

Clark M. Neily III  
1000 Massachusetts Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20001

January 24, 2024

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
211 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

*Re: Nomination of Amir Ali to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia*

Dear Chairman Durbin, Ranking Member Graham, and Senate Judiciary  
Committee members:

I write to express my strong support of Amir Ali's nomination to the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. As a leading libertarian public interest lawyer at the Institute for Justice and now at the Cato Institute, I have worked with Amir on criminal justice reform issues for nearly six years. During that time, I have come to know Amir as a person of exceptional ability, intelligence, and integrity who I believe would make a wonderful district court judge.

Amir has been a close ally of Cato's on a variety of important constitutional issues, including ensuring fair trials and fully protecting the rights of everyone who comes into contact with the criminal justice system and its representatives. Among the things that sets Amir apart from so many other activists in this space, and that I believe uniquely qualifies him for judicial service, is his ability to reach across the aisle and work with people of different ideologies and outlooks so long as they share his commitment to promoting equal justice under law.

Besides his stellar personal characteristics and extraordinary advocacy, Amir would bring critical professional diversity by virtue of his experience representing individuals in litigation against the government. Notwithstanding the historic

efforts of the current Administration, former prosecutors and other courtroom advocates for government remain substantially overrepresented on the federal bench, and there is an urgent need for stellar public interest lawyers like Amir, who bring a different perspective to cases involving the assertion of government power over individuals in all kinds of cases. I support his application wholeheartedly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'C' followed by a horizontal line that tapers to the right.

Clark M. Neily III