November 5, 2026

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

The Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Letter in Support of the Confirmation of Todd Butler for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We write in support of the nomination of G. Todd Butler to be a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. As professors at Mississippi Christian University School of Law, we are scholars of a wide range of legal fields, including bankruptcy, constitutional law, military law, law and religion, criminal law, and civil procedure. We also have a wide range of worldviews and political perspectives. Nonetheless, we are aligned in our view that Todd Butler would be an excellent addition to the federal judiciary. Based on our years of experience interacting with Todd, we know that he is intelligent, hard-working, and collegial.

Todd's academic record demonstrates his intelligence. Todd graduated *summa cum laude* from both Mississippi State University and MC Law. Second in his law school class, Todd also served as editor-in-chief of the law review here. Following graduation, Todd served as a law clerk for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Since graduating, Todd has remained involved with the law school as an alumnus, partnering with the law school in its mission to provide a rich legal education to students. As an adjunct professor, he has taught Appellate Advocacy as well as a Judicial Externship Seminar. As a volunteer, he has served as an attorney coach for moot court teams, sacrificing countless hours to practice and travel with the teams to compete.

In addition to supporting our mission, Todd has invited law students to observe him in his own legal practice. Over the years, Todd has allowed select students to participate in mooting him for scheduled oral arguments at the law school. This experience has given students a front-row seat to watching a real practitioner develop and refine real arguments. Additionally, after his oral argument to the Supreme Court of the United States during the October 2025 Term, Todd spoke to a crowded room of law school students and local attorneys about that experience.

Todd is also well-respected in the local legal community. He is a quick study and voracious reader. He has a broad background of experience in a wide array of litigation: civil and administrative; trial and appellate; local, state, and federal; plaintiff and defense; and on behalf of the indigent and the wealthy, local and state government officials, and major businesses. Todd's opinions are regularly sought by government officials, non-lawyers, and other members of the bar -- even those from rival law firms. He also demonstrated strong leadership and interpersonal ability as managing partner with his law firm and is involved in organizations like the Federal Bar Association.

Even with his many academic and professional accomplishments, Todd has remained gracious and professional to his peers and the students he has taught, coached, interacted with, and mentored. Some of our own current and former students credit their own professional advancements to his mentorship. We have no doubt that these traits of graciousness and professionalism reflect a temperament well-suited for a federal judge.

We strongly support Todd's nomination and would be proud to see him confirmed as judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Sincerely,

Donald Campbell
Owen Cooper Professor of Law

Hilary Escajeda
Associate Professor of Law

Heather Hall
Assistant Dean of Academic Success and Bar Preparation

Judith Johnson
Professor of Law

Morgan Keup
Assistant Professor of Legal Analysis and Communication

Chandra Lee
Professor of Legal Analysis and Communication

Emily Lindsay
Assistant Professor of Law and Law Library Director

Phillip McIntosh
Professor of Law

Mark Modak-Truran
Professor of Law

Jim Rosenblatt
Dean Emeritus and Professor of Law

Franklin Rosenblatt
Associate Professor of Law

Caroline Smith
Assistant Professor of Law

Matthew Steffey
Professor of Law

Daniel Tavera
Assistant Professor of Law

Valera Thornell
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Taylor White
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Jonathan Will
J. Will Young Professor of Law