



CARPLS
Legal Aid

17 N. State St., #1850
Chicago, Illinois 60602-3492

Tel 312.421.4014
Fax 312.223.1522

Hotline 312.738.9200
WWW.CARPLS.ORG

Board of Directors

Robert E. Armour
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
President

Shawn F. Fagan
Citadel Investment Group, LLC
Vice President

Gabriel A. Fuentes
Jenner & Block LLP
Secretary

Paul E. Bateman
Littler Mendelson, P.C.
Treasurer

FAX COVER LETTER

Nina S. Appel
Loyola University
Chicago School of Law

Date: January 17, 2012

Bruce R. Braun
Winston & Strawn LLP

Jonathan C. Bunge
Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Leslie D. Davis
SNR Denton

To: The Honorable Charles Grassley, Ranking Member
202-224-9516

Ralph J. Gabric
Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione

Sean W. Gallagher
Bartlit Beck Herman Palonchar
& Scott LLP

From: Allen C. Schwartz
CARPLS

Brandon Lawnczak
Accenture LLP

John Z. Lee
Freeborn & Peters LLP

Jonathan D. Lotsoff
Sidley Austin LLP

Number of Pages: 3 Total

James B. Medek
Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Maureen A. Mosh
Northern Trust

Andrew D. Richmond
Navigant Consulting, Inc.

Please see the attached letter.

Susan J. Schwartz
Corboy & Demetrio, P.C.

Stacey L. Smiricky
Baker & Daniels LLP

Steven G. Steger
Global IP Law Group, LLC

Hon. Latasha R. Thomas
Alderman, 17th Ward
City of Chicago

Allen C. Schwartz
Executive Director



CARPLS
Legal Aid

17 N. State St., #1850
Chicago, Illinois 60602-3492

Tel 312.421.4014
Fax 312.223.1522

Hotline 312.738.9200
WWW.CARPLS.ORG

Board of Directors

Robert E. Armour
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
President

Shawn F. Fagan
Citadel Investment Group, LLC
Vice President

Gabriel A. Fuentes
Jenner & Block LLP
Secretary

Paul E. Bateman
Litler Mendelson, P.C.
Treasurer

VIA TELECOPIER

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Senate Dirksen Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Fax: 202.224.9516

February 14, 2011

Nina S. Appel
Loyola University
Chicago School of Law

Bruce R. Braun
Winston & Strawn LLP

Jonathan C. Bunge
Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Leslie D. Davis
SNA Denton

Ralph J. Gabric
Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione

Sean W. Gallagher
Bartlett Beck Herman Palenchar
& Scott LLP

Brandon Lawniczak
Accenture LLP

John Z. Lee
Freaborn & Peters LLP

Jonathan D. Lotsoff
Sidley Austin LLP

James B. Medek
Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Maureen A. Mosh
Northern Trust

Andrew D. Richmond
Navigant Consulting, Inc.

Susan J. Schwartz
Corboy & Demetrio, P.C.

Stacey L. Smiricky
Baker & Daniels LLP

Steven G. Steger
Global IP Law Group, LLC

Hon. Latasha R. Thomas
Alderman, 17th Ward
City of Chicago

Re: Nomination of John Z. Lee for Judicial Vacancy
United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Dear Senator Grassley:

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I write this letter in support of John Z. Lee's appointment to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. I have known John since 2004 when he became a member of the CARPLS Board of Directors, on which he currently serves as Board President.

CARPLS Legal Aid is a major Cook County legal aid organization which serves more than 57,000 clients annually. Through our legal aid hotline and court-based help desks, we provide direct access to experienced attorneys who are trained to quickly assess and respond to the wide range of civil legal problems experienced by low income families. CARPLS attorneys resolve over 85% of all cases in-house by providing limited representation legal services, including legal advice, third party negotiations, document review, and drafting of legal documents and pleadings. Clients with more complex needs are referred by CARPLS to a network of specialized legal and social service providers. Our unique "legal triage" system serves as a model for legal aid communities across the country and has increased access to justice by dramatically reducing the cost of legal aid services to the poor.

As the Executive Director of CARPLS, I have had the unique opportunity to interact with John on many different levels: as a superior, a colleague, a volunteer and a friend. While I could fill multiple pages with accounts of John's academic and professional accomplishments, the focus of my remarks will be on those qualities which I have come to rely upon most and which have propelled John to important leadership roles here at CARPLS.

First and foremost, I know John to be a person with a deep and abiding commitment to public service. In addition to his service on the CARPLS Board,

Allen C. Schwartz
Executive Director

John has held leadership positions on the boards of the Asian American Bar Association and Asian Human Services. John was also the driving force behind the establishment of a new legal aid clinic in Hoffman Estates in 2009. John saw the compelling need for legal aid help in and around his home town in the northwest suburbs and brought together his firm, CARPLS and a local church to establish a part-time legal clinic which assists low-income families in an area which was not served by the legal aid providers in Cook County. John himself is one of the volunteer attorneys who works at the clinic, so he not only sees the big picture of the need for access to justice, but has also rolled up his sleeves to share his own talents and expertise with these needy clients.

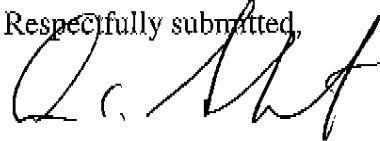
John's work on the legal clinic is a good example of his leadership style. John leads by example. During his tenure on the CARPLS Board, John has served in every executive office position, chaired every committee and worked every fundraising event. He is intimately familiar with his fellow board members, most of the CARPLS staff and many of CARPLS' volunteers. He knows CARPLS inside and out because he has taken the time to come to know the people who define CARPLS and the clients we serve.

The energy and passion which John brings to his every pursuit is infectious. It is no coincidence that the six years John has served on CARPLS' Board have been the most successful years in the organization's history. After the release of a state-wide legal needs study in 2005, which documented the inadequacies of the legal aid safety net in Illinois, John was one of the driving forces behind a Board initiative to significantly expand CARPLS' service capacity. That initiative resulted in a four-fold increase in the number of clients served by CARPLS annually.

John has many other fine qualities that I believe are important for serving on the bench. He is a good listener who is always open to the positions and ideas of others. He is skilled arbiter with a keen intellect who is able to follow discussions and lines of arguments and positions well. Yet, when the time comes, he is able to move decisively and with authority. John is honest and upright in all his dealings with and work for CARPLS, and because of all these personal traits, John has the respect of his fellow Board members, and of all the staff at CARPLS.

I offer my strongest recommendation of John Lee for the federal bench. If I can provide any further information or be of any other assistance to you concerning this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me at 312-421-4423 (direct).

Respectfully submitted,



Allen C. Schwartz
Executive Director