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December 8, 2017

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The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman
United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6050

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6050

Dear Senators Grassley and Feinstein:

The undersigned are the current and two past presidents of the State Bar of Georgia, and we write to enthusiastically support the nomination of Judge Elizabeth "Lisa" Branch to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. We do so in our individual capacities and not on behalf of the State Bar of Georgia.

Judge Branch possesses the type of intellectual capacity that makes her an outstanding appellate judge. She graduated from the Westminster Schools, Davidson College, and the Emory University School of Law. At Emory, Judge Branch graduated with distinction as a member of the Order of the Coif, and she served as the Notes and Comments Editor for the Emory Law Journal. Her intellectual approach is reflected in her opinions that resolve complex issues without complicated prose.

Judge Branch has also demonstrated an absolute commitment to the law and to public service. In addition to becoming partner at the prestigious law firm of Smith, Gambrell & Russell LLP, Judge Branch has continuously served our nation and Georgia for much of her career. Beginning with her clerkship under United States District Court Judge J. Owen Forrester,

Judge Branch also served as a senior official in the Administration of George W. Bush as Associate General Counsel for Rules and Legislation in the U. S. Department of Homeland Security then as the Counselor to the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs at the U. S. Office of Management and Budget. In 2012, Governor Nathan Deal appointed Judge Branch to the Georgia Court of Appeals where she has been serving with distinction ever since.

She is a native Georgian, and has earned the respect and support of a diverse group of elected officials, members of the bar who represent both individual and corporate clients, academics, and former colleagues from public service and private practice.

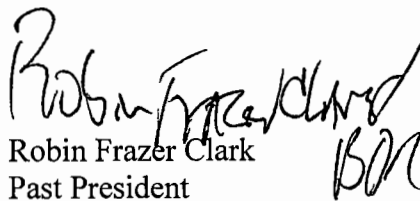
The mission of the State Bar of Georgia is to foster among its members the principles of duty and service to the public, and the goals of improving the administration of justice and advancing the science of law. Judge Branch exemplifies each of these qualities. And, her dedication to public service and the integrity of the judiciary is without question. If confirmed, she will be a tremendous asset to the courts of the United States of America.

We thank you for your service to the nation and consideration of Judge Branch.

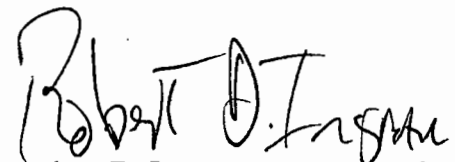
Sincerely,



Brian D. "Buck" Rogers
President
State Bar of Georgia



Robin Frazer Clark
Past President
State Bar of Georgia



Robert D. Ingram
Past President
State Bar of Georgia



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