UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1. **Name**: State full name (include any former names used).

Samuel Dawson Adkisson

2. **Position**: State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Tennessee

3. **Address**: List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

Office: The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest
Washington, District of Columbia 20500

Residence: Signal Mountain, Tennessee

4. **Birthplace**: State year and place of birth.

1992; Springfield, Illinois

5. **Education**: List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

2015 – 2018, Yale Law School; J.D., 2018

2011 – 2015, Vanderbilt University; B.A. (*summa cum laude*), 2015

6. **Employment Record**: List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name and address of the employer and job title or description.

2025 – present
Office of the White House Counsel
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest

Washington, District of Columbia 20500
Special Assistant to the President & Associate Counsel (2026 – present)
Associate Counsel (2025 – 2026)

2024 – 2025
Cooper & Kirk, PLLC
1523 New Hampshire Avenue, Northwest
Washington, District of Columbia 20036
Associate (worked remotely from Tennessee)

2022 – 2024
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
811 Main Street, Suite 3000
Houston, Texas 77002
Associate

2021 – 2022
Chief Justice of the United States John G. Roberts, Jr.
1 First Street, Northeast
Washington, District of Columbia 20543
Law Clerk

2020 – 2021
Honorable Amul R. Thapar
United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
United States Courthouse
35 West 5th Street
Covington, Kentucky 41011
Law Clerk

2019 – 2020
Honorable Gregory G. Katsas
United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
E. Barrett Prettyman United States Courthouse
333 Constitution Avenue, Northwest
Washington, District of Columbia 20001
Law Clerk

2018 – 2019
Consovoy McCarthy Park PLLC
[now Consovoy McCarthy PLLC]
1600 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700
Arlington, Virginia 22209
Associate

Summer – Fall 2018

United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Chairman Charles E. Grassley
226 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, District of Columbia 20510
Law Clerk

Summer 2017
Sidley Austin LLP
1501 K Street, Northwest
Washington, District of Columbia 20005
Summer Associate

Summer 2016
Consovoy McCarthy Park PLLC
[now Consovoy McCarthy PLLC]
1600 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700
Arlington, Virginia 22209
Summer Associate

2015 – 2017 (intermittent)
Author Jon Meacham
2301 Vanderbilt Place
Nashville, Tennessee 37235
Research Assistant

Other Affiliations (Uncompensated):

2016 – 2018
Yale Appellate Litigation Project
127 Wall Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06511

2017 – 2018
Ethics and Public Policy Center
1730 M Street, Northwest, Suite 9000
Washington, District of Columbia 20036
Research Assistant to Edward Whelan

2016 – 2017
Yale Law School
127 Wall Street
New Haven, Connecticut 06511
Research Assistant to Professor Stephen L. Carter

7. **Military Service and Draft Status**: Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I did not serve in the military. I registered for the selective service upon turning 18.

8. **Honors and Awards**: List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

Israel Legal Fellowship, Cardozo School of Law (2024)

Antonin Scalia Fellowship (2018 – 2019)

Yale Law Journal
Forum & Features Editor (2017 – 2018)
First-Year Editor (2016 – 2017)

Yale Journal on Regulation
Submissions Editor (2016 – 2017)
Editor (2015 – 2016)

Yale Law & Policy Review, Editor (2015 – 2016)

Yale Law School – John Currier Gallagher Prize (2016)

Blackstone Legal Fellowship (2016)

Vanderbilt University
Degree conferred *summa cum laude* (2015)
Degree conferred with Highest Honors in Political Science (2015)
Degree conferred with Honors in the College of Arts & Science (2015)
James Lee Ray Award (2015)
Dean's List (2011 – 2015)

All-American Award, American Mock Trial Association (2015)

Intercollegiate Studies Institute Honors Scholar (2013 – 2014)

9. **Bar Associations**: List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference, Delegate (2023)

Houston Bar Association (2022 – 2024)

10. **Bar and Court Admission**:

a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Tennessee, 2024
District of Columbia, 2024
Texas, 2022 (inactive)
Virginia, 2018

My Texas Bar license went to inactive status at my request in 2025, as I no longer planned to practice law in Texas.

b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

I have been admitted to practice in the following courts:

United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, 2020
United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, 2024
United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, 2023
United States District Court for the District of Columbia, 2024
Supreme Court of Virginia, 2018

To the best of my knowledge, all of these admissions remain current and there have been no lapses in membership.

11. **Memberships**:

a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school. Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies (2015 – present)
Yale Law School Alumni Chapter (2018 – present)
Executive Committee, Federalism & Separation of Powers Practice Group (2019 – 2025, intermittent)
Emerging Leaders Council (2023 – 2025)
Washington, D.C. Young Lawyers Chapter, Steering Committee (2018 – 2020)

Teneo Network (2026 – present)

C.S. Lewis Society of Chattanooga (2024 – 2025, estimated)

Yale Club of Washington, D.C. (2018 – 2020, estimated)

University Club of Washington, D.C. (2018 – 2019)

b. The American Bar Association's Commentary to its Code of Judicial Conduct states that it is inappropriate for a judge to hold membership in any organization that invidiously discriminates on the basis of race, sex, or religion, or national origin. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

To the best of my knowledge, none of the organizations listed above currently discriminates on the basis of race, sex, religion, or national origin, and none has discriminated on such a basis during the time in which I have been a member.

