

The Supreme Court of Ohio

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February 14, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart 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,

I write to provide information that may be helpful as you consider the nomination of John Nalbandian to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

I have known John for the better part of two decades. I first got to know John when we practiced at different law firms in Cincinnati. Later, I became a judge, and John appeared in cases before me at the trial-court and appellate level.

John is one of the most talented appellate advocates in our area. He has superior analytical abilities. He writes well, and he argues well. He is detail-oriented, unfailingly well prepared, and a hard worker. He is professional and courteous in dealing with opposing counsel. In short, he is exactly the kind of advocate that a judge appreciates having in the courtroom.

I teach a class on Appellate Practice & Procedure at the University of Cincinnati College of Law. Each year, I ask a person whom I consider to be one of the best oral advocates in the region to speak to my class. John is one of the handful of people that I have chosen to invite.

My students appreciated his breadth of knowledge about appellate practice and the insights he provided about preparation for and conduct of oral argument.

In addition to his considerable legal skills, I have found John to be someone who cares about his community. He has been involved in a variety of civic and professional activities in the Greater Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky community.

Based on my experiences with John, I am confident that he would be a strong addition to the Sixth Circuit. He has the right blend of judicial temperament, character, experience and acumen to serve well in that role.

Please let me know if there is any additional information that I may provide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat DeWine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Pat" is written in a simple, slightly stylized cursive. The last name "DeWine" is more elaborate, with a large, looping "D" and a trailing flourish at the end.

Justice Pat DeWine