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KEITH STONE
SHERIFF

November 2, 2026

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Philip L. Aubart to the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

As elected Sheriff serving Nash County North Carolina, I am pleased to write this letter of support for Philip L. Aubart's nomination to serve as District Court Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina. Mr. Aubart is exceptionally qualified to serve as a District Court Judge, and he possesses the legal acumen, experience, and judgment that this important office requires. In addition, his career in public service demonstrates his commitment to fairness and the Constitution.

As an Assistant United States Attorney, Mr. Aubart worked closely with federal, state, and local law enforcement to uphold the rule of law and protect the vulnerable. He prosecuted hundreds of wide-ranging cases, consistently demonstrating zealous advocacy and a command of the courtroom. Through this work, he quickly earned the respect of his colleagues, judges, and state and federal law enforcement leaders. Mr. Aubart was promptly elevated to his current role as First Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina. In that role, he oversees the office's day-to-day operations and has earned a reputation for fairness, professionalism, and sound judgment.

Mr. Aubart also serves as a Major in the United States Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corps, reflecting his longstanding commitment to serving our country. His military service further demonstrates the strong character and discipline that will serve him well on the federal bench.

Based on his distinguished career and longstanding record of public service, we have no doubt that Mr. Aubart will faithfully apply the law, treat all parties fairly, and serve with integrity. He will be an asset to the Middle District of North Carolina, and we respectfully urge the Senate Judiciary Committee to report his nomination favorably and recommend his confirmation by the full Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Stone

Sheriff Keith Stone