I understand that the University Club of Washington, D.C., many decades before I joined, limited its membership to men. That policy was abandoned more than forty years ago.

12. **Published Writings and Public Statements**:

a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply copies of all published material to the Committee.

To the best of my recollection, and after searches of my records and publicly available online databases, I have identified the following published materials that I authored:

So Yale Law School Endorses Anti-Religious Bigotry Now?, USA Today (Apr. 5, 2019). Copy supplied.

System-Level Standards: Driverless Cars and the Future of Regulatory Design, 40 Univ. Haw. L. Rev. 1 (2018). Copy supplied.

Celebrating 25 Years on the Court: Yale Chapter on Justice Thomas's Jurisprudence, Federalist Society Blog (Aug. 3, 2017). Copy supplied.

Coach Franklin and the Commodores, Vand. Torch (Dec. 3, 2012). No copy available.

The Torch: Sparks Fly on Long Island, Vand. Hustler (Oct. 17, 2012). Copy supplied.

The Iranian Powder Keg, Vand. Pol. Rev. (Sept. 18, 2012). Copy supplied.

The Ryan Effect: A New Referendum, Vand. Torch (Aug. 13, 2012). No copy available.

And We're Back, Vand. Torch (Aug. 9, 2012). No copy available.

The Cost of America's War on Drugs, Vand. Torch (Apr. 23, 2012). Copy supplied.

North Korea Tests Missiles, U.S. Halts Aid, Vand. Torch (Apr. 16, 2012). No copy available.

Rick Santorum Exits Race, Vand. Torch (Apr. 10, 2012). Copy supplied.

On Politics and Ethics, Vand. Torch (Mar. 17, 2012). Copy supplied.

The Plan B Controversy and Sexual Violence, Vand. Torch (Feb. 17, 2012). No copy available.

Vandy Alum Launch Advertising Campaign, Vand. Torch (Jan. 31, 2012). No copy available.

Gabby Giffords: The Face of American Solidarity, Vand. Torch (Jan. 27, 2012). No copy available.

Newt Gingrich and Dwight, Vand. Torch (Jan. 27, 2012). No copy available.

Kirk Works for People of Illinois, Courier (July 24, 2010). Copy supplied.

Kirk Is Best Suited to Serve in Senate, News-Gazette (July 18, 2010). Copy supplied.

To the best of my recollection, and after searches of my records and publicly available online databases, I have identified the following published materials that I edited:

Amy Chua, *Political Tribes: Group Instinct and the Fate of Nations* (2018). I reviewed the manuscript and provided general feedback on certain chapters. Copy supplied.

John C. Brinkerhoff Jr. & Daniel B. Listwa, *Deference Conservation—FOIA's Lessons for a* Chevron*-less World*, 71 Stan. L. Rev. 146 (2018). I reviewed early drafts of this article and provided general feedback. Copy supplied.

Antonin Scalia, *Scalia Speaks: Reflections on Law, Faith, and Life Well Lived* (Christopher J. Scalia & Edward Whelan eds. 2017). I provided research assistance for the book and provided feedback on a draft of the manuscript. Copy supplied.

Jon Meacham, *Destiny and Power: The American Odyssey of George Herbert Walker Bush* (2015). I provided research assistance, fact checking, and feedback on a draft of the manuscript. Copy supplied.

As an editor on the *Yale Law Journal*, the *Yale Journal on Regulation*, and the *Yale Law & Policy Review*, I performed minor typographical, style, and editorial work on dozens of law review articles. The authors of those materials were responsible for the article's

substantive contents. I am credited for substantively editing the following published works:

E. Garrett West, *Clarifying the Employee-Officer Distinction in Appointments Clause Jurisprudence*, 127 Yale L.J. F. 42 (2017). Copy supplied.

Nathaniel A. G. Zelinsky, *Foreign Cyber Attacks and the American Press: Why the Media Must Stop Reprinting Hacked Material*, 127 Yale L.J. F. 286 (2017). Copy supplied.

As an undergraduate at Vanderbilt University, I published writings in the *Vanderbilt Torch*. The publication is no longer in operation, and I have been able to locate only some of these writings in my files or in publicly available online databases. I also served as an editor of this publication from approximately 2011 to 2013; I do not recall the specific pieces that I may have substantively edited. Likewise, as a high school student I published writings in, and served as an editor of, our school's newspaper, the *Titan Torch*. I have been unable to locate any of these writings in my files or in publicly available online databases.

b. Supply copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

None.

c. Supply copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

To the best of my recollection, and after searches of my records and publicly available online databases, I have identified the following communications to public bodies or officials:

Letter to Hon. Charles E. Grassley, Chairman, and Hon. Richard J. Durbin, Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, from Judge Amul R. Thapar's Former Law Clerks, in Support of S. Chad Meredith's Nomination to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky (July 25, 2025). Copy supplied.

