

January 30, 2024

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

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Sunil Harjani to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

We respectfully write this letter to express our unequivocal and enthusiastic support for the nomination of the Honorable Sunil Harjani to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. We are all former Assistant United States Attorneys who have had the distinct privilege of working with Judge Harjani at the U.S. Attorney's Office, and we are able to speak to his character and qualifications based on our firsthand knowledge and experience of working with him. We unanimously agree that Judge Harjani is eminently well suited to become a United States District Court Judge, and know that, if given the opportunity, he will be an exceptional judge who will capably serve the people of the Northern District of Illinois.

Judge Harjani's resume speaks for itself. He has ample experience in both civil and criminal law, and public service has been a recurring theme throughout his career. From his time at Northwestern Law School, to becoming a judicial law clerk, to handling complex litigation matters at Jenner & Block, to his extensive federal government service, Judge Harjani has accumulated impeccable credentials and experience. Most recently as a Federal Magistrate Judge, Judge Harjani has continued to demonstrate why his intellect, judgment, and judicial demeanor make him eminently qualified to serve as a District Court Judge.

We are in a unique position as his former colleagues, though, to speak to his character. Being cognizant of the awesome power that a District Court Judge wields to make important decisions that impact people's lives and liberty on a daily basis, we think it is important to note that Judge Harjani is always measured, thoughtful, and deliberate. He has earned a well-deserved reputation for fairness, from both colleagues and those in the defense bar. Even in the highest-pressure situations, Judge Harjani remains calm and collected, a quality which served him well as an Assistant United States Attorney, now serves him well as a Magistrate Judge, and would continue to serve him well as a District Court Judge. He generously gave his time to mentor many younger attorneys in the office, and treated everyone around him the same when he was a supervisor as he did when he was a line attorney.

Although his credentials speak for themselves, we are here to tell you that Judge Harjani is the type of person who should be serving as a District Court Judge.

In short, Judge Harjani is tremendously qualified, has the highest integrity, possesses a sharp legal mind, has devoted most of his career to serving the public, and has demonstrated exceptional judgment and demeanor. We strongly support his nomination and respectfully ask you to swiftly confirm his nomination.

We are available to provide any additional information you may need, and sincerely thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Sergio Acosta
Saurish Appleby-Bhattacharjee
Rachel Cannon
Anthony Garcia
Ryan Hedges
Maggie Hickey
Cliff Histed
Christopher Hotaling
Stephen Chahn Lee
Kathryn Malizia
Renato Mariotti

John Mitchell
Michelle Nasser
Pravin Rao
Terra Reynolds
Peter S. Salib
Randall Samborn
Reid Schar
Dylan Smith
Ankur Srivastava
Terra Reynolds
Sheri Wong