

January 20, 2023

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Matthew Brookman for the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

We are former United States Attorneys for the Southern District of Indiana. We have been appointed by Presidents from both political parties and have had extensive experience in the federal criminal and civil justice system. We come together to wholeheartedly support the confirmation of Matthew Brookman to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana.

We believe that Magistrate Judge Matthew Brookman is extremely well suited and prepared to fill the vacancy that will occur when Judge Richard L. Young assumes senior status. Judge Brookman has earned an excellent reputation serving as Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Indiana since 2016. He has handled complex matters as well as matters in the ordinary course of criminal and civil litigation. He has been a tremendous asset to the talented bench in the Southern District of Indiana due to his work ethic, his demeanor, his reputation for fairness and objectivity and his willingness to take on challenging tasks.

Our knowledge of Judge Brookman stems from his many years of experience as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana from 2002 to 2016. Judge Brookman graduated in 1990 from DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. He obtained his law degree from the Washington University School of Law in May 1993. After spending the early part of his career in private practice and with the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of Jefferson County, Missouri, Judge Brookman joined the Office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri in 1999 as a Special Assistant United States Attorney (SAUSA). Judge Brookman's work as a SAUSA in the Western District of helped him secure the coveted position as an Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) for the Southern District of Indiana. Judge Brookman was hired as a SAUSA by the Western District of Missouri during the Clinton Administration, by the Southern District of Indiana as an AUSA during the Bush administration and remained in the United States Attorney's Office throughout the entirety of the Obama administration. While in the Southern District of Indiana, Judge Brookman practiced as an AUSA in the Criminal Division beginning in 2002 and led the United States Attorney's Office Drug and Violent Crime Unit as Chief and the Evansville, Indiana Branch of the United States Attorney's Office as Branch Manager from 2011 until he assumed the bench in 2016.

Judge Brookman was extremely well liked by his colleagues in the United States Attorney's Office and was well respected by the judges before whom he appeared. His work ethic, amiable personality, and dedication to the rule of law and justice were greatly admired. His career led him from a general drug and violent crime caseload to a more specialized organized crime portfolio and included management of lawyers and support staff. We believe that his background and experience in the courtroom, working with federal agencies, lawyers and support staff will prove invaluable to the district court bench.

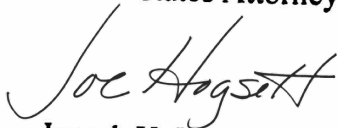
Judge Brookman leads with compassion and a sincere belief in the rule of law. These qualities were recognized in 2010 when Judge Brookman received the Director's Award from United States Attorney General Eric Holder for superior performance as an Assistant United States Attorney, for his work on the United States v. Jarvis Brown, et al. case, a quadruple homicide prosecution.

The qualifications that Judge Brookman has exhibited throughout his legal career will greatly benefit the Court. Those qualifications include his tremendous work ethic; his commitment to the rule of law and justice; his focus on ethics and integrity; his varied background as an attorney and judge; and finally his kind and caring demeanor for all. Based upon all that we have shared, we strongly urge the confirmation of Matthew Brookman to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana.

Sincerely,



Joshua J. Minkler
United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana (2015-2020)



Joseph H. Hogsett
United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana (2010-2014)
Mayor of Indianapolis (2016 to present)



Susan W. Brooks
United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana. (2001-2007)
Former Member of United States House of Representatives (2013-2021)