

1232 N. Edison Street
Milwaukee, WI, 53202

September 22, 2017

Senator Ron Johnson
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Senator Tammy Baldwin
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Johnson and Senator Baldwin:

We are the chief legal officers for some of Wisconsin's leading companies, collectively employing tens of thousands of hard-working individuals. Our employees, our shareholders, and our customers expect the very best from us. That goes beyond our products and services and extends to every aspect of our business dealings.

From time to time, our companies are engaged in legal disputes. Sometimes the issue concerns a contract, a licensing agreement, or some other commercial arrangement. And when those disagreements arise, we often choose to handle them through binding arbitration, or if that is not available, before heading to court and undergoing costly litigation, through mediation. It is our experience with those two areas of arbitration and mediation that lead us to endorse Michael Brennan, who has been nominated to serve as a federal appellate judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

For the most part, an arbitrator is no different from a judge. The parties give the arbitrator the power to resolve their dispute, and the arbitrator's decision is final. This makes picking an arbitrator an important and difficult choice. Adding to the challenge, the parties must agree on the choice of arbitrator and the person chosen must be completely impartial. The arbitrator must have a temperament that lets each side know that it is being heard. And the arbitrator must be capable of, and committed to, delivering a ruling that will let the parties walk away knowing that they got a fair shake. The virtues that mark a great arbitrator also mark a great judge.

Mike Brennan embodies those qualities—as an arbitrator, as a mediator and, before that, as a judge in Milwaukee Circuit Court. His demeanor commands respect but isn't overbearing; every side knows that it is being heard and that its arguments are being fairly considered. Mike's preparation and command of the law and the facts are among

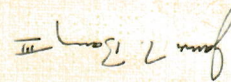
the best we have ever seen. And his decisions are always thorough and well written and marked by a fair application of the law to the facts.

That isn't just our opinion—it is shared by business leaders across the state. That is why Brennan has been named among Wisconsin's top arbitrators and mediators. This opinion is shared by the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary, which recently awarded Mike a unanimous "Well Qualified" rating. All of us have the right to expect impartiality and fairness in a judge—that the law will be followed and faithfully applied regardless of the parties' wealth or status or predispositions. Mike Brennan has consistently provided that type of sound and impartial justice. That is why we endorse him for the federal bench, and we urge that he be unanimously confirmed.

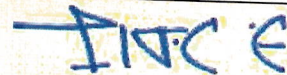
Sometimes politics threatens to get in the way of confirming a solid judicial nominee like Mike Brennan. It shouldn't. The people of Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana deserve the same quality of decisions and impartial justice in court that one receives from Mike Brennan in arbitration and mediation—decisions that are well-reasoned and well-written, decisions that are prompt, and decisions that are above all else unbiased and faithful to the law.

We strongly urge you to support the confirmation of Mike Brennan to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



James Barry III
The Barry Company

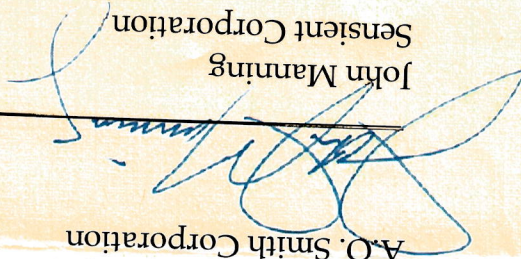


David Stegeman
Michels Corporation

Cc: Senator Chuck Grassley
Senator Dianne Feinstein



James Stern
A.O. Smith Corporation



John Manning
Sensient Corporation