

May 29, 2025

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dick Durbin  
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: Nomination of Joshua Divine to the United States District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri**

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We are former law clerks to the Honorable Clarence Thomas, and we write solely in our personal capacities to express our support for the nomination of Joshua Divine to the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri.

As is evident from his resume, Josh is extraordinarily gifted and accomplished. Josh graduated summa cum laude from the University of Northern Colorado and received his Juris Doctor from Yale Law School, where he served on both the Yale Law Journal and the Yale Law & Policy Review. After law school, Josh dedicated himself to public service. He clerked for Chief Judge William H. Pryor Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and then for Associate Justice Clarence Thomas of the U.S. Supreme Court. He served as Deputy Solicitor General in the Missouri Attorney General's Office, where he argued nine appeals in his first year. He proceeded to serve as Deputy and then Chief Counsel to Senator Josh Hawley before returning to Missouri in January 2023 to serve as Missouri's Solicitor General and Director of Special Litigation. In these roles, he has overseen some of Missouri's most consequential litigation. In all, Josh has presented over 30 oral arguments in state and federal courts and briefed cases at every level of the state and federal judiciary.

What is less obvious from Josh's resume is his personal character. Josh is marked by his integrity, discipline, and temperament. As those of us who have been fortunate enough to have been his colleagues know, Josh works extremely hard and puts in long hours without complaint to ensure that his work is done well and done right. Josh will, without hesitation, step in to help a colleague without expecting anything in return. He debates legal issues earnestly, fairly, and calmly. And he treats everyone he encounters with great respect. We are confident Josh will approach each case before him with diligence and thoughtfulness.

In short, we believe that Josh’s professional experience and personal character render him exceptionally qualified to serve as a district court judge, and he would be a tremendous addition to the federal bench. We urge the Senate to act quickly to confirm him to the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri.

Respectfully,

Christopher Landau (October Term 1991)  
James E. Gauch (October Term 1993)  
Michael O’Neill (October Term 1996)  
Nicole Stelle Garnett (October Term 1998)  
Patrick L. O’Daniel (October Term 1998)  
Kate Comerford Todd (October Term 2000)  
Jennifer K. Hardy (October Term 2004)  
David A. Bragdon (October Term 2006)  
Heath P. Tarbert (October Term 2007)  
Jenn Mascott (October Term 2008)  
Marah Stith McLeod (October Term 2009)  
Brian P. Morrissey (October Term 2009)  
Elbert Lin (October Term 2010)  
Brian Charles Lea (October Term 2011)  
Michelle Stratton (October Term 2011)  
Rebekah Perry Ricketts (October Term 2013)  
Katherine C. Yarger (October Term 2013)  
Jennifer B. Dickey (October Term 2014)  
Brinton Lucas (October Term 2014)  
Sarah Harris (October Term 2015)

Scott G. Stewart (October Term 2015)  
Kasdin Mitchell (October Term 2016)  
Austin Raynor (October Term 2016)  
Brittney Lane Kubisch (October Term 2017)  
Cameron T. Norris (October Term 2017)  
Russell Balikian (October Term 2018)  
Madeline Ward Clark (October Term 2018)  
Christopher Mills (October Term 2018)  
Caroline Cook Lindsay (October Term 2019)  
J. Matthew Rice (October Term 2019)  
Philip M. Cooper (October Term 2020)  
Jack L. Millman (October Term 2020)  
Amy R. Upshaw (October Term 2020)  
Christopher C. Goodnow (October Term 2021)  
Steven J. Lindsay (October Term 2021)  
Manuel Valle (October Term 2021)  
Christine M. Buzzard (October Term 2022)  
Jasmine Akre (October Term 2023)  
Caroline Milner (October Term 2023)