Letter to Hon. Charles E. Grassley, Chairman, and Hon. Richard J. Durbin, Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, from Law Clerks of the United States Supreme Court During October Term 2021, in Support of T. Elliot Gaiser's Nomination to Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel (May 20, 2025). Copy supplied.

Letter from Yale Students, Alumni, and Faculty in Support of Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh (July 12, 2018). Copy supplied.

d. Supply copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

My public speaking engagements to the best of my recollection are as follows:

May 29, 2026: Speaker, "Investiture of the Honorable S. Chad Meredith," United States District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky. Transcript supplied.

May 21, 2026: Panelist, "Plenary Session 2: Unitary Executive & Administrative Agencies–Who's in Charge?," The Federalist Society, Washington, District of Columbia. Recording available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ScR3oa9SKoY&t=3s.

May 7, 2026: Panelist, "Inside the White House: How to Work Effectively with the West Wing," Teneo Network, Washington, District of Columbia. I spoke on a panel about how individuals in the government and private sector can work effectively with White House officials. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Teneo Network is 512 West Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, Austin, Texas 78701.

January 12, 2026: Panelist, "Supreme Court Dinner Discussion," Alliance Defending Freedom, Washington, District of Columbia. I participated in a dinner discussion regarding the Supreme Court. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Alliance Defending Freedom is 15100 North 90th Street, Scottsdale, Arizona 85260.

October 6, 2025: Panelist, "Supreme Court Dinner Discussion," Alliance Defending Freedom, Washington, District of Columbia. I participated in a dinner discussion regarding the Supreme Court. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Alliance Defending Freedom is 15100 North 90th Street, Scottsdale, Arizona 85260.

September 12, 2025: Panelist, "Tennessee Federalist Society Chapters Conference: Pennsylvania Avenue Counsels," The Federalist Society, Nashville, Tennessee. I participated in a panel discussion about the role that lawyers play in the White House and Congress. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federalist Society is 1776 I Street, Northwest, Suite 300, Washington, District of Columbia 20006.

August 16, 2025: Panelist, "Alumni Panel," Blackstone Legal Fellowship/Alliance

Defending Freedom, Lansdowne, Virginia. I participated in a panel discussion about my professional career and the Blackstone Legal Fellowship. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Alliance Defending Freedom is 15100 North 90th Street, Scottsdale, Arizona 85260.

May 15, 2025: Speaker, "Judicial and U.S. Attorney Nominations," Republican National Lawyers Association, Washington, District of Columbia. Notes supplied.

April 29, 2025: Panelist, "Supreme Court Dinner Discussion," Alliance Defending Freedom, Washington, District of Columbia. I participated in a dinner discussion regarding the Supreme Court. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Alliance Defending Freedom is 15100 North 90th Street, Scottsdale, Arizona 85260.

April 1, 2025: Panelist, "Supreme Court Dinner Discussion," Alliance Defending Freedom, Washington, District of Columbia. I participated in a dinner discussion regarding the Supreme Court. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Alliance Defending Freedom is 15100 North 90th Street, Scottsdale, Arizona 85260.

November 19, 2024: Moderator, "Litigation Update: *Tennessee v. Cardona*," The Federalist Society, Online Event. Recording available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1IiDC8fDiA.

November 14, 2024: Introduction, "Federal Judicial Selection in the Next Administration," The Federalist Society, Washington, District of Columbia. Recording available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJysIoC3v2Y&t=2s.

September 13, 2024: Panelist, "Tennessee Federalist Society Chapters Conference: Strategic Litigation for Civil Rights," The Federalist Society, Nashville, Tennessee. I participated in a panel discussion regarding strategic litigation, particularly with respect to civil rights. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Federalist Society is 1776 I Street, Northwest, Suite 300, Washington, District of Columbia 20006.

November 8, 2023: Panelist, "Supreme Court Dinner," Blackstone Legal Fellowship/Alliance Defending Freedom, Washington, District of Columbia. I spoke on a panel about Supreme Court clerkships. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Alliance Defending Freedom is 15100 North 90th Street, Scottsdale, Arizona 85260.

November 22, 2022: Moderator, "A Seat at the Sitting – December 2022," The Federalist Society, Online Event. Recording available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8bQNywuwVSY.

November 14, 2022: Speaker, "Supreme Court Seminar," South Texas College of Law Houston, Houston, Texas. I spoke at a law school seminar regarding Supreme Court practice and the Supreme Court's oral argument in *Students for Fair Admissions v. President and Fellows of Harvard College*. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The

address of the South Texas College of Law Houston is 1303 San Jacinto Street, Houston, Texas 77002.

November 9, 2022: Panelist, "Blackstone Legal Fellowship Supreme Court Dinner," Blackstone Legal Fellowship/Alliance Defending Freedom, Washington, District of Columbia. I spoke on a panel about Supreme Court clerkships. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of Alliance Defending Freedom is 15100 North 90th Street, Scottsdale, Arizona 85260.

March 7, 2022: Speaker, "History of American Law Course," University of Illinois, Springfield, Springfield, Illinois (virtual). I spoke virtually to an undergraduate college course regarding the Supreme Court, the American legal system, and my career. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the University of Illinois Springfield is One University Plaza, Springfield, Illinois 62703.

