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August 28, 2023

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

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

Re: Nomination of the Honorable Joshua P. Kolar to the United States Court of Appeals
for the Seventh Circuit

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

I write to highly recommend Judge Kolar for the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. I have known Judge Kolar since his commencement of service on the federal bench, working very closely with him in his role as Chair of the Local Rules Advisory Committee for the Northern District of Indiana in my role as a committee member. I have also appeared before him in many civil cases in the Northern District of Indiana. On every occasion I have been extremely impressed by Judge Kolar.

I am a 35-year federal practitioner, having had the privilege of starting my career in 1988 as a law clerk to United States District Judge Larry J. McKinney, Southern District of Indiana. Since 1990, I have practiced out of Indianapolis with a national law firm, regularly handling complex civil matters in federal District Courts and Circuit Courts of Appeal across the country, including frequently in the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Although I write you in my individual capacity, indirectly I represent fellow federal practitioners here in Indiana from service as president of the Indianapolis Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, president of the Indianapolis Bar Association, member of the Seventh Circuit's Pattern Jury Instructions Committee, and for 30 years now Chair of the Local Rules Advisory Committee of the Southern District of Indiana.

I have worked with and appeared before numerous trial and appellate judges over the years. Judge Kolar ranks at the top of my list in terms of dedication to the rule of law, intellect, judicial temperament, and humility. He is deeply committed to justice, fairness, civility, and professionalism. He is extraordinarily knowledgeable of federal criminal and civil practice, including substantive law in both areas. He is an excellent jurist who applies the Constitution and all law faithfully. He is extremely well regarded among the federal bar.

Based on my decades of practice in federal district courts and Circuit Courts of Appeal across the country, I fully support Judge Kolar's nomination to serve on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals. I am pleased for his nomination to this important judicial position, and grateful that he has the support of our United States Senators from Indiana.

Thank you for your service to the United States Courts and our system of justice through your vital Committee work. I appreciate this opportunity to comment on Judge Kolar, and would be happy to answer any questions or provide more information.

Yours in justice,
John R. Maley