

Chad A. Johnson
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August 20, 2018

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of Jonathan Kobes as United States Circuit Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein,

It is with distinct pleasure I write this letter in support of the nomination of Jonathan Kobes as a United States Circuit Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Jonathan's sense of ethics and professional responsibility are beyond reproach and his diverse professional experience in government, in-house roles and judicial clerkships across a wide variety of practice areas makes him uniquely and specifically qualified to serve in this capacity.

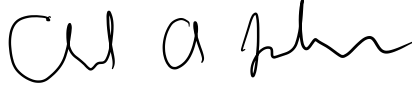
I had the pleasure of working with Jonathan during our time at DuPont Pioneer where Jonathan managed both national and international regulatory and commercial work for DuPont Pioneer. During our time working together, I watched Jonathan navigate the intersection of very complex legal issues facing DuPont Pioneer involving diverse areas of law including litigation, federal and state regulatory laws and statutes and intellectual property law. Jonathan's time in in-house legal functions provides him a breadth of legal experience across very diverse areas of law. Jonathan's experience considering and balancing the intersection of diverse areas of law will serve him well as he will perform similar functions in his capacity as a United States Court of Appeals Circuit Judge.

On a practical matter the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit has and will continue to hear and address cases of seminal importance to the agricultural, biotechnology, life science and biofuel industries. In my professional capacity, Jonathan has the experience necessary to address all areas of law considered by the United States Court of Appeals for the

Eighth Circuit, further I believe Jonathan's experience in his in-house roles will bring with it a competency that will be of extreme value to the Eighth Circuit as he hears and is asked to rule on cases and matters of law related to these industries in the Eighth Circuit.

In closing, I fully support and recommend that you approve his nomination as a United States Circuit Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chad A. Johnson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chad A. Johnson
Vice President, General Counsel
Stine Seed Company