

January 22, 2024

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, DC 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 Magistrate Judge Sunil R. Harjani to District Judge for the  
United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

The undersigned former law clerks to Magistrate Judge Sunil R. Harjani enthusiastically write in support of his nomination to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Judge Harjani's exemplary career and dedication to the community highlight his commitment to public service, the rule of law, and mentorship.

We offer our perspective of having worked with Judge Harjani in his capacity as a United States Magistrate Judge. We benefitted from his mentorship and specialized one-on-one training. Judge Harjani is devoted to the faithful and impartial application of law and precedent. Judge Harjani leads an efficient courtroom and emphasizes attention to detail, fairness, accuracy, and diligence to legally sound outcomes. His mastery of the rules of procedure and ability to manage a diverse caseload make him an excellent judge.

We personally saw how litigants and colleagues benefitted from Judge Harjani's distinguished professional experience. Judge Harjani has been a United States Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois since 2019. Before assuming the bench, from September 2008 through January 2019, he was an Assistant United States Attorney and Deputy Chief of the Securities and Commodities Fraud Section for the United States Attorney's Office in Chicago, where he investigated and prosecuted complex white-collar crimes. During his time as a federal prosecutor, Judge Harjani tried numerous securities and commodities matters and other complex fraud cases to verdict in this district, as well as argued multiple appeals on behalf of the United States before the Seventh Circuit.

Judge Harjani is also committed to the betterment of the legal profession off the bench. He dedicates countless hours to educating future lawyers, serving his courthouse, and advancing the legal profession in Chicago. Judge Harjani has taught hundreds of law students as an adjunct professor at Northwestern Law School. Judge Harjani is also a trained and certified mediator who effectively mediates cases as a magistrate judge.

Our most valuable contribution to the Committee's consideration of Judge Harjani is assisting in its understanding of Judge Harjani as a person. He is a supportive husband and dedicated father of two. He treats his staff with respect and is devoted to his law clerk's professional growth. As a district court judge, Judge Harjani will continue to mentor and train future lawyers. Judge Harjani's level of dedication exemplifies the type of district court judge he will be on the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

We are immensely proud of Judge Harjani's public service and grateful for the lessons he has taught us. We are also excited for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois to gain another exceptionally well-qualified jurist. We support Judge Harjani's confirmation without hesitation.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew E. Gold (2019)  
mattgoldmattgold@gmail.com

Chelsey B. Metcalf (2019-2021)  
chelblairemet@gmail.com

Karen Villagomez (2021-2022)  
kvillago1@gmail.com

Britany Kabakov (2022-2023)  
bkabakov17@gmail.com