



**GULLETT SANFORD
ROBINSON & MARTIN PLLC**

150 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH, SUITE 1700
NASHVILLE, TN 37201

M 615.244.4994

F 615.256.6339

W GSRM.COM

May 9, 2018

Senator Charles Grassley
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: District Court Nominee Stephen R. Clark
Eastern District of Missouri

Dear Senators Grassley and Feinstein:

I write today in support of the confirmation of Mr. Stephen R. Clark, who has been nominated to a judgeship for the U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.

I have been acquainted with Mr. Clark for a period approaching ten years. While I have not had a matter with him on behalf of a client (either on the same or opposite sides), I have had many opportunities to observe his conduct and demeanor.

He is clearly a person of high intellect and shares with me a reverence for the rule of law in a civil society. He is serious in addressing issues of statutory and constitutional interpretation and application. It is obvious from his accomplishments as a lawyer, the number of courts in which he has appeared, and the variety of cases in which he has participated, that he has the breadth of experience that is needed on the bench and very much appreciated by those who appear in court.

Mr. Clark enjoys lively discussions, without being in any way disagreeable. He impresses me as someone who will listen to and consider all sides of an issue, will not prejudge, will take a measured approach, and will exhibit a proper judicial demeanor and temperament. Additionally, I consider him to be friendly and to possess a pleasant sense of humor.

It is clear from his commitments to his community that he is a person who believes in service.

I believe that Mr. Clark very much respects the constitutional principles of separation of powers and federalism. Thus, I am positive that he will understand and give effect to the roles of the legislative and executive branches, and will not reach beyond his appropriate role as a judge.

In addition to my respect for Mr. Clark and my desire to support his confirmation, I must also say that I have a deep interest in the State of Missouri. My mother was a native of St. Louis, her great-great grandparents having settled there in the early 1800's. I had many enjoyable visits to St. Louis in my youth, visiting my grandmother and my uncle and his family and many places within the city. As a result, I am vitally interested not only in St. Louis history, but also in the future of the city and state.

Senator Charles Grassley
Senator Dianne Feinstein
May 9, 2018
Page 2

I sincerely hope that both of you, the Judiciary Committee, and the entire Senate will give Mr. Clark your favorable consideration and votes, so that in the near future, he will receive a unanimous confirmation, just as did Judge William Campbell of the Middle District of Tennessee, and Judge Thomas Parker of the Western District of Tennessee.

Thank you very much for your kind attention to this letter.

Yours very truly,



Linda W. Knight

cc: Senator Claire McCaskill
Senator Roy Blunt