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The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Incoming Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

**Re: Nomination of Robert A. Kirsch
to the District Court for the District of New Jersey**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Members Grassley and Graham:

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I respectfully submit this letter in support of the nomination of Robert A. Kirsch to the District Court for the District of New Jersey. As a former Assistant Federal Public Defender, and now, as a defense attorney in private practice, a member of the Criminal Justice Act Panel, and a Trustee of the Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers of New Jersey, I can unequivocally endorse Judge Kirsch as having the requisite professionalism, objectivity, and legal acumen to make him an excellent addition to the federal bench here in the District of New Jersey.

I have known Judge Kirsch for more than 20 years beginning with his tenure as an Assistant United States Attorney working in both the civil and criminal divisions. During that time, I was

working as an Assistant Federal Public Defender representing indigent clients charged with federal crimes, and often found myself standing toe to toe with Judge Kirsch. In many cases, the Judge and I were adversaries on issues of fact and law, yet despite our sometimes diametrically opposed views I always found Judge Kirsch to be an extremely intelligent, ethical, hardworking prosecutor, dedicated to the administration of justice. In addition to those qualities, he was open to dialogue, respectful of different viewpoints, and always fair. It was Judge Kirsch's sense of fairness and professionalism during his time in the United States Attorney's Office that quickly earned him the respect of the Federal Defender's Office, as well as respect amongst the Federal Criminal Defense Bar in the District of New Jersey. I submit that Judge Kirsch's sense of fairness, objectivity, and the universal respect he has from the bar in this state will serve him well as a District Court Judge here in New Jersey.

Following his time in the United States Attorney's Office Judge Kirsch became a Superior Court Judge in the Union Vicinage. Having since moved into private practice myself and with my office in Union County I have appeared before his Honor and have had the pleasure of seeing Judge Kirsch's transition from prosecutor to arbiter first-hand. Unsurprisingly it is something that has come naturally to him. True to all his professional success, Judge Kirsch's success as a Superior Court Judge has been a function of his fundamental characteristics – honesty, integrity, fairness, objectivity, and knowledge of the law. The consistency with which Judge Kirsch has exhibited these qualities both as a prosecutor, and more recently on the Superior Court bench, coupled with his vast experience on both sides, make him the ideal fit to be a District Court Judge.

Beyond his unmatched qualifications to join the bench in the District of New Jersey from a career standpoint, I believe Judge Kirsch's life outside of work warrants the same degree of recognition and consideration. I know Judge Kirsch to be a dedicated husband and proud father. In addition to the collegial and professional qualities he possesses that make him ideal for a position on the District Court, equally important are the personal qualities he brings to the position as an incredibly humble, genuine, and gracious individual.

If confirmed as a District Court Judge for the District of New Jersey I can say with the utmost certainty that Judge Kirsch will achieve and succeed as he has done throughout his career by way of the same consistently exhibited qualities that have garnered him the admiration of so many. Beyond my respect for Judge Kirsch, I have borne witness to the respect that so many others in our District have for him including the Federal Defender family, innumerable colleagues from all walks, members of law enforcement, and other Judges. As such, beyond being more than qualified for the position, Judge Robert Kirsch is sure to be an incredibly well-received as a judge in this district – and I certainly look forward to appearing before his Honor in the very near future.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of this letter in support of the nomination of the Honorable Robert A. Kirsch to the District Court for the District of New Jersey.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy A. Biancamano

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