

C. G. Norwood, Jr.

**5421 St. Charles Avenue – 5A
New Orleans, Louisiana 70115**

Monday, April 10, 2023

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

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

Re: Judicial Nomination
Darrel Papillion

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham,

My name is Colvin G. Norwood, Jr, but I'm better known as "Woody." I'm a trial lawyer with over 50 years' experience. I write this letter in support of Darrel Papillion's nomination to the bench of the Eastern District of Louisiana. In my opinion he will be an outstanding judge. Let me explain.

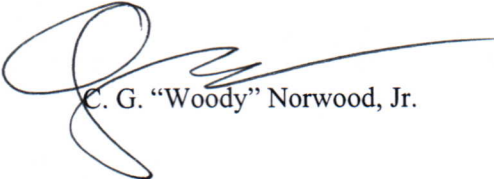
Twenty-eight years ago – after completing a clerkship with Justice Kitty Kimball of the Louisiana Supreme Court – Darrel joined the McGlinchey firm in its New Orleans office. He began his private practice as a litigation associate and was assigned to assist me in an active trial practice, primarily representing defendants in product liability cases in Louisiana and elsewhere in the Southeast. For almost five years I worked alongside him and watched as he developed into an outstanding advocate. In addition to his firm grasp of legal principles he had an uncanny poise and ability to relate to Judges, jurors, adversaries, clients, co-workers – just about everyone. He did not shirk the hard work of case preparation. In fact, he seemed to like it. In every circumstance, both legal and social, he acted with unquestioned honesty, integrity, and good faith. Having enjoyed many conversations with Darrel over the years, I believe his character reflects the best qualities of the people he grew up with in the very small community of Swords, not far from Opelousas, Louisiana.

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A sad day it was in February 1999 when Darrel came into my office to say that he felt the need to move to Baton Rouge, and to try his hand on the other side of the "v." He joined a smaller firm, his practice flourished, and he became – literally – a lawyer's lawyer, and even a judge's lawyer.

I'm sure you are acquainted with Darrel's resume. It speaks for itself. And I suspect you will receive many endorsements from every quarter of the bar in the Eastern District and beyond. I offer this personal note to explain my enthusiasm for his nomination and ultimate confirmation.

Respectfully,



C. G. "Woody" Norwood, Jr.

CGN/bm