

November 14, 2025

Devon M. Fooks
111 Lomas Blvd NW, Ste 501
Albuquerque, NM 87102

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

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

Re: Nomination of Nicholas Ganjei to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin,

My name is Devon Fooks. I am the Senior Litigator for the District of New Mexico Office of the Federal Defender. I am writing you today in my personal capacity to give my full-throated support of Nicholas Ganjei's nomination to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.


Mr. Ganjei and I litigated cases against one another for approximately 6 years while he was an Assistant United States Attorney here in the District of New Mexico. I can honestly say, without hesitation that I hated litigating cases with Mr. Ganjei. In my 25 years of practice in multiple jurisdictions in two different states and in federal court, I have never encountered a more prepared and effective advocate. He was the bane of my existence.

Mr. Ganjei's command of case law is deep and precise. His recall was nearly flawless. His legal arguments were always concise and expertly voiced to the court and counsel. In my dealings with Mr. Ganjei, I have found him to also be extremely thoughtful, conscientious, and surprisingly empathetic in his prosecution of criminal defendants. He had a unique way of balancing his search for justice with the complexities of the human condition, that many of his contemporaries lack.

Beyond his legal acumen; however, Mr. Ganjei is simply a quality individual. Mr. Ganjei is a leader of men. He is not an outspoken leader rather he is contemplative and humble but his leadership qualities are evinced by the way others around him listen to what he says and look to him for advice and guidance. He colleagues universally admire, respect him, and hold him in the highest regard. To put it bluntly, Nicholas Ganjei is the human being that we should all strive to become and the attorney most who practice hope to be. I urge the Committee to report his

nomination favorably and the Senate confirm him to the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Devon M. Fooks". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Devon" is written with a large, looped 'D' and a trailing 'n'. The middle initial "M." is written with a large 'M' and a period. The last name "Fooks" is written with a large 'F' and a trailing 's'.

DEVON M. FOOKS
Senior Litigator, District of New Mexico
Officer of the Federal Defender