April 20, 2018: Speaker, "Remarks at Yale Federalist Society Spring Banquet," Yale Law School Federalist Society, New Haven, Connecticut. Notes supplied.

November 30, 2017: Speaker, "Remarks at Yale Federalist Society Winter Banquet," Yale Law School Federalist Society, New Haven, Connecticut. Notes supplied.

September 27, 2017: Introduction, "Income Inequality: Is Equality Fair or Unfair? A Conversation and Q&A Featuring Dr. Yaron Brook and Professor Daniel Markovits," Yale Law School Federalist Society, New Haven, Connecticut. Recording available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RITVJy7ogI.

April 29, 2017: Introduction, "Introduction of Professor Scott Soames," Yale Law School Federalist Society, New Haven, Connecticut. Notes supplied.

April 2017: Speaker, "Remarks at Yale Federalist Society Spring Banquet," Yale Law School Federalist Society, New Haven, Connecticut. I have been unable to ascertain the specific date of the event in April. Notes supplied.

February 2, 2017: Introduction, "Introduction of J.D. Vance and Amy Chua," Yale Law School Federalist Society, New Haven, Connecticut. I provided an introduction of J.D. Vance and Amy Chua before an event at Yale Law School, which discussed J.D. Vance's book, *Hillbilly Elegy*. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Yale Law School Federalist Society is 127 Wall Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06511.

November 30, 2016: Speaker, "Yale Political Union Debate," Yale Political Union and Yale Law School Federalist Society, New Haven, Connecticut. I spoke during a debate about judicial activism and court packing, co-hosted by the Yale Political Union and the Federalist Society. I have no notes, transcript, or recording. The address of the Yale Political Union is 305 Crown Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06511. The address of the Yale Law School Federalist Society is 127 Wall Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06511. Press coverage supplied.

November 17, 2016: Speaker, "Remarks at Yale Federalist Society Alumni Lunch," The Federalist Society, Washington, District of Columbia. Notes supplied.

October 5, 2016: Introduction, "Introduction of Nikolas Nikas," Yale Law School Federalist Society, New Haven, Connecticut. Notes supplied.

September 26, 2016: Introduction, "Introduction of Professor Richard Epstein," Yale Law School Federalist Society, New Haven, Connecticut. Notes supplied.

April 11, 2016: Introduction, "Introduction of Judge Kozinski and Professor Kapczynski," Yale Law School Federalist Society, New Haven, Connecticut. Notes supplied.

November 28, 2012: Speaker, "Fall 2012 Frank Houston Public Speaking Contest," Vanderbilt University Department of Communications Studies, Nashville, Tennessee. Recording available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qO0LGlGBgC0.

In addition, while participating in student organizations at Vanderbilt University and Yale Law School, as well as Yale Law School student organization alumni events, I recall giving other remarks on various occasions in connection with facilitating or participating in specific events. I do not have a record of or recall the specific occasions and contents of these remarks, which were often introductory in nature.

e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

Rob Montz, *Corporate DEI Is Now a Recipe for Lawsuits*, Good Kid Production, Sept. 12, 2024, available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8yQWZ25SlY.

Todd Starnes and Samuel Adkisson, FOX Nation: The Todd Starnes Show, May 15, 2019, available at https://www.foxnews.com/video/6024851023001.

Yale Federalist Society Receives Award for Chapter of the Year, Yale Law School, Apr. 4, 2018. Copy supplied.

Untitled Article on Yale Law School's Chapter of the Federalist Society. Yale L. Rep. 11, Summer 2018. Copy supplied.

Sam Adkisson '18, Yale Law School, Dec. 22, 2017, available at https://www.facebook.com/YaleLawSchool/videos/sam-adkisson-18/10155777166120856/.

Nicole Ahn & Will Wang, *Legal Scholars Debate Gerrymandering, Democracy*, Yale Daily News, Sept. 18, 2017. Copy supplied.

J.D. Vance to Speak About Memoir Hillbilly Elegy Feb. 2, Yale Law School, Jan. 27, 2017. Copy supplied.

Allie Gross, *Student Committee Formed to Advise Strategic Plan Implementation*, Inside Vandy, Nov. 5, 2014. Copy supplied.

Michael Tackett, *In Tennessee Gay Marriage Has Young Republicans Doubting*, Bloomberg, June 3, 2013. Copy supplied.

Amanda Reavy, *Glenwood Mock Trial Team Prepares for Next Month's Nationals*, State-J. Reg., April 16, 2011. Copy supplied.

During a trip to the 2012 Iowa Caucuses with a group of Vanderbilt University students, I recall participating in a group interview with C-SPAN. The interview occurred on approximately January 2, 2012, and may have aired on C-SPAN's *Washington Journal Program*. I have been unable to find a copy of the pertinent segment.

13. **Judicial Office**: State (chronologically) any judicial offices you have held, including positions as an administrative law judge, whether such position was elected or appointed, and a description of the jurisdiction of each such court.

