



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the
Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on
the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

June 23, 2025

**Re: Supporting the Nomination of Emil Bove III to be Judge on the
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit**

Dear Senators Grassley and Durbin:

Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General Emil Bove is an excellent leader, litigator, and now nominee to serve as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Mr. Bove has a superb track record of public service, of courage in representation, and of dedication to the people of the United States. We, the undersigned twenty State Attorneys-General, strongly recommend that you confirm him as a judge.

Mr. Bove has credentials that set him apart as well qualified to be a federal appellate judge. Most recently, he has been an integral part of Attorney General Bondi's leadership team at the Department of Justice. In his role as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General, Bove is enmeshed in both high-level strategic decision-making and tactical decisions to ensure the United States prevails in its many high-profile cases. Mr. Bove has played an integral role as a senior leader overseeing the thousands of attorneys employed at the Department of Justice.

Before Mr. Bove took this role at the Department, he had a storied career in public service—most notably serving as an Assistant United States Attorney for nine years. By the end of his tenure, Mr. Bove was co-chief of the Southern District of New York's terrorism and international narcotics unit. One case that Mr. Bove led the prosecution of was pipe-bomber Cesar Sayoc, Jr. Mr. Sayoc sent sixteen pipe bombs to prominent critics of President Donald Trump, including former President Joseph Biden, Senator Cory Booker, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and former Vice President Kamala Harris.

Mr. Bove prosecuted this politically motivated would-be killer without any fear, favor, or partisan concerns. And beyond prosecutions, Mr. Bove has also handled dozens of appeals—prime qualifications for a future appellate judge.

Another unique highlight of Mr. Bove's experience relates to his time in private practice, where Mr. Bove courageously defended President Trump in his criminal trial when few other attorneys would step up to do so. In that role, Mr. Bove entered a media firestorm and acquitted himself with poise—and provided excellent representation under immense pressure. The courage to represent unpopular defendants under harsh scrutiny is precisely the type of character that the Senate should consider in judicial nominees.

Mr. Bove's exemplary accomplishments reflect those accomplishments of many of his potential future colleagues. Chief Judge Michael Chagares served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for three years; Judge Paul Matey served as one for four years; and Judge Cindy Chung served as one for seven years. Each of those well-qualified judges—nominated by Presidents of both parties—had almost as much experience as an AUSA as nominee Mr. Bove.

Indeed, Mr. Bove has many of the hallmark accomplishments of superb judicial nominees. He graduated from a top law school, Georgetown University Law Center, before going on to serve as a law clerk for both then-district judge Richard J. Sullivan and Judge Richard Wesley. Mr. Bove has substantial experience in private practice, both in big law and at a litigation boutique. And in private practice Mr. Bove also had high-profile criminal defense experience, giving him a well-rounded view on criminal matters.

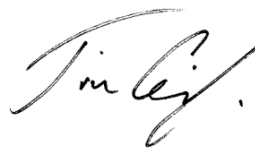
Sincerely,



Brenna Bird
Attorney General of Iowa



Steve Marshall
Attorney General of Alabama



Tim Griffin
Attorney General of Arkansas



James Uthmeier
Attorney General of Florida



Andrew T. Bailey
Attorney General of Missouri



Chris Carr
Attorney General of Georgia



Austin Knudsen
Attorney General of Montana



Todd Rokita
Attorney General of Indiana



Mike Hilgers
Attorney General of Nebraska



Kris Kobach
Attorney General of Kansas



Dave Yost
Attorney General of Ohio



Liz Murrill
Attorney General of Louisiana



Gentner Drummond
Attorney General of Oklahoma



Lynn Fitch
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