

January 20, 2023

Senator Richard Durbin  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Charles Grassley  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, we write to express our enthusiastic support for the nomination of Michael Farbiarz to serve as a judge on the United States District Court of New Jersey.

The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey was created in 1921 by a compact between the states of New York and New Jersey which was approved by the United States Congress. The agency is responsible for a vast transportation network of air, land, rail and sea assets as well as the 9<sup>th</sup> largest police force in the country. As it was originally envisioned, the Port Authority stands today as a self-supporting entity without power to tax and does not rely on tax revenue from either state nor from any local jurisdiction. Its focus remains on facilitating travel for millions of Americans each year and helping to shape the country's largest metropolitan region.

Since 2016, Michael Farbiarz has served brilliantly as the Port Authority's General Counsel. In that role, he oversees the agency's Legal Department and provides guidance to the 12-member Board of Commissioners and to the Executive Director which guide the agency's long-term and day-to-day operations respectively. The very nature of the agency's portfolio necessitates that its General Counsel possess a keen understanding of a diverse body of law and, throughout his tenure with the Port Authority, Mr. Farbiarz has proven himself to be one of the most brilliant and distinguished officials the agency has seen in its history.

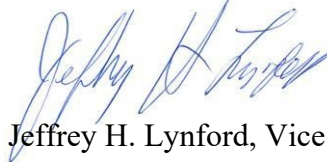
The role of a judge, as laid out in Article III of the Constitution, is one of the most significant and expansive positions created by our founding document. We rely upon judges to be impartial arbiters of the law yet we also understand the practical implications of their rulings. Mr. Farbiarz's education comes from the most widely regarded legal institutions but his

professional experience speaks to that of an individual who has lived in the real world and fully understands the delicate interplay between the law and those who must abide by it.

Though he would never say it, the residents of the States of New York and New Jersey owe Mr. Farbiarz a massive debt. The choices he has made, and those he has helped facilitate, have played a crucial role in protecting lives, fostering commerce, and improving critical infrastructure in our nation's most populous region. Mr. Farbiarz's departure will be an enormous loss for the Port Authority. His service on the federal bench will be an enormous gain for the people of New Jersey and for the entire Judicial Branch.



Kevin O'Toole, Chairman



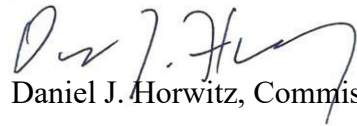
Jeffrey H. Lynford, Vice Chairman



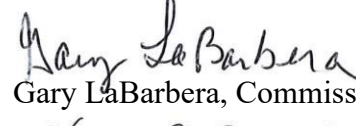
Steven M. Cohen, Commissioner



Leecia Eve, Commissioner



Daniel J. Horwitz, Commissioner



Gary LaBarbera, Commissioner



Dana M. Martinotti, Commissioner



Kevin P. McCabe, Commissioner



Rossana Rosado, Commissioner



Michelle E. Richardson, Commissioner