I have not held judicial office.

a. Approximately how many cases have you presided over that have gone to verdict or judgment? _____

i. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

jury trials: ___%
bench trials: ___%

ii. Of these cases, approximately what percent were:

civil proceedings: ___%
criminal proceedings: ___%

b. Provide citations for all opinions you have written, including concurrences and dissents.

c. For each of the 10 most significant cases over which you presided, provide: (1) a capsule summary of the nature of the case; (2) the outcome of the case; (3) the name and contact information for counsel who had a significant role in the trial of the case; and (4) the citation of the case (if reported) or the docket number and a copy of the opinion or judgment (if not reported).

d. For each of the 10 most significant opinions you have written, provide: (1) citations for those decisions that were published; (2) a copy of those decisions that were not published; and (3) the names and contact information for the attorneys who played a significant role in the case.

e. Provide a list of all cases in which certiorari was requested or granted.

f. Provide a brief summary of and citations for all of your opinions where your decisions were reversed by a reviewing court or where your judgment was affirmed with significant criticism of your substantive or procedural rulings. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

g. Provide a description of the number and percentage of your decisions in which you issued an unpublished opinion and the manner in which those unpublished opinions are filed and/or stored.

h. Provide citations for significant opinions on federal or state constitutional issues, together with the citation to appellate court rulings on such opinions. If any of the opinions listed were not officially reported, provide copies of the opinions.

i. Provide citations to all cases in which you sat by designation on a federal court of appeals, including a brief summary of any opinions you authored, whether majority, dissenting, or concurring, and any dissenting opinions you joined.

14. **Recusal:** If you are or have been a judge, identify the basis by which you have assessed the necessity or propriety of recusal (If your court employs an "automatic" recusal system by which you may be recused without your knowledge, please include a general description of that system.) Provide a list of any cases, motions or matters that have come before you in which a litigant or party has requested that you recuse yourself due to an asserted conflict of interest or in which you have recused yourself sua sponte. Identify each such case, and for each provide the following information:

I have not held judicial office.

a. whether your recusal was requested by a motion or other suggestion by a litigant or a party to the proceeding or by any other person or interested party; or if you recused yourself sua sponte;

b. a brief description of the asserted conflict of interest or other ground for recusal;

c. the procedure you followed in determining whether or not to recuse yourself;

d. your reason for recusing or declining to recuse yourself, including any action taken to remove the real, apparent or asserted conflict of interest or to cure any other ground for recusal.

15. **Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations**:

a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

In January 2026, President Donald J. Trump appointed me to serve as a Special Assistant to the President. I have not otherwise held public office. I have had no unsuccessful candidacies for public office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

Volunteer, Vanderbilt College Republicans, Nashville, Tennessee (2011 – 2015, estimated and intermittent). I was a member of the Vanderbilt College Republicans. From time to time, we participated in campaign activities, such as phone banking and door knocking. I do not recall the specific campaigns we supported.

Volunteer, Mitt Romney for President (2012). During a short Vanderbilt University trip to the Iowa Caucuses in January 2012, I spent a brief amount of time volunteering for Mitt Romney's presidential campaign.

Intern, Rodney Davis for Congress, Taylorville, Illinois (2012).

Intern, Mark Kirk for Senate, Springfield, Illinois (2010).

To the best of my recollection, I have not otherwise held any position or played any role in a political campaign.

16. **Legal Career:** Answer each part separately.

a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:

i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

From 2019 to 2020, I served as a law clerk to the Honorable Gregory G. Katsas, United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

From 2020 to 2021, I served as a law clerk to the Honorable Amul R. Thapar, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

From 2021 to 2022, I served as a law clerk to the Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr., Chief Justice of the United States.

ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I have not practiced law alone.

iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each;

Summer – Fall 2018
United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Chairman Charles E. Grassley
226 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, District of Columbia 20510
Law Clerk

2018 – 2019
Consovoy McCarthy Park PLLC
[now Consovoy McCarthy PLLC]
1600 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 700
Arlington, Virginia 22209
Associate

2022 – 2024
Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP
811 Main Street, Suite 3000
Houston, Texas 77002
Associate

2024 – 2025
Cooper & Kirk, PLLC
1523 New Hampshire Avenue, Northwest
Washington, District of Columbia 20036
Associate (worked remotely from Tennessee)

2025 – present
Office of the White House Counsel
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest
Washington, District of Columbia 20500
Special Assistant to the President & Associate Counsel (2026 – present)
Associate Counsel (2025 – 2026)

iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution

proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I have not served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

b. Describe:

i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

From January 2025 through the present, I have served as an attorney in the White House Counsel's Office. I provide legal advice to the President and White House officials on litigation, executive orders, legislation, federal regulatory actions, and nominations. As an attorney in the White House, I provide advice on some of the most complex and novel legal issues facing our Nation.

Before joining the White House, I practiced law at Cooper & Kirk, PLLC from 2024 to 2025. There my practice involved three main areas. First, a substantial portion of my practice involved litigation and other efforts to protect individuals' civil rights—including through class actions, individual employment discrimination cases, and warning letters. Second, I represented state governments in complex or high-stakes litigation. Third, I represented individual corporate clients in complex business disputes.

