discussions with the parents and the teens who have seen this firsthand is that trying to address the problem with the platform is like talking to a brick wall. When they received a response at all, there was no concern for the danger.

Over the past 2 years, this body has passed several pieces of legislation to address "emergencies." But what about this emergency? What about the emergency that is taking the lives of our children? What about this emergency that is causing death by fentanyl?

Now, when we talk about Big Tech and we talk about social media, there is one point they have made clear time and time again, and it is that they are fully incapable and unwilling to regulate themselves because they are more interested in attracting eyeballs and keeping those eyeballs on their site longer and longer and mining that data because it is dollars in the bank to them. To me, it is absolutely sickening.

And their bad behavior—getting any change in that behavior—it is too late for Grace and Carson and the other young people I talked about today, but it is not too late to save the children and the teens who are suffering right now because these tech platforms refuse to protect them.

In July, the Commerce Committee passed the Kids Online Safety Act. Senator BLUMENTHAL and I have worked diligently on this, and it came out of committee on a 28-to-0 vote. That is pretty overwhelming bipartisan support for a piece of legislation. And right now, this bill is waiting for a vote on the Senate floor.

I would implore Leader SCHUMER and I would implore my colleagues from

each side of the aisle: Listen to these stories; talk to these parents and these young people who are activists for changing what is happening on social media. Listen to them. Listen to these stories. Recognize the danger that exists on social media, and let's get this bill passed and to the President's desk. I yield floor.

NOMINATION OF TAMIKA R. MONTGOMERY-REEVES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Tamika Montgomery-Reeves to a Delaware seat on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

Justice Montgomery-Reeves has significant experience as both a litigator and a judge.

She received degrees from the University of Mississippi and the University of Georgia School of Law before clerking on the Delaware Court of Chancery. Following this role, she worked as a litigator with two national law firms, where she focused on complex commercial matters.

In 2015, Justice Montgomery-Reeves was appointed to serve on Delaware's Chancery Court. There, she presided over cases involving corporate issues, trusts, estates, real property, and other contractual matters. In 2019, she was appointed to serve as a justice on the Delaware Supreme Court. She is both the youngest person ever to serve on that court and the first African-American supreme court justice in Delaware history.

During her time on the bench, Justice Montgomery-Reeves has demonstrated a fair judicial temperament and a deep commitment to evenhanded decisionmaking. In recognition of her exceptional legal acumen, the committee has received many letters of support from her colleagues in both private practice and on the bench.

Justice Montgomery-Reeves has been rated unanimously "well qualified" by the American Bar Association, and she has strong support from her home State Senators, Mr. CARPER and Mr. COONS.

I strongly support her nomination and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Today, it is my honor to rise in support of the Honorable Justice Tamika Montgomery-Reeves to be confirmed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Just a few months ago, in September of this year, I had the privilege to introduce Justice Montgomery-Reeves at her Senate Judiciary Committee confirmation hearing, where she was

joined in the audience by her large family and I think most of the State of Delaware.

As my colleague from Illinois, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, will attest, we needed a few extra chairs at that hearing in order to accommodate Tamika's family and her friends. Many Delawareans, including the entire Delaware Court of Chancery and the current chief justice of the Delaware Supreme Court, either made the trek down I-95 or on the Amtrak train that morning to cheer on Justice Montgomery-Reeves. Today, we bring her nomination one step closer to final confirmation.

My colleague from Delaware, Senator COONS, and I have often said that those of us in the Senate could learn a thing or two from the First State. When it comes to nominating judges, Delaware's Governor is tasked with filling vacancies on some of the Nation's most highly regarded State courts, including the Court of Chancery and the Delaware Supreme Court.

The Governor routinely seeks advice from a bipartisan judicial nominating commission but is also required to nominate judges from both political parties. We literally have an overall political balance across our judiciary. This rule, enshrined in our State's constitution, brings balance to our court system. I believe it has served our State and our Nation well for over a century. I think it is a pretty good model for the rest of the country, actually.

Twenty-five years ago, when I was privileged to serve as Governor of Delaware, I had the opportunity to nominate a new chancellor—or what some would call a chief justice—to the Delaware Court of Chancery. I could have nominated a Democrat. I ended up nominating Bill Chandler.

Bill Chandler was born in Sussex County in southern Delaware and previously worked for two Republican Governors—Pete du Pont and Mike Castle. I will tell you, I took some heat politically for that nomination, but I believed that he was the best qualified person for the job, and all these years later, I still believe that. It didn't matter what political party he was from; I knew he would be one heck of a chancellor, and, boy, was he.

