

# HIRST LAW GROUP

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A Professional Corporation

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November 21, 2023

Senator Richard Durbin  
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Lindsey Graham  
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Assistant U.S. Attorney Kirk E. Sherriff for United States District  
Judge (E.D. Cal.)

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

I write in support of the nomination of Kirk Sherriff as a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California. I believe Mr. Sherriff would make an outstanding judge, and I am pleased to offer my highest recommendation on his behalf.

For approximately fifteen years, from April 1990 until December 2005, I served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of California. For approximately eight of those years, I served as Co-Chief of the Civil Division and Chief of Affirmative Civil Litigation, supervising all cases in which the United States sued as a plaintiff for civil remedies. In that capacity, I both recruited Mr. Sherriff to the office and later supervised his work on civil cases as an AUSA.

After leaving the U.S. Attorney's Office, I established a law firm whose practice focuses exclusively on representing whistleblowers. Since then and to the present, our firm has frequently represented whistleblower relators under the federal or a state False Claims Act in venues throughout the United States. During that time, Mr. Sherriff remained at the U.S. Attorney's office, transferred to the Criminal Division, was promoted to Chief of the White Collar Crime Unit, and then promoted to Chief of the Fresno Office.

As demonstrated by his rapid promotions within the office, Mr. Sherriff has superior legal skills that have resulted in impressive accomplishments. Yet he remains a truly modest and humble person. His legal talents, combined with his willingness to work consistently harder than others, enabled me to assign to Mr. Sherriff a large caseload that included some of the most challenging



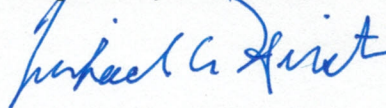
The Honorable Richard Durbin  
The Honorable Lindsey Graham  
November 21, 2023  
Page 2

matters we litigated in the office. While Mr. Sherriff always deflects praise, my appreciation for him as a lawyer and a person is genuine. He was one of the most successful AUSAs I had the pleasure to supervise and I know from conversations with colleagues, both those within the office and opposing counsel, that others share that view. Based on my own experiences in supervising Mr. Sherriff, I have seen that he treats witnesses, defendants, and counsel of all backgrounds with decency and respect, even opposing counsel whom I viewed as excessively contentious.

Mr. Sherriff has both the intellectual rigor and a moderate, composed, and respectful personality that will make him an outstanding judge with a fine judicial temperament. Having known Mr. Sherriff for many years, I have every reason to believe that as a district judge, he will be fair and impartial to litigants and counsel in both civil and criminal cases and will continue to be admired and respected by those who appear before him.

If I can provide additional information about Mr. Sherriff or my knowledge of his work and character, please let me know.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael A. Hirst