From 2022 to 2024, I practiced law at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP. There I had a general litigation practice. I represented companies and individuals in complex business, partnership, and bankruptcy disputes. I also provided regulatory counseling to public companies. In the course of my pro bono work, I represented a religious non-profit organization facing investigation from a state attorney general.

From 2018 to 2019, I practiced law at Consovoy McCarthy Park PLLC (now Consovoy McCarthy PLLC). My practice focused on civil rights and constitutional litigation, though I also handled administrative law matters and business disputes. I represented non-profits, large businesses, government entities, and individuals.

In the summer and fall of 2018, I served as a law clerk for Chairman Charles E. Grassley on the Senate Judiciary Committee. I provided assistance during all aspects of Justice Kavanaugh's Supreme Court confirmation hearings, including by conducting research and preparing memoranda.

ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

As noted above, my career has been spent primarily as a general litigator handling complex commercial, statutory, and constitutional disputes. Over time, I have developed a specialty in civil rights and constitutional litigation, though throughout my career I have remained a generalist. My typical clients include individuals, non-profit organizations, government entities, and businesses.

c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

I estimate that 95% of my private practice involved litigation. I frequently entered appearances in court to file complaints, dispositive motions, discovery motions, pre-trial motions, and appellate briefs. I occasionally appeared in court to assist with trial or other proceedings. I frequently took and defended depositions.

Please note that this estimate excludes my time in the White House Counsel's Office, as attorneys in the White House Counsel's Office generally do not appear in court. That said, a significant portion of my time in the White House Counsel's Office has involved addressing matters in active or potential litigation.

i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1.	federal courts:	85%
2.	state courts of record:	5%
3.	other courts:	5% (arbitration)
4.	administrative agencies:	5%

ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

1.	civil proceedings:	95%
2.	criminal proceedings:	5%

d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

I have personally tried one case to judgment, which was a significant bankruptcy dispute with more than $1 billion at stake. *See In re Serta Simmons Bedding, LLC*, 2023 WL 3855820 (Bankr. S.D. Tex. June 6, 2023). I was an associate at the time of the trial. I also provided active support during a second trial, though I did not enter an appearance. *See SFFA v. Harvard*, 397 F. Supp. 3d 126 (D. Mass. 2019). Because my practice involved constitutional and statutory interpretation matters, as well as class actions, my district court cases frequently resolved on the briefs or through settlement rather than at trial.

i. What percentage of these trials were:

1.	jury:	0%
2.	non-jury:	100%

e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

As an attorney in private practice, I occasionally drafted petitions for certiorari and amicus briefs in the Supreme Court, edited Supreme Court merits briefs, and assisted with oral argument preparations:

Price v. City of Chicago, 591 U.S. 1026 (2020) (No. 18-1516) (pet. for cert., 2019 WL 2404320; reply in support of cert., 2019 WL 3960709). Copy supplied.

Tate v. United States, 586 U.S. 1222 (2019) (No. 18-601) (pet. for cert., 2018 WL 5840506; reply in support of cert., 2019 WL 698863). Copy supplied.

Montana v. Tipton, 586 U.S. 1145 (2019) (No. 18-444) (cert. amicus, 2018 WL 5978081). Copy supplied.

Sturgeon v. Frost, 587 U.S. 28 (2019) (No. 17-949) (brief for pet'r, 2018 WL 3830172; reply br. for pet'r, 2018 WL 4960759). Copy supplied.

17. **Litigation**: Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

a. the date of representation;

b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and

c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

1. *Brigida v. U.S. Dep't of Transportation*, 1:16-cv-2227 (D.D.C.) (Friedrich, J.) (Representation: 2024 – 2025)

I represented a class of individuals who applied to become air traffic controllers and alleged they were denied employment because the FAA placed race above merit in its 2014 hiring process,

including by adopting a racially discriminatory "biographical assessment" in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. I deposed approximately eight to ten witnesses, worked extensively with experts, handled discovery disputes, and assisted with all aspects of pre-trial strategy. The district court granted the parties' joint motion to stay the case in March 2025; public filings indicate that the parties have made "significant progress" toward settlement.

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2. *X Corp. v. Center for Countering Digital Hate, Inc.*, No. 24-2643 (9th Cir.)
(Representation: 2024 – 2025)

X Corp. alleged that the defendants violated the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act and breached X's terms of service by engaging in unauthorized data scraping. The district court dismissed the case, and X Corp. appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. I represented X Corp. on appeal and helped brief the case. Briefing was complete in November 2024. Oral argument is scheduled for September 2026. The Ninth Circuit has not yet announced the judges on the argument panel.

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3. *Kascsak v. Expedia*, No. 1:23-cv-01373 (W.D. Tex.) (Ezra, and Pitman, JJ.) (Representation: 2024 – 2025)

I represented an individual who alleged that he was verbally offered a senior position at a company, that the company reopened its hiring process for the purpose of hiring a more diverse candidate, and that the company ultimately declined to hire him because of his race and sex, in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. I was part of the team retained to represent the plaintiff once the case advanced past a motion to dismiss. During the course of this representation, I was heavily involved in pre-trial discovery efforts. The case settled in March 2025.