As chancellor, Bill Chandler earned the respect of our Nation's business and legal communities as a fairminded judge with the utmost integrity, and along the way, he hired and mentored countless law students and law clerks. As it turns out, Bill Chandler hired a young law student, a native of Mississippi, who was a law student at the University of Georgia. He nominated her to be one of his clerks in 2006. Her name was and still is Tamika Montgomery-Reeves.

I am a proud Delawarean, but, as I think my colleague the Presiding Officer knows, I am a native son, actually, of West Virginia. Justice Montgomery-Reeves is also a proud Delawarean, but,

like me, she made her way to Delaware from another place—in her case, Mississippi—and fell in love with our State, just as I did many years ago.

After clerking for Chancellor Chandler, Tamika graduated and began a career in private practice. She became an expert in corporate law and complex business litigation. After a brief stint in private practice in New York, she was hired by another prominent law firm, Wilson Sonsini, which just happened to be looking to open up an office in—guess where—Delaware, the First State. She quickly made partner and could have continued on a path toward a lucrative legal career, but Tamika felt called to serve.

In 2015, a vacancy occurred on our Court of Chancery, and then-Governor Jack Markell nominated her to the bench to serve on that court. And she was confirmed unanimously by the Delaware State Senate.

Four years later, in 2019, Governor John Carney nominated her to serve on the Delaware State Supreme Court; and, once again, she was confirmed unanimously by the Delaware State Senate, by every single Democrat and, just as importantly, by every single Republican.

And by the way, Mr. President and colleagues here in our Chamber today, the Delaware State Senate leadership, both Democrats and Republicans, have sent a letter in support of Justice Montgomery-Reeves' confirmation to the Third Circuit.

It is part of the reason that she has earned bipartisan support in the Judiciary Committee, and that nine of our friends on the other side of the aisle voted to invoke cloture on her nomination just last week.

On behalf of Senator COONS and myself—I want to take my hat off to him for helping to guide this nomination through the Judiciary Committee on to the floor and through last week's cloture vote—we want to thank all of our colleagues—all of our colleagues—Democrats and Republicans, who voted last week on moving forward Tamika's nomination.

Having said that, Justice Montgomery-Reeves is also a trailblazer, becoming the first African American to serve on both the Delaware Court of Chancery and on the Delaware Supreme Court.

Justice Montgomery-Reeves has been nominated to these positions because her credentials and her intellect are top-notch, and I might add, just as importantly, so is her heart.

In addition to her incredible academic and legal career, Tamika and her husband, Jeffrey, are raising two wonderful boys—sons that any of us would be proud to call their own—and raising them back home in Delaware.

So I would just say to them—Jeffrey, Jackson, and Tyson—if you are watching at home, thank you for allowing your wife and your mom to continue her service to our country in this new role. I know you are proud of her, and we are proud of her as well.

Let me close by saying that I am certain that if Tamika Montgomery-Reeves is confirmed, that the Delaware Supreme Court's loss will be our Nation's gain. She will bring a spirit of collegiality and consensus to the Third Circuit, just as she has in the courts that she served on in Delaware.

She is not an ideologue; she is an ideal judge.

Justice Montgomery-Reeves is of the highest caliber judges in our State and our Nation and has my strongest possible endorsement.

I urge all of our colleagues to join Senator COONS and me—Democrats and Republicans—in support of her nomination. She will not disappoint.

I would like to yield the floor to my colleague, who has done a great job in helping to steer this nomination and, actually, to help make the nomination possible in the first place. It is my pleasure, Senator COONS.

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, I would like to thank my colleague and senior Senator.

As a member of the Delaware bar myself for 30 years and a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I could not be prouder of the moment we are about to participate in here in the U.S. Senate confirming the next member of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

It was 30 years ago that I was a clerk on that same court for Judge Jane Roth of Wilmington, DE, a distinguished jurist, a remarkable mind, and a great leader in the Delaware bench and bar.

And I am thrilled that, as we left Thursday evening, we had, by a bipartisan vote of 57-to-39, the cloture vote that set up the confirmation vote that is about to happen here; and of those votes, nine were from our Republican colleagues.

Frankly, she should be confirmed here unanimously, as she was by the Delaware State Senate, but we are in a more divided, more partisan time, and I am thrilled that we had as strong and bipartisan a vote in the committee and here in the Senate as we have.

It reflects the fact that Justice Tamika Montgomery-Reeves is a highly qualified, well-rounded, skilled nominee to the Third Circuit.

The Third Circuit is one of those Federal circuit courts that provides a critical role. The most important cases in our country go to Federal courts, although Delaware jurists would disagree, and of the courts that hear those cases—overwhelmingly district courts—only a few of those cases are appealed and make it to a circuit court, and a tiny number of cases make it to the U.S. Supreme Court.

