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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 Robert A. Kutcher. I have been a lawyer in New Orleans, Louisiana since 1976. Over the years, I have appeared before many judges.

I am writing this letter on behalf of Mr. Darrel J. Papillion. I am pleased that Darrel was nominated to become a judge of the Eastern District of Louisiana. I have known Darrel for many years. We have been adverse to each other in litigation, and we served in multiple capacities together in the Louisiana State Bar Association. Darrel was President from 2015-2016, and I was President from 2019-2020.

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 a fine person. I know him to be a man of great personal integrity, professionalism and ethics. He would be an excellent jurist and a fine addition to the Eastern District of Louisiana Bench.

Sincerely

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

Robert A. Kutcher

cc: Nathan\_Williams@Kennedy.senate.gov