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October 4, 2011

Senator Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Senator Charles Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Michael E. Horowitz

Dear Senator Leahy and Senator Grassley:

I write this letter to each of you to state my unreserved support of Michael E. Horowitz for the office of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Justice. I respectfully urge you to look favorably upon this nomination. A better, more qualified and totally suitable candidate for the office would be difficult to find.

In 1986 I was appointed to the bench of the United States District Court for the Central District of California. I had the good fortune of choosing Mr. Horowitz for a law clerk's position for the year of September 1987 to September 1988. He stood out among the approximately one hundred highly qualified candidates.

Your Committee's investigation has undoubtedly disclosed Michael's stellar accomplishments, first as a student at Brandies University and at Harvard Law School, and then throughout his legal career. Although I am familiar with his success in the private sector, and with his services and contributions to government agencies, I shall not address them here, but instead will comment upon his personal qualities.

The relationship between a U.S. District Court judge and his or her law clerks is a close one. The clerks' responsibilities are demanding, the hours are long, and quality of the work product is expected to be of the highest caliber. These elements foster a judge's reliance upon the clerks and the development of a healthy and lasting relationship. It is

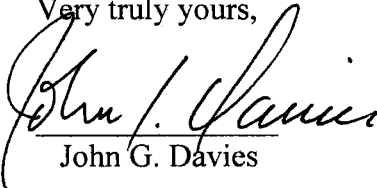
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from this vantage I have observed and assessed Michael's personal and professional qualities. He and I have maintained contact since the termination of his clerkship, and I am familiar with the details of his legal and government-related career. I say with certainty that he meets the highest standards you seek in the nominee for this high office. He is a greatly-talented lawyer with broad experience. I know nothing that would dissuade me from my opinion that he possesses, and is guided by, the strictest ethical standards, and that he so conducts himself both professionally and personally. He is honest, intellectually and otherwise. He is diligent. He is stable. He is calm and even tempered. He is loyal. He is strong and can defend a position taken by him but not be antagonistic. He possesses a fine sense of fairness and common sense. He is a natural leader. Complex issues and difficult challenges neither intimidate nor deter him.

I surmise that the Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Justice administers and supervises a staff of investigators, attorneys, office personnel and others, and that among the duties is the oversight of the Department. Michael is, as I say above, a leader. I am confident he will be an exemplary representative of the office, and will lead it well. He has the ability to get along with all people, and harbors no ethnic, religious or social biases. Additionally he writes clearly and thoroughly. His legal writing has always been top quality. Undoubtedly the responsibilities of the office require the preparation of written reports, and perhaps testimony before the Congress. In both respects his performance will be superb.

I have described Michael as I know him. Letters of reference are at times puffing and overblown. But I assure you in this letter I have exaggerated nothing. Michael is a splendid person, and by virtue of his superior intellect, experience, abilities and temperament he is perfectly suited for the position of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Justice.

I thank each of you for your attention to and consideration of my comments.

Very truly yours,

John G. Davies