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4. *Johnson v. Univ. of Oklahoma*, No. 5:24-cv-00495 (W.D. Okla.) (Wyrick, J.) (Representation: 2024 – 2025)

I represented a putative class of University of Oklahoma students who alleged that the University discriminated on the basis of race when awarding financial aid, in violation of Title VI and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. I played a key role in preparing the class action for filing, including drafting the complaint and working with experts. I was also the primary drafter of our response in opposition to the University of Oklahoma's motion to dismiss. The case remains pending in the Western District of Oklahoma.

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5. *Floridians Protecting Freedom, Inc. v. Ladapo*, No. 4:24-cv-419, 754 F. Supp. 3d 1165 (N.D. Fla. 2024) (Walker, J.) (Representation: 2024)

I represented the State of Florida in connection with a 2024 ballot referendum. When Floridians

Protecting Freedom, Inc. (FPF) began airing advertisements that the State alleged contained objectively false information about the availability of emergency medical services under Florida law, the State threatened to take legal action. FPF then sued, alleging First Amendment violations. I served as outside defense counsel for the State of Florida. The district court entered a temporary restraining order, which it extended for two weeks. I then drafted a brief opposing preliminary injunctive relief. The district court ultimately denied FPF's motion for a preliminary injunction and dissolved the temporary restraining order. After this occurred, FPF dismissed its suit with prejudice.

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6. *In re Serta Simmons Bedding, LLC*, Nos. 4:23-AP-9001, 4:23-BK-90020, 2023 WL 3855820 (Bankr. S.D. Tex. June 6, 2023) (Jones, J.), *rev'd*, 125 F.4th 555 (5th Cir. 2024) (Representation: 2023)

This case was part of the bankruptcy of Serta Simmons Bedding. Prior to the bankruptcy, two rival groups of creditors proposed "uptiering" debt transactions, whereby their group's debt would increase in payment priority, in exchange for a significant reduction in the amount owed. One group of creditors prevailed (the Priority Lenders) and entered into a transaction with Serta Simmons. The other group of creditors was excluded from the transaction (the Excluded Lenders). After Serta Simmons filed for bankruptcy, the Excluded Lenders sued Serta Simmons and the Priority Lenders in a bankruptcy adversary proceeding.

I represented the Priority Lenders and was a member of the trial team, second-chairing for our lead attorney in the adversary proceeding. I was also heavily involved in depositions and discovery. After a bench trial, the bankruptcy court entered judgment in favor of our clients. The bankruptcy court's judgment was later reversed on appeal. I was not involved in the appellate proceedings.

This multi-billion-dollar bankruptcy action involved more than 100 parties and an extremely large number of attorneys. Accordingly, I am listing all co-counsel with whom I personally recall working, as well as the individuals who appear to have served as lead counsel for the primary parties in the bankruptcy court's adversary proceeding. A full listing of all counsel is available on the bankruptcy court's docket.

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7. *Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard*, No. 1:14-cv-14176, 397 F. Supp. 3d 126 (D. Mass. 2019) (Burroughs, J.), *aff'd*, 980 F.3d 157 (1st Cir. 2020), *rev'd*, 600 U.S. 181 (2023) (Representation: 2018 – 2019)

This case involved a challenge to Harvard's affirmative action policies under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. I assisted with discovery matters in advance of trial and was involved in summary judgment briefing and pre-trial proceedings. During the trial, I provided legal support

for the trial team. The district court ruled against our client. The United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit affirmed. But the United States Supreme Court reversed and held that Harvard had illegally discriminated on the basis of race, in violation of Title VI. My involvement was limited to the district court proceedings.

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8. *Tate v. United States*, 890 F.3d 697 (8th Cir. 2018), *cert. denied*, 586 U.S. 1222 (2019) (No. 18-601) (Representation: 2018 – 2019)

This case involved the criminal prosecution of John Tate, who managed Ron Paul's 2012 Presidential Campaign. Prosecutors alleged that Tate misstated the purpose of certain expenditures in campaign finance filings. A jury convicted Tate under the federal obstruction and false-statement statutes. The United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit affirmed. I was part of the team retained to represent Tate in his Supreme Court proceedings. I drafted a petition for certiorari and reply in support of certiorari. The Supreme Court declined to hear the case. In 2020, Mr. Tate received a full and unconditional pardon.

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9. *Montana v. Tipton*, 421 P.3d 780 (Mont. S. Ct. 2018), *cert. denied*, 586 U.S. 1145 (2019) (No. 18-444) (Representation: 2018 – 2019)

This case involved a Montana law, which permitted prosecutions within one year of a suspect's DNA identification even if a limitations period had otherwise expired. Montana prosecutors solved the cold-case rape of a child. They brought a prosecution under this law. The Montana Supreme Court held that the Constitution's Ex Post Facto Clause barred the prosecution. Montana filed a petition for writ of certiorari in the United States Supreme Court. I represented the National District Attorneys Association and filed an amicus brief in support of Montana's position. The brief argued that the Montana Supreme Court's decision was inconsistent with the original public meaning of the Ex Post Facto Clause. The Supreme Court called for a response, but ultimately denied certiorari.

