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April 17, 2013

VIA FACSIMILE

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Women's Bar Association's Endorsement of Sri Srinivasan for
Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia (WBA), I am writing to express the WBA's support for the nomination of Sri Srinivasan to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Our principal goal in endorsing judicial candidates is to ensure the appointment of qualified judges and, consistent with that goal, to increase the number of judges who support the mission of the WBA. We consider, in our recommendations, the candidate's background, level of experience, connection to the District of Columbia, record of public service, a demonstrated commitment to the equality of all litigants, and an attention to women's needs and concerns.

We evaluate each candidate for endorsement by reviewing his or her resume and other supporting documentation, and discussing the candidate's skills and character with references. We ask each person contacted specific questions regarding the candidate's qualifications, integrity, temperament, experience, and commitment to the concepts of equal opportunity and equal justice under law.

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Mr. Srinivasan is without question exceptionally well-qualified for the position to which he has been nominated, and we believe that he would be an outstanding addition to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. He began his stellar legal career at Stanford Law School, where he was a Note Editor of the Stanford Law Review and graduated Order of the Coif while enrolled in a dual degree program at Stanford Business School. After graduating, he clerked first for Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson III on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and later for the first female Supreme Court Justice, the honorable Sandra Day O'Connor. In between clerkships, Mr. Srinivasan served as a Bristow Fellow at the Office of the Solicitor General at the U.S. Department of Justice. He has spent his legal career alternating between stints in public and private service, focusing on appellate advocacy throughout. Mr. Srinivasan has served as the Principal Deputy Solicitor General at the U.S. Department of Justice since 2011, and previously served as Assistant to the Solicitor General from 2002-2007. From 1998-2002, and then again from 2007-2011, he was in private practice at the law firm O'Melveny & Myers, first as an associate and partner in and eventually chair of the Supreme Court and Appellate Practice Group. Mr. Srinivasan has argued 24 cases in the U.S. Supreme Court, and drafted briefs or served as counsel of record in over 50 cases. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including: LawDragon, 500 *Leading Lawyers in America* (2010-2011); National Law Journal, 50 *Most Influential Minority Lawyers in America* (2008); American Lawyer Litigation Daily, *Litigator of the Week*; National Law Journal, *Appellate Lawyer of the Week*; the Attorney General's Award for Excellence in Furthering U.S. National Security (2003); and the Department of Defense, Award for Excellence (2005).

Beyond Mr. Srinivasan's many professional achievements, he has also demonstrated a commitment to giving back to the community throughout his life. As an undergraduate student at Stanford University he was awarded a Stanford-in-Government Fellowship and a Public Service Fellowship, and after college he spent two years working in local government at the San Mateo County Manager's Office. During his time in private practice, Mr. Srinivasan devoted significant time and resources to pro bono service, and served as a lecturer at the Appellate and Supreme Court Practice Clinic at Harvard Law School and also on the Board of Visitors at Stanford Law School. Locally, Mr. Srinivasan has served on the Board of Directors of the Washington Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs and on the Outside Advisory Board of the Georgetown University Law Center's Supreme Court Institute. He has also volunteered to coach his daughter's youth basketball team for many years.

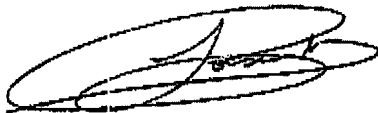
Given his record of achievement and breadth of experience, it is unsurprising that Mr. Srinivasan has received a unanimous rating of Well-Qualified from the ABA's Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary, the highest rating available. Justice O'Connor herself has commented that Mr. Srinivasan is "a splendid choice for an appellate court position." And recently a bi-partisan group of former high-level officials from the Solicitor General's office—six of them Democrats, six of them Republicans—issued an enthusiastic letter in support of his nomination, noting that "Sri has a first-rate intellect, an open-minded approach to the law, a strong work ethic, and an unimpeachable character. Sri is one of the best appellate lawyers in the

country." Signatories of the letter included Paul Clement, Ted Olson, Ken Starr, Walter Dellinger, Seth Waxman, and Drew Days.

In addition to Mr. Srinivasan's obvious qualifications, we must note that his confirmation would contribute much needed diversity to the federal bench and to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in particular. There has never been a South Asian American federal appellate judge in American history.

For all of these reasons, the WBA is proud to support Mr. Srinivasan's nomination and encourages the Senate to take prompt action to confirm him to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. He is one of the nation's leading appellate lawyers, and his reputation for fair-mindedness, superior intellect, and judicious temperament make Mr. Srinivasan an exceptionally well-qualified nominee. If you have any questions regarding this letter of support, please contact me at 202-550-8777 or at president@wbadc.org.

Sincerely,



Laura Possessky
President

cc: Mr. Sri Srinivasan
Co-Chairs, WBA Judicial and Executive Endorsement Committee:
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