

February 6, 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:

It is my privilege to write in support of the nomination of John B. Nalbandian to serve as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

While not active in partisan politics, I am a Democrat. For example, I recently had the privilege to speak to the Senate Democratic Caucus on issues before the Supreme Court. I also served as counsel to Vice President Al Gore in *Bush v. Gore*. I write in the hope that, in these ideologically divided times, I can provide some assurance that this nominee is no ideological extremist and that he is well qualified.

John and I were attorneys together at the Jones Day firm in our earliest years in private practice. We both were appellate lawyers and we worked together on a variety of projects, often for Timothy Dyk, who is now a judge on the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. For example, we were co-counsel in a brief before the Supreme Court in an important First Amendment case, No. 95-1184, *Glickman v. Wileman Bros.*

In the course of our time in practice together, I was exposed to John both professionally and personally. Professionally, I never had the slightest sense that John was ideologically driven. He seemed entirely balanced, conscientious, and open to all viewpoints. In addition, I recall John as being extremely thoughtful and incisive with respect to the legal questions before him. Obviously, his later professional success confirms that view.

Personally, John was a wonderful colleague. He was kind and responsive. He was always interested in and concerned with the developments in the families of his colleagues. I am confident he would contribute to the collegiality of the Sixth Circuit, which would be a positive development.

I hope that you will feel free to contact me with any questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'T' and 'G' intertwined, with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Thomas C. Goldstein