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10. *McDonald v. Sorrels*, No. 1:19-cv-219, 2020 WL 3261061 (W.D. Tex. May 29, 2020) (Yeakel, J.), *rev'd sub nom. McDonald v. Longley*, 4 F.4th 229 (5th Cir. 2021) (Representation: 2019)

I represented three individuals in a First Amendment challenge to the State Bar of Texas's compelled collection of mandatory bar dues, allegedly inadequate opt-out procedures, and spending on political and ideological activities. I drafted the complaint, motion for preliminary injunction, and motion for partial summary judgment. I also compiled the stipulated evidentiary record. The district court ruled against our clients, but the Fifth Circuit reversed. I was not involved in the appellate proceedings.

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18. **Legal Activities**: Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

I currently serve as an attorney in the White House Counsel's Office. In that role, I advise the President and senior White House officials on legal issues pertaining to litigation, executive orders, legislation, federal regulatory actions, and nominations. This practice is dynamic. It requires providing legal advice on new and varied topics each and every day.

I have never acted or registered as a lobbyist.

19. **Teaching**: What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide copies to the committee.

I have not taught any courses.

20. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits**: List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

I do not expect any such income.

21. **Outside Commitments During Court Service**: Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

I do not have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment.

22. **Sources of Income**: List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding $500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

When my nomination is formally submitted to the Senate, I will file my mandated Financial Disclosure Report and supply a copy to this Committee.

23. **Statement of Net Worth**: Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

24. **Potential Conflicts of Interest**:

a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, categories of litigation, and financial arrangements that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

If confirmed, I will recuse in cases where I have played any role in the litigation. Cases most likely to implicate conflict questions would be those related to my service as an attorney in the White House Counsel's Office. Such cases are likely to be rare in the Eastern District of Tennessee. I will evaluate any real or potential conflict by consulting 28 U.S.C. § 455(a) and (b)(3), Canon 3C of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, pertinent judicial opinions and Judicial Conference decisions, and any other applicable laws, rules, or canons. I will evaluate any real or potential conflicts on a case-by-case basis and take appropriate action, in consultation with parties and their counsel, including recusal where necessary.

b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

If confirmed, I will carefully review and address any real or potential conflicts by reference to 28 U.S.C. § 455, Canon 3 of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, and any and all other laws, rules, and practices governing such circumstances.

25. **Pro Bono Work**: An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar

Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each.

During portions of my career, I have worked in government positions in which I was prohibited from engaging in the private practice of law for non-government clients. When engaged in the private practice of law, I have dedicated time to pro bono work. For example, I provided pro bono representation to a non-profit religious healthcare clinic facing hostile subpoenas from a state attorney general. The investigation resulted in no adverse findings. I also represented an inmate who alleged that he was denied meals complying with his religiously mandated diet, as well as a prisoner who brought an excessive force claim after being attacked by a police dog in his jail cell. These latter two representations occurred through the Yale Appellate Litigation Project during my time in law school, under Second Circuit Rule 46.1(e). My records are insufficient to determine the amount of time devoted to specific matters. In addition to my pro bono work, I frequently take time to mentor law students and junior attorneys.

26. **Selection Process**:

a. Please describe your experience in the entire judicial selection process, from beginning to end (including the circumstances which led to your nomination and the interviews in which you participated). Is there a selection commission in your jurisdiction to recommend candidates for nomination to the federal courts? If so, please include that process in your description, as well as whether the commission recommended your nomination. List the dates of all interviews or communications you had with the White House staff or the Justice Department regarding this nomination. Do not include any contacts with Federal Bureau of Investigation personnel concerning your nomination.

In December 2025, Senators Blackburn and Hagerty announced that they were accepting applications for a judicial vacancy in the Eastern District of Tennessee. Around this time, I spoke with the White House Counsel to discuss potential interest in the position. I then submitted applications to Senators Blackburn and Hagerty on January 9, 2026.

On January 9, 2026, I was invited to interview with Senator Blackburn's Chief Counsel. That interview occurred on January 16, 2026. On January 28, 2026, I was invited to interview with Senator Hagerty's General Counsel. That interview occurred on January 30, 2026. On February 18, 2026, I was invited to interview with Senator Hagerty. That interview occurred on February 26, 2026. On March 4, 2026, I was invited to interview with Senator Blackburn. That interview occurred on March 11, 2026.

On March 30, 2026, I interviewed with attorneys from the White House Counsel's Office. On August 14, 2026, President Trump called to inform me that he had selected me for nomination.

Throughout this process, I have had contact with members of the White House Counsel's

Office and the Justice Department's Office of Legal Policy regarding the nomination and associated paperwork.

b. Has anyone involved in the process of selecting you as a judicial nominee discussed with you any currently pending or specific case, legal issue or question in a manner that could reasonably be interpreted as seeking any express or implied assurances concerning your position on such case, issue, or question? If so, explain fully.

No.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Samuel D. Addisson, do swear that the information provided in this statement is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate.

8/25/26
(DATE)

Samuel D. Addisson
(NAME)

David E. Kalyaugh
(NOTARY)

8/25/26

