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September 12, 2022

Senator Dick Durbin, Chair
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Chuck Grassley, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on the Judiciary
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Support for **Kymerly Evanson** for United States District Court Judge

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley,

I am writing to enthusiastically support Kymerly Evanson's nomination as a judge for the United States District Court, Western District of Washington. I have known Ms. Evanson for nearly seven years. I am an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Seattle, and we were co-counsel on a very large, complex, class action case brought against Seattle that spanned over two years of intense litigation, several terabytes of discovery produced, three formal mediations, and ultimately a negotiated settlement. The City's potential exposure in this case was over \$800 million dollars and the settlement achieved was closer to \$200 million. During the course of litigation, I worked very closely with Ms. Evanson and observed her legal work, personality, and character on a daily basis.

Ms. Evanson has a keen legal mind. She can distill legal issues quickly and accurately. She is also an extremely hard worker. Moreover, she has the rare ability to understand nuances when dealing with a wide variety of personalities and varied interests. There were many tense meetings with opposing counsel, named plaintiffs, and internal stakeholders. Yet Ms. Evanson had the ability to connect with everyone and suggest creative options to facilitate a settlement. It is not hyperbole to say that Ms. Evanson's involvement in the case saved the City of Seattle tens of millions of dollars.

Ms. Evanson also has a wonderful personality. She is very easy to work with and made long days enjoyable with her sense of humor, sincerity, and authenticity. During the years I've known and worked with her, I never saw her rattled or react to other parties with anything but the utmost respect. This is exactly the temperament that is needed in our judiciary.

Ms. Evanson's character is beyond reproach. As in most cases that are litigated, there were often hard decisions that had to be made. However, Ms. Evanson's approach was always to address

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each crossroad with integrity and transparency. We had many discussions regarding “fairness” and how to apprise our client of difficult facts. Even in the most challenging situations, the ethical approach was always taken by Ms. Evanson. I also recall spirited legal debates we had surrounding the “public duty doctrine” and other cases she worked on with interesting legal issues. Working with Ms. Evanson made me a better lawyer and a better person.

Ms. Evanson will make an excellent federal district court judge. I strongly urge the Committee on the Judiciary to approve the nomination of Kymberly Evanson to serve as a judge for the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact me via email at Lorraine.Phillips@Seattle.gov or via telephone at (206) 684-8226.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Lorraine Lewis Phillips

Lorraine Lewis Phillips, WSBA # 33126

Assistant City Attorney

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