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The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, Chair Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington NH 20510

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

Re: Nomination of Seth Robert Aframe to the First Circuit Court of Appeals

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

I write to enthusiastically support the nomination of Seth Aframe to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. I have been a criminal defense lawyer for over 40 years and have served as past President of the New Hampshire Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Board Chair of the New Hampshire Public Defender Program. I have represented many people in our federal court and have come to know Attorney Aframe extremely well. He possesses all of the attributes that an appellate judge should have.

Attorney Aframe certainly has the intellectual capacity to excel as an appellate judge. He has been the member of the United States Attorney's Office most often called upon to handle its appellate work as well as the office's most complicated cases. His writing is clear and persuasive, and his legal analysis is first rate.

What sets Attorney Aframe apart and makes him such a wonderful choice for this role is his judgment as well as his capacity for empathy and compassion. I have observed him deal with defendants, victims, witnesses, law enforcement and all stakeholders in the criminal justice system. He treats everyone with the respect that they deserve in our judicial system. He is a man of great integrity, and I have come to completely trust him. We have had difficult cases together, but he keenly understands that his role is to do justice, and he has the ability to be openminded, listen, and consider what is fair in a particular situation.

I have spoken with numerous fellow criminal defense lawyers about this nomination. The widespread sentiment is strong support for his confirmation, with the uniform comment that he will be missed as a force for justice and fairness in the United States Attorney's Office. It is not that he is viewed as a soft or lenient prosecutor, but we know him as a good and empathetic person who is committed to the cause of justice. I am confident that he will be a highly competent and deeply compassionate judge who will be an asset to the Court.

Sincerely yours,

Cathy J. Green

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