WISE CARTER

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November 4, 2026

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

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

Re: Nomination of Gregory Todd Butler to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

Dear Senators Grassley and Durbin:

I write to express my enthusiastic support for Mr. Todd Butler's nomination for the Honorable Leslie H. Southwick's seat on the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. I am a lifelong resident of the State of Mississippi and a shareholder with the Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway, P.A. in Jackson, Mississippi. I currently serve as President of the Mississippi Lawyers Chapter of the Federalist Society and have served in that role since 2021. I have regularly represented the State of Mississippi in federal redistricting litigation and represented the Mississippi Republican Party and Republican elected officials in other types of litigation during the fourteen years I have practiced law. That said, these are my opinions and no one else's.

In my judgment, Todd possesses more than the necessary skill, intellect, temperament, and work ethic to be an excellent member of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. I know him to have a conservative judicial philosophy. Putting politics aside, Todd has the type of temperament that will make him an effective member of three-judge panels that may consist of judges who share a different judicial philosophy.

I am uniquely situated in having litigated with Todd in civil cases in Mississippi federal courts over the years. We are not coworkers, and we have never practiced law together. Instead, we have regularly represented codefendants in federal litigation. Todd, like me, regularly represents law enforcement in defense of civil rights claims. In those types of cases especially, I can quickly gauge the quality and skill of another lawyer by assessing their performance when that lawyer is representing a co-party rather than my client. In my honest assessment, Todd has demonstrated considerable litigation skill that sets him apart from other litigators in our field. I know from personal conversations with his coworkers that he has been a respected supervisor to subordinate attorneys and staff at his firm. Importantly, I have always believed that one can best judge the character of attorneys and judges by reviewing how they treat those who work for them.

Todd has an excellent reputation for professional character and integrity in our State. He is the type of judicial nominee whom both Republicans and Democrats on your Committee could vote for without facing legitimate criticism from their constituencies, either at the time of the vote or years down the line.

In sum, I hope that you will support Todd's nomination, and I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,



Charles E. Cowan