The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC, 20510

Re: Nomination of Samuel Adkisson to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We write in our personal capacities to support Samuel Adkisson's nomination to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee. We served as law clerks at the U.S. Supreme Court in October Term 2021, when Sam was clerking for Chief Justice John Roberts. We all had the opportunity to witness firsthand Sam's extraordinary legal acumen, integrity, and aptitude for judicial work. We have a wide range of legal and political perspectives, but we can all recognize that Sam is qualified to be a federal judge.

We need not—and will not—repeat Sam's impressive resume. His accomplishments come as no surprise to us. During October Term 2021, we all witnessed Sam tackle extraordinarily complex legal problems. Sam handled these problems with impressive speed, fairmindedness, a cheerful attitude, and an overriding commitment to the rule of law. Sam took this approach regardless of the subject-matter of the case or the identity of the parties involved. Overall, Sam stood out as a hard worker in a building full of them.

Legal work aside, we all got to know Sam well on a personal level. He is a wonderful husband and father. To his friends and acquaintances, he is a kind, funny, and jovial person. Even under stressful work conditions, Sam was easy to work with. At social events, he was collegial and friendly. Given those realities, we are confident that Sam would be kind and fair to all litigants who appear before him. Just as it is important for judges to strictly maintain the rule of law, it is also important for judges to show grace to litigants. We are confident Sam would strike that balance.

Many of us practice in federal district courts. Given our experience, we are confident that Sam would be an outstanding federal judge. We therefore ask the

Committee to favorably recommend Sam's nomination, and we hope that this letter is helpful as the Committee deliberates.

Sincerely,

Christina Gay (Law Clerk to Chief Justice Roberts)

Maxwell Gottschall (Law Clerk to Chief Justice Roberts)

Dennis Howe (Law Clerk to Chief Justice Roberts)

Christopher C. Goodnow (Law Clerk to Justice Thomas)

Steven J. Lindsay (Law Clerk to Justice Thomas)

M. Scott Proctor (Law Clerk to Justice Thomas)

Manuel Valle (Law Clerk to Justice Thomas)

Shelby Baird Smith (Law Clerk to Justice Alito)

T. Elliot Gaiser (Law Clerk to Justice Alito)

Eric Palmer (Law Clerk to Justice Alito)

Garrett West (Law Clerk to Justice Alito)

Stephanie Barclay (Law Clerk to Justice Gorsuch)

Louis J. Capozzi III (Law Clerk to Justice Gorsuch)

Mark Storslee (Law Clerk to Justice Gorsuch)

John Henry Thompson (Law Clerk to Justice Gorsuch)

Alexa R. Baltes (Law Clerk to Justice Kavanaugh)

Athie Livas (Law Clerk to Justice Kavanaugh)

Jenna P. Swarbrick (Law Clerk to Justice Kavanaugh)

Sarah Welch (Law Clerk to Justice Kavanaugh)

Libby Baird (Law Clerk to Justice Barrett)

Michael Heckmann (Law Clerk to Justice Barrett)

Elizabeth Nielson (Law Clerk to Justice Barrett)

Max E. Schulman (Law Clerk to Justice Barrett)

Zachary Tyree (Law Clerk to Justice Barrett)