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September 21, 2024

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

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

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

As Senior Vice President and General Counsel for Honeywell International Inc., I have observed Sharad Desai throughout his career at Honeywell, including as one of my current direct reports, and I unequivocally support his nomination to serve as a judge for the United States District Court for the District of Arizona.

Before joining Honeywell in 2015, Sharad represented Honeywell in litigation matters while he was a partner at the distinguished Arizona law firm Osborn Maledon. Sharad's litigation experience, performance as outside counsel, and familiarity with Honeywell's needs and culture, made him an excellent fit for his first in-house counsel roles as Litigation Counsel in Honeywell's Aerospace business group and Chief Litigation Counsel in the Safety and Productivity Solutions group. Sharad managed a large, complex docket of commercial, personal injury, toxic tort and intellectual property matters pending in courts across the world. In these roles, Sharad gained the respect of his peers, outside counsel, and business leaders through his work selecting and overseeing outside counsel, managing discovery and subpoenas, and devising litigation strategies resulting in favorable outcomes for the company, including obtaining a full defense verdict in a \$40 million wrongful death jury trial.

In 2019, Sharad made a significant career transition by shifting from a litigation focus to general counseling, a role he had never held before. When I interviewed him for his position as General Counsel for the Aerospace Electronic Solutions unit—a multi-billion-dollar unit with significant government contracts—Sharad demonstrated self-awareness and humility, recognizing that he needed to immediately develop expertise in negotiating complex commercial contracts and advising on government contracts. Sharad accomplished this rapidly with hard work and a commitment to learning new legal subject matter. The way he


handled his transition demonstrates how Sharad would manage transitioning to the bench—engaging his intellect, strong work ethic, curiosity, and listening skills.

Since his first general counsel role, Sharad has been promoted to roles of increasing scope and responsibility, serving as the General Counsel for the Aerospace Integrated Supply Chain and later as the General Counsel for the whole company's global Integrated Supply Chain and Information Technology departments, in addition to overseeing operations for my global legal department. In these roles, he has had to tackle a broad array of matters, from the risks of artificial intelligence to emerging supply chain regulations, each of which he approaches with the mindset of a litigator: identifying key risks, analyzing those risks, and then using his judgment to recommend the best course of action.

Beyond being a valued and indispensable member of Honeywell's senior leadership, Sharad is a team player and has a reputation as a fair and attentive manager. Sharad has mentored both lawyers and non-lawyers, recognizing the importance of developing the next generation of talent. He is even-keeled in stressful and contentious situations, always respectful of others, and dedicated to his family and community.

I believe Sharad will be a tremendous addition to the Arizona District Court. Although his departure will be a big loss for Honeywell, it will be a benefit to the community in Arizona (a state Honeywell cares deeply about given our significant employment presence there) and I know that he will uphold the principles of justice and fairness essential to being a judge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne T. Madden".

Anne T. Madden
Senior Vice President & General Counsel
Honeywell International Inc.