



**United States Court of Appeals
Fifth Judicial Circuit**

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Chambers of
CARL E. STEWART
Circuit Judge

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November 4, 2021

Dr. Andia Augustin-Billy
Assistant Professor of French
and Francophone Studies
Centenary College of Louisiana
2911 Centenary Boulevard
Shreveport, Louisiana 71104


Dear Dr. Augustin-Billy:

Congratulations on receiving tenure at Centenary College. That academic achievement is worthy of praise alone. However, given the historic nature of your achievement at Centenary, you are receiving extra widespread local, national, and even international recognition and applause. Having broken my share of color barriers, I can identify with much of what you are experiencing.

I am grateful to Professor Dana Kress for introducing you and your husband to me when you moved to our area and joined the Centenary faculty. I was just ending my twenty-two-year tenure as a Centenary College trustee board member, so your arrival was wonderful news for all. Later, I enjoyed your visit to my federal courthouse chambers, and the opportunity to get to know you and your husband even better. I shared your good news with my daughter in law, Dr. Lauren E. Stewart, who you met, and who did her doctoral work in your native Haiti.

It cannot be overstated the significance of your presence and participation in the academic life of Centenary's students as well as the enrichment that the faculty, administrative staff, and many others gain from you. I wish you the very best in your career and I look forward to an opportunity to greet you again in person. In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,


Carl E. Stewart
Circuit Judge

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