

January 29, 2024

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

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

Re: Amir Ali, nominee for United States District Court for the District of Columbia

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee members,

It is my honor and great privilege to provide information relating to the nomination of Mr. Amir Ali of the District of Columbia to serve as a judge on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia,

I have been a licensed peace officer in Texas since the early 1970's and have worked for various law enforcement agencies in virtually all areas of law enforcement. In 2005, the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement certified me as a Master Peace Officer. I am presently a Lieutenant in the Dallas County Hospital Police Department where I have directed the Emergency Legal Assistance Program at Parkland Memorial Hospital since its inception in 1980. I have been licensed as a Paramedic in Texas since 1978. I have been appointed as a special prosecutor in two criminal cases and as a Special Assistant Attorney General for the State of Texas in several matters. In addition to my career in law enforcement, I am also actively involved in the practice of law in Texas, where I work primarily in federal courts throughout the state.

I have known Mr. Ali for approximately five years and have had the opportunity to work closely with him in the trenches of civil litigation concerning the intersection of law enforcement, public safety, and constitutional rights. I was referred to Mr. Ali by a renowned scholar in policing law given the complexity of a case involving catastrophic injury to a young man. I requested Mr. Ali's assistance in the case and he graciously agreed to participate, on a pro bono basis. Over the next few years, I consulted with Mr. Ali several times a week and sometimes daily. Mr. Ali and I worked together on the complex briefs in this case, and we both argued parts of this case in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. After we prevailed, the U.S. Supreme Court denied review in the case. I saw first-hand how Mr. Ali processed, and took seriously, the important interests of officer safety, public safety, and public confidence.

From that experience, I gained the utmost confidence not only in Mr. Ali's level of intellect, but his care and respect for all people and for differing viewpoints. You do not have to take my word for it—you can take the Fifth Circuit's. Mr. Ali's partnership in our case included participating in oral argument in front of 18 federal judges on that court, listening to each of their questions and responding with respect and grace. An area such as police immunity can sometimes be approached or perceived as political or ideological. Not by Mr. Ali. He took a balanced,

January 29, 2024

Page 2 of 2

pragmatic approach that resulted in a ruling supported by 11 judges of different persuasions, including judges appointed by every Republican administration dating back to President Reagan.

Based on my long career in law enforcement and in federal litigation, I believe Mr. Ali is a person of the highest integrity and character, who has a solid judicial temperament. I support Mr. Ali's nomination to the D.C. District Court with the highest enthusiasm.

Sincerely,

R. Jack Ayres, Jr.