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August 31, 2026

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

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Grassley and Senator Durbin:

I write to recommend Richard Bennett be confirmed as United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas at Houston.

For 32 years, I have practiced primarily criminal defense in the federal courts of Texas and throughout the U.S. Before going into private practice, I served as an officer of the Central Intelligence Agency for five years.

I have know Mr. Bennett for approximately 20 years. I first met him when he had the unfortunate experience of working for my (now) former wife. Despite an unusually difficult work environment, Mr. Bennett remained steadfastly professional. He developed a reputation as a smart, reliable, and ethical attorney.

I next encountered Mr. Bennett when he was serving as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, He was always well-prepared to prosecute the cases he was assigned, yet was also flexible and reasonable in his representation of the community's interests. In trial, he was professional, ethical, and and honorable opponent.

Despite being a criminal defense attorney, I fully supported his application to serve as U.S. Magistrate Judge. As I expected, Magistrate Judge Bennett runs his courtroom efficiently, and is invariably respectful to attorneys, witnesses, defendants, family members, and spectators.

Magistrate Bennett would make an excellent district judge. I recommend his confirmation without any reservation whatsoever.

Please contact me should you need any additional information.

Respectfully,

/s/ David Adler

David Adler

DA/mf