

Office of the Governor

March 14, 2013

United State Senate
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to be heard on the nomination and potential confirmation of Greg Phillips to serve as a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit Court.

I have known Greg for about 30 years. We were close friends in law school and later partners in a two-attorney private law firm. I hired Greg as an Assistant United States Attorney after I became the U.S. Attorney for the District of Wyoming. I hired him as Wyoming's Attorney General after I was elected Governor. He was my first and only choice to serve as our Attorney General.

Although appointing Greg as Wyoming's Attorney General might have raised some eyebrows – since he is a Democrat and I am a Republican – he was unanimously confirmed by the state senate. I am sure one reason for this was that he had served in the legislature with many of the senators, and they knew what I knew – Greg is a first-rate thinker and writer, a tireless worker, a friendly colleague, and a very trustworthy person.

Greg has many qualities that would serve him well as a federal appellate judge. I have seen for myself that he enjoys and excels in legal research and writing, respects the rule of law above all else, and is governed by an abiding sense of fair play. He is a thoughtful person who considers all sides of an issue before making up his mind. All those appearing before him would find a judge fully prepared, engaged and respectful to all.

In sum, I believe Greg Phillips is the best person I know to serve as a federal appellate judge, and I know he would serve our state and country proudly and well.

Sincerely,



Matthew H. Mead
Governor

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