



United States District Court

1716 Spielbusch Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43604-7300

Jack Zouhary
Judge

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October 27, 2011

Senator Patrick Leahy
437 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Chuck Grassley
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Jeffrey Helmick

Dear Senators:

I have been a district judge for the Northern District of Ohio since 2006. I write to enthusiastically support the confirmation of Jeff Helmick to the district court vacancy in Toledo.

I am currently the sole active judge on our court in the Western Division and therefore will be the one working most closely with whomever is appointed. Fortunately, the two senior judges in our Division continue to assist with the case load, but for which, to borrow a phrase, "I would be in a world of hurt." That assistance will not last, and Jeff's prompt confirmation is important so we may continue to deliver to the public, the lawyers and the clients they serve, our promise of securing "the just, speedy and inexpensive determination of every action and proceeding."

Perhaps more importantly, you will find no better candidate than Jeff. He possesses the intelligence, the passion for our justice system, the necessary temperament and the people skills to be an outstanding district court judge. In the private practice, lawyers are able to choose their partners. Federal judges do not have such a luxury; we must work with whomever you confirm. I would be thrilled to have Jeff as my "partner" on the Bench.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,

Judge Jack Zouhary

JZ:nls

cc: Senator Sherrod Brown
Senator Rob Portman