June 9, 2022

The Honorable Dick Durbin Chair, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 711 Hart Senate Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 135 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We are a bipartisan group of appellate lawyers who practice throughout the State of Ohio. Over the years, we have had the privilege of working with, opposing, or otherwise interacting with Rachel Bloomekatz in our appellate practices. We write in our personal capacities to express our support for Rachel's nomination to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Many of us first met Rachel when she joined the Ohio bar in 2013. Rachel brought a wealth of appellate experience to Ohio—having clerked for Associate Justice Stephen Breyer on the U.S. Supreme Court and having served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Massachusetts Attorney General Office's Government Bureau. Rachel immediately became deeply involved in the Ohio legal community and the appellate bar in particular. She joined the Issues and Appeals practice group at Jones Day's Columbus office, and later a premier appellate litigation boutique, before starting her own solo appellate practice.

Since joining the Ohio Bar, Rachel has argued in the Ohio Supreme Court, the Ohio Courts of Appeals, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit—as well as various other circuit courts across the country. She has a reputation across the state for top-shelf oral arguments and appellate briefs. Indeed, her oral arguments have even been used to teach appellate advocacy at Harvard Law School, and she regularly trains other lawyers on the subject. For instance, she teaches Federal Courts at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and provides continuing legal education (CLE) training on appellate advocacy for the Columbus Bar Association and the Practising Law Institute. Rachel is one of the leading appellate litigators in the state.

Based on our interactions with Rachel, she can be counted on as a judge to probe deeply into the record, ask incisive questions, challenge assumptions, and give frank assessments. She approaches legal questions with an open mind and a desire Ohio Appellate Lawyers Letter in Support of Rachel Bloomekatz June 9, 2022 Page 2 of 4

to get it right. Rachel has the legal experience, intellectual firepower, work ethic, integrity, and disposition to serve the public and the legal community well on the Sixth Circuit.

The undersigned disagree on a number of issues. Many of us will no doubt disagree with some of the opinions Rachel will author or join on the Sixth Circuit. But we are united in urging the Judiciary Committee and the United States Senate to confirm her to the Sixth Circuit. Rachel has the right temperament to serve as an Article III judge, and her intelligence, diligence, and respect for the rule of law will make her an excellent addition to the Sixth Circuit.

Sincerely,*

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