



## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

Edward A. Kelly  
General President

Frank V. Lima  
General Secretary-Treasurer

June 4, 2024

The Honorable Dick Durbin  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
711 Hart Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
211 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham,

The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) strongly supports the nomination of Magistrate Judge Embry J. Kidd to a vacancy on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

As the driving force behind every advancement in fire and emergency services in the 21st century, the IAFF represents more than 350,000 professional fire fighters and EMS professionals. Its members protect more than 85 percent of the population throughout the U.S. and Canada. In evaluating whether to support a judicial candidate, the IAFF looks for individuals with integrity, intellect, and an understanding of the unique challenges that fire fighters and first responders face in fulfilling their hazardous and stressful jobs to keep their communities and the citizens who live in those communities safe and protected. Judge Kidd embodies these characteristics.

Judge Kidd's five years on the bench as a Magistrate Judge of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida and his five years of service as an Assistant United States Attorney prosecuting federal crimes demonstrate Judge Kidd's commitments to the rule of law and community safety, as well as his keen judicial temperament.

Additionally, Judge Kidd's upbringing in a working class family in rural Alabama makes him uniquely qualified to understand the concerns of working class fire fighters and EMS workers throughout Alabama, Florida, and Georgia, and therefore, the IAFF wholeheartedly supports the appointment of Embry Kidd to a vacancy on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Edward A. Kelly  
General President

cc: Phil Brest, Special Assistant to the President & Senior Counsel Office of the White House Counsel - [Phillip.A.Brest@who.eop.gov](mailto:Phillip.A.Brest@who.eop.gov)  
Walter Dix, IAFF 12<sup>th</sup> District Vice President  
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