

February 16, 2018

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

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

In the near future, the Senate Judiciary Committee will take up the nomination of John Nalbandian to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. I hope that the committee will report this nomination out favorably.

I have been acquainted with Mr. Nalbandian since 2011 through our joint service on the Board of Directors of the State Justice Institute, the only federal body that provides logistical and limited financial support to our nation's state court system in the cause of improving the administration of justice. From my personal observation, the nation could not ask for a better nominee to this position. Mr. Nalbandian is a person of enormous integrity and high intelligence, as well as an extremely hard worker. He is also thoughtful, innovative, and highly collegial, even in disagreement, which is a characteristic that is sorely needed in our nation's appellate courts.

Mr. Nalbandian is a 1994 graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was Order of the Coif and managing editor of the Virginia Law Review. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School in 1991. After graduating from law school, John clerked for the Honorable Jerry E. Smith of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. After that clerkship, he worked for a law firm in Washington, DC, where he focused on appellate practice.

John has had a wealth of experience. He concentrates on appellate and

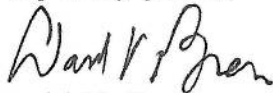
general litigation in state and federal courts. He represents clients in a wide range of legal areas, including antitrust, products liability, intellectual property, environmental, employment, white-collar crime and class actions. He also has extensive experience in administrative and international law.

John is an Ohio State Bar Association Board Certified Specialist in Appellate Law. He has been recognized annually since 2007 by Best Lawyers in America for his work in Appellate Law and was named a 2016 "Lawyer of the Year" for Cincinnati Appellate Practice. John was also selected by Cincinnati Magazine as a 2007 Ohio Super Lawyers Rising Star in appellate practice from 2005-2007. Among his many other contributions to the rule of law, he has served as a Special Justice on the Kentucky Supreme Court and is a frequent presenter on appellate practice.

John was appointed by President Obama, and confirmed by the Senate, to serve on the Board of Directors of the State Justice Institute. He serves on the Greater Cincinnati Minority Counsel Program's Board of Directors and currently serves as treasurer. Beyond those activities, John's service to the legal community in numerous other capacities, including in the performance of charitable and academic work, is truly exemplary. I respectfully submit that the breadth of his experience would serve him well as an appellate judge. I can also attest that he is a kind and eminently decent human being.

The suite of John's personal attributes and his pertinent experience will make him a stalwart and unflinching servant of the rule of law on the federal bench, who will accord dignity, fair treatment, and stellar legal judgment to all who come before him. He is one of those prized nominees who are exceptionally talented, of unimpeachable character, a rigorous legal analyst and writer, and highly collegial. We can ask for nothing more in a federal appellate judge.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David V. Brewer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Brewer" clearly distinguishable.

David V. Brewer

Senior Judge, Oregon Supreme Court