

MICHAEL P. BIENVENU
VALERIE BRIGGS BARGAS
WILLIAM C. HELM*
GREGORY KENT MOROUX, JR.
SALLIE C. DUPONT
BRIAN W. HARRELL†
DEVON B. MCKNIGHT
KOLBY P. MARCHAND
MAHALIE LEFRANC KYZAR
BRENT E. KINCHEN - OF COUNSEL
MYRON A. WALKER, JR. - OF COUNSEL

* ALSO ADMITTED IN MISSISSIPPI
† ALSO ADMITTED IN TEXAS

KWBBRH

KINCHEN WALKER BIENVENU
BARGAS REED & HELM, LLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

TWO UNITED PLAZA, SUITE 202
8550 UNITED PLAZA BOULEVARD
BATON ROUGE, LA 70809

.....
DIRECT LINE (225) 292-6704
TELECOPIER (225) 292-6705
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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

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham,

My name is Brent Kinchen. I have been in practice in Baton Rouge since 1979. I am a Republican and many would consider me to be very conservative.

I'm writing this letter on behalf of Mr. Darrel J. Papillion. I was delighted to learn that Darrel was nominated to become a judge of the Eastern District of Louisiana.

I have known Darrel for many years. We have had 4 to 5 jury trials over the years I have known Darrel. Even though we have been adversaries in all the cases we have had we developed a close friendship. As I recall in our last jury trial, we had only one objection during the entire trial.

Darrel is an excellent lawyer, well respected and universally liked by the bench and bar. Not only is he one of the finest lawyers in the state, he is also one of the finest people you could ever meet. I know him to be a man of great personal integrity, professionalism, and ethics.

I would expect that as a judge he would rule on the facts and the law and not for any political reason. He will be a fine judge that is respected by all.

If I can be of assistance with anything, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Brent E Kinchen