

April 2, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We write in strong support of Andy Oldham's nomination for a seat on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Each of us served with Andy in the Office of the Attorney General of Texas, so we know what he will bring to the bench if confirmed. And we have collectively argued over a hundred cases before the Fifth Circuit, so we have seen what it takes to serve with distinction on that court. Andy has those necessary qualities of character, intellect, and temperament. We recommend him without reservation.

In our time together as government lawyers, we came to appreciate Andy's unimpeachable character. His strong sense of duty made us feel lucky to serve our fellow Texans. His relentless good cheer promoted collegiality throughout the office. His honesty, decency, and generosity have inspired loyalty that endures.

Professional excellence is evident from Andy's résumé. But as good as he looks on paper, we can attest to the legal acumen and work ethic that make him even more impressive in real life. Andy showed us what happens when the smartest person in the room is also the last one to leave. His intellectual energy would be a credit to the Fifth Circuit.

Finally, we have seen in Andy the open-mindedness, patience, and humility that will inform his judicial temperament. He insisted on hearing all sides before taking a position on the grave issues we confronted together. And he always entertained the possibility that he may be wrong, even though he usually knew the right answer before anyone else. Should he be confirmed, that ability to listen intently will endear him to colleagues on a multimember court, and to litigants seeking a fair opportunity to be heard.

The Fifth Circuit and the country would benefit from Andy's service as United States Circuit Judge, just as the State of Texas benefited from his service as Deputy Solicitor General. We urge his timely consideration by this Committee and his swift confirmation in the United States Senate.

Signed:*

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