

**Spencer M. Wiegard  
Attorney at Law**

August 19, 2022

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I and the other Virginia construction law attorneys listed below write to express our strong support for the nomination of United States Magistrate Judge Robert S. Ballou to the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

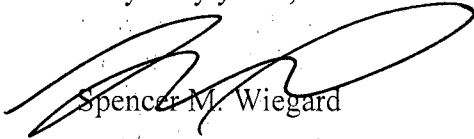
We are attorneys from various locations in Virginia who practice construction-related law, including litigation. We have interacted with Judge Ballou in cases before he was a Magistrate Judge, have had cases before him as a sitting Magistrate Judge (including mediations and settlement conferences), and/or have worked with him through the Board of Governors for the Virginia State Bar Construction and Public Contracts Section. In all instances, we have found Judge Ballou to be engaged, prepared, and thorough in his handling of these responsibilities. There have been, and likely will be, significant construction-related cases coming before the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia. We are confident that Judge Ballou will handle these, and all of his cases and roles, with the utmost of professional diligence and attention.

In his present role as Magistrate Judge, Judge Ballou has shown these qualities in action. We have no doubt he will continue to do an excellent job and maintain the high-level of performance and professionalism for which the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia is known.

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
August 19, 2022  
Page 2

We respectfully request your swift confirmation of Judge Robert S. Ballou to this important and appropriate position. If you have any questions or need additional information, please let us know. Otherwise, thank you for your consideration of Judge Ballou's nomination.

Very truly yours,



Spencer M. Wiegard

With:

K. Brett Marston  
Kirk M. Sosebee  
Alicia M. Grubb  
Stephan F. (Hobie) Andrews  
Lauren P. McLaughlin  
Jennifer A. Mahar  
James W. Barkley  
Arnie B. Mason  
Gregory T. St Ours  
Alison R. Mullins  
Joshua C. Johnson  
Herschel V. Keller  
Andrew O. Gay  
Jonathan J. Straw  
Robert A. Ziogas  
Jesse S. Keene  
Shannon J. Briglia  
J. Barrett Lucy  
Quinton B. Callahan  
Daniel R. Sullivan  
Scott W. Kowalski

c: Senator Mark R. Warner (*via* e-mail, c/o Jay Swanson, [jay\\_swanson@warner.senate.gov](mailto:jay_swanson@warner.senate.gov))  
Senator Timothy M. Kaine (*via* e-mail, c/o Traci Hong, [traci\\_hong@kaine.senate.gov](mailto:traci_hong@kaine.senate.gov))



GENTRY LOCKE

Attorneys

P.O. Box 40013  
Roanoke, VA 24022-0013

PRESORTED  
FIRST CLASS



US POSTAGE<sup>SM</sup> PITNEY BOWES



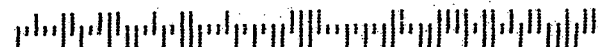
ZIP 24016 \$ 000.52<sup>6</sup>  
02 4W  
0000345621 AUG 19 2022

Hon. Richard J. Durbin  
Committee on the Judiciary  
U. S. Senate  
711 Hart Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Screened by  
Senate Post Office

AUG 3 0 2022

GBBLSMP 20510



Screened by  
Senate Post Office  
AUG 3 0 2022

