September 10, 2025

The Honorable Chuck Grassley Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 135 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dick Durbin Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 711 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

> Re: Nomination of David Bragdon to the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We are lawyers and members of the private bar who have worked with David Bragdon in his role as an Assistant United States Attorney. We write in support of his nomination to serve as a United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina.

David's objective qualifications are exceptional. His classmates elected him student body president at Campbell University, where he earned a degree in Political Science and Government. He served on the Law Review at the University of Virginia School of Law, then clerked for Judge Stephen F. Williams of the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. He practiced for several years with the prominent firm of Burr & Forman, in Birmingham, Alabama, then returned to the judicial branch as a law clerk to Justice Clarence Thomas of the United States Supreme Court. Since his Supreme Court clerkship, he has served in the U.S. Department of Justice as an Assistant United States Attorney, including most recently as Appellate Chief in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

David consistently contributes beyond his primary role as a federal prosecutor. In 2017, the DOJ chose him as Resident Legal Advisor to the Philippines, where he served until 2020. He also has taught at his undergraduate alma mater, Campbell University, as an Adjunct Professor in its law school. In addition to his professional work, he has volunteered for more than a decade with his sons' Scout troop.

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The achievements on David's résumé are insufficient, however, to illustrate his character and integrity. Many of us have been his opponents—attorneys representing clients on the opposite sides of cases against David and his office. He is a highly intelligent, formidable advocate. When he speaks, though, it is not with volume or a forceful tone, but with quiet confidence based on clear, disciplined thinking. More important, particularly for a judicial nominee, David listens patiently, treating everyone in a case with humility and respect. As his opponents, we do not always agree with him, but he has earned our trust and confidence that each of his decisions is based on fair, thorough, and sincere evaluation of the facts and the law.

David is extraordinarily qualified to serve as a United States District Judge. His remarkable professional record reveals his intellect, work ethic, and dedication to service, and we have observed first-hand his integrity and personal temperament. We enthusiastically support his nomination, and we respectfully ask the Senate to confirm him to the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Kearns Davis

Rudolph A. Ashton, III

Russesh A. Aston, Ht.

Wes Camden

Kelly Margolis Dagger

Christian Dysart

Marshall H. Ellis

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