

Former U.S. Attorneys
District of South Carolina
c/o Bart Daniel
151 Meeting Street, Suite 600
Charleston, SC 29401

June 5, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6275

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6275

Re: Nomination of Julius Ness "Jay" Richardson for U.S. Circuit Judge for
the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We are the former, Senate-confirmed U.S. Attorneys for the District of South Carolina and write in support of Jay Richardson's nomination to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals. One of us hired Jay in the U.S. Attorney's Office, and one of us promoted him. We all know Jay and have worked with or against him and seen him in action over the past ten years. Some of us have known Jay personally for decades. We strongly support his confirmation by the Senate.

Jay stands out as an exceptional attorney, even among federal prosecutors and considering the broad experiences we collectively have had over the past fifty years. He has earned the U.S. Attorney General's Award for

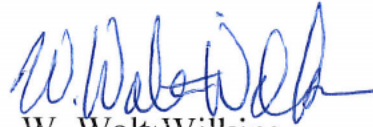
Distinguished Service last year for his superlative prosecution of Dylann Roof, who massacred nine people on June 17, 2015, at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina. Jay has also been awarded the U.S. Attorney's Award for the District of South Carolina five of the past eight years. The FBI recognized him with the Demonstrated Excellence in Prosecuting *United States v. Bifield* and for the prosecution of MS-13 murder for hire. The DEA has also awarded Jay for his Outstanding Contribution in the Field of Drug Law Enforcement. His unprecedented criminal RICO prosecution of Hell's Angels for an organized criminal enterprise in the District of South Carolina was honored by the International Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigator's Association with the Outstanding Prosecution Award.

Jay developed his well-earned reputation for excellent preparation, good judgment, fairness, and hard work. He displays the highest levels of legal acumen. Jay's integrity and commitment to public service is a wonderful example and inspiring. We believe that Jay's fairness, commitment to the rule of law, and genuine kindness—in addition to his intelligence and experience—will make him a superb Circuit Court Judge. We are honored and enthusiastic to fully support his nomination.

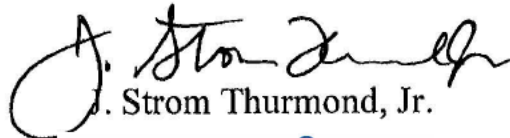
Respectfully submitted by,



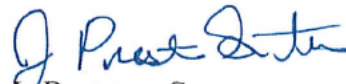
Bill Nettles



W. Walt Wilkins



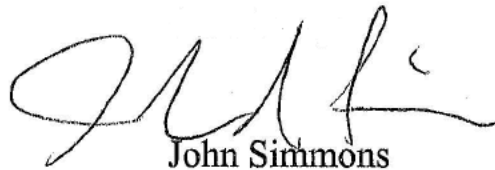
J. Strom Thurmond, Jr.



J. Preston Strom



Bart Daniel



John Simmons



Mark Buyck