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Senator Chuck Grassley  
Chair, Judiciary Committee

Senator Dick Durbin  
Ranking Member, Judiciary Committee

c/o United States Senate Judiciary Committee  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Recommendation in Support of Alabama Solicitor General Edmund  
LaCour's Nomination to the United States District Court for the  
Northern District of Alabama

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin,

Please accept this recommendation on behalf of Edmund "Eddie" LaCour to  
appointment as a federal district judge for the Northern District of Alabama.

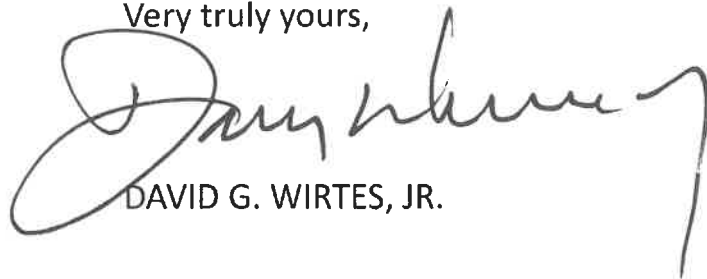
I have served alongside Eddie for a number of years as a member of the  
Supreme Court of Alabama's Standing Committee on the Rules of Appellate  
Procedure. We have advocated together for rules changes just as we have fought  
against one another over proposed rules changes. Through these experiences I have  
come to know Eddie as a student of the law, a spirited advocate and a dedicated

public servant. While we have not always seen eye-to-eye about issues, Eddie has always advocated as a gentleman and scholar. He embodies the professional principle of being able to disagree without being disagreeable.

In my experience, Eddie has always performed as a lawyer should; advancing the causes of his client thoughtfully, skillfully, and vigorously.

I believe Eddie LaCour will serve the people of Alabama, and all Americans, with integrity, honor and dedication to the rule of law.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Wirtes, Jr.", with a large, stylized initial "D".

DAVID G. WIRTES, JR.

DGWjr/arf