So for the States represented on the Third Circuit—Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and the U.S. Virgin Islands—this is likely the last stop for almost every major appeal.

And in just a few moments, someone known for her skill, her intellect, her patience, her compassion will be confirmed by this Senate and sent on her

way to serve on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

She is very highly regarded in Delaware as a member of our supreme court. She is someone highly regarded by our bench and bar.

We have, in front of our committee, letters of endorsement from Governor John Carney as well as former Governor Jack Markell.

And as you heard from my colleague, the Delaware State Senate unanimously endorsed her.

She served on the Delaware Court of Chancery, the premier business court in our country, from 2015 to 2019.

And she is a trailblazer: the first Black woman to serve on the Delaware Court of Chancery and on the Delaware Supreme Court and soon on the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

Her confirmation today will add diversity to a court that represents three States and the Virgin Islands, which are demonstrably diverse. And in our country, this helps to further advance representation and justice.

I want to thank my chief counsel, Cassie Fields, for playing a central role in shepherding her nomination through the committee and through this floor.

And I want to close by saying that I want to express my deepest personal thanks to this native of Jackson, MS, this graduate of the University of Mississippi and University of Georgia School of Law, who, through the good offices of Chancellor Bill Chandler, found her way to practice in Delaware, to service on the Delaware Court of Chancery; through the help and leadership of our State Senate and our Governor to service on our State supreme court; and in just a few moments, to the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

To Justice Tamika Montgomery-Reeves, to your husband Jeffrey, your sons Jackson and Tyson: Congratulations. Know that our President and our Senate is proud of you, has confidence in you, and looks forward to your years of service on this most important Federal Circuit Court.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that we start the 5:30 vote right now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON MONTGOMERY-REEVES NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Montgomery-Reeves nomination?

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) would have voted "Nay."

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 35, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 387 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Graham	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Portman
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reed
Blunt	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Rounds
Brown	Kelly	Sanders
Burr	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Carper	Leahy	Sinema
Casey	Lujan	Smith
Collins	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cornyn	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	

NAYS—35

Blackburn	Hoeven	Sasse
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Johnson	Shelby
Cotton	Kennedy	Sullivan
Crapo	Lankford	Thune
Daines	Lee	Tillis
Ernst	Lummis	Toomey
Fischer	Marshall	Tuberville
Grassley	McConnell	Wicker
Hagerty	Paul	Young
Hawley	Romney	

NOT VOTING—12

Barrasso	Cruz	Risch
Braun	Hickenlooper	Rubio
Cardin	Merkley	Shaheen
Cramer	Moran	Wyden

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT LEBARON M. KING

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize CMSgt Lebaron M. King for his dedicated service to the U.S. Air Force and the Senate as a legislative defense fellow. Lebaron has served as a vital part of my team since January 2022. He has been a trusted adviser on issues relating to the Departments of Defense, Veterans Affairs, and Homeland Security.

Lebaron enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in May 2001. His continued service is a reminder of the dedication and sacrifice of every servicemember to protect our Nation and defend our freedoms.

His effort and passion distinguished him as a valuable member of my legislative team. His determination helped lead to passage of a resolution commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Air Force as an independent military branch. As the son of a retired USAF master sergeant, I am proud to have someone like Lebaron on my staff who understands the significance of maintaining America's air superiority.

He also spearheaded an initiative to better support military spouses through the introduction of the Military Spouse Hiring Act. This important legislation would address underemployment for military spouses by amending the Tax Code to incentivize businesses to hire military spouses.

When he was promoted to the rank of chief master sergeant in September of 2022, Lebaron's character and consistent display of the knowledge, leadership, and devotion were recognized and rewarded. I am confident he will continue to serve our country honorably.

I am especially grateful for his support of the people of Arkansas. Both in the Nation's Capital and while visiting the Natural State, he spoke with and listened to the concerns of Arkansas' veterans and their families, then worked tirelessly to ensure their concerns were heard and issues were resolved.

We have been very fortunate to have Lebaron join our office this past year. I also want to thank his mother, Mrs. Maxine King-Green, and his beloved family, Mrs. Rosemary, Gloria, Cynthia, and Davetta for their support of Lebaron's time in uniform. Having grown up in a military family, I understand service in the Armed Forces is a family affair and is impossible without their sacrifice and unconditional support.

Lebaron, thank you for your continued service to the U.S. Air Force and for all your heartfelt, committed work as a member of my staff. It was our privilege to have you as a part of our team, and our office will always welcome you. I know that you will remain an asset to our military and veterans