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September 16, 2022

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chair

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member

Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Nomination of Jamal Whitehead to the United States District Court for the
Western District of Washington**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the Washington Employment Lawyers Association (WELA), we write in strong support of Jamal Whitehead's confirmation to the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. WELA is an organization of over 200 lawyers licensed to practice law in Washington. WELA is a chapter of the National Employment Lawyers Association. WELA advocates in favor of employee rights in recognition that employment with dignity and fairness is fundamental to the quality of life. WELA's board and members believe that Mr. Whitehead is exceptionally well qualified to serve as a United States District Judge.

Mr. Whitehead entered private practice after years in public service, having served as a trial attorney for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in the Seattle field office and as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Washington. As his supervising attorney at the EEOC, John Stanley, said about his work there, Mr. Whitehead has "a writing style that gathers force through clear, concise language rather than bombast or cheap attacks on his opponent." Mr. Stanley said further:

He is intellectually curious. He strives to understand all sides of an issue and welcomes diversity of viewpoints. He is a civil rights champion. He shows respect to all. He is fair. He values collegiality. He is decent and courteous, virtues that some legal professionals may undervalue as litigation practice grows ever more aggressive. Altogether, Jamal Whitehead's many outstanding attributes will

Support for Jamal Whitehead as United States District Court Judge

September 16, 2022

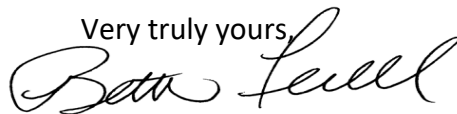
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reflect to the great good of the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington.

Since joining the private bar, Mr. Whitehead has distinguished himself as a leader in our community. He has handled many difficult, complex cases for underserved but hardworking people, and he has obtained phenomenal results. He has also developed a reputation as one of the most engaging and insightful presenters in our community, and we have often asked him to present at legal workshops and seminars on practical aspects of litigation. Mr. Whitehead has served as a model and mentor to many others in our legal community.

We believe that in addition to being an outstanding judge, Mr. Whitehead would also be an outstanding mentor to his law clerks and an excellent colleague to his fellow judges. WELA enthusiastically supports the confirmation of Jamal Whitehead to the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. We have absolutely no doubt that he will serve with great distinction.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Beth Terrell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Beth Terrell, Chair of WELA