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November 16, 2026

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: *Wm. Grayson Lambert, Esquire*
Nomination to Serve as U.S. District Judge for the District of South Carolina

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

It is my privilege and distinct honor to write in strong support of the nomination of William Grayson Lambert to serve as a U.S. District Judge for the District of South Carolina. I recommend Grayson without reservation, and I do so with a degree of confidence that is a function of having worked with and observed Grayson in a number of different contexts: as a law review editor, co-counsel in contentious litigation, his immediate supervisor in (and recruiter to) public service, his predecessor, and his friend. In each capacity, I have seen the same man. By virtue of these various vantage points, I believe I have a rather unique perspective from which to comment on those attributes and characteristics that no questionnaire or résumé can fully reveal or adequately convey.

By way of introduction, I write as someone who is familiar with the Court to which Grayson has been nominated. I began my legal career as a law clerk to the Honorable Patrick Michael Duffy, Senior U.S. District Judge for the District of South Carolina, and I have served for nearly a decade on the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. I also appear regularly before our State's distinguished District Judges. I mention these roles not for their own sake, but because each experience has taught me that the work of a District Judge is truly sacrificial service and that the most difficult features of the job rarely make headlines or receive recognition or commendation. Whether it is resolving complex motions, presiding over civil and criminal trials, pronouncing sentences, or addressing filings by *pro se* litigants, managing such a complicated docket demands diligence, patience, and dedication to duty. It is against this backdrop that I can attest that Grayson has each of those qualities in abundance.

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I first came to know Grayson's work while serving as Editor in Chief of the *South Carolina Law Review*, when I selected one of his scholarship submissions for publication. At the time, he was a young law clerk, writing on his own time, and his article was both practical and rigorous. It was unusual for us to receive submissions from law clerks, and we were generally reluctant to publish scholarship that originated outside of academia. Grayson's submission, however, was simply too good to refuse. In hindsight, the quality of his work was an accurate preview of the practicing lawyer he would become.

After I left private practice to join Governor McMaster's staff, Grayson and I represented co-defendants in contentious, high-stakes litigation. Although I admired his work, I respected his work ethic even more. As a result of this experience, in 2021, I recruited Grayson to leave a partnership in private practice and encouraged him to join me in the Office of the Governor. Public service required real sacrifice on his part, but he answered the call without hesitation. In my role as the Governor's Chief Legal Counsel, I had the privilege of supervising Grayson's work for over four years. In the State House, our desks were, quite literally, only a few feet apart, and in quarters that close, one sees a colleague at every hour and under every kind of pressure: emergency motions, overnight deadlines, and questions of first impression with real consequences for the people of our State. Grayson's judgment never wavered, and neither did his character. If the law pointed in an inconvenient direction, he said so plainly and candidly. Indeed, Grayson's loyalty has always been to the law. Even if anticipated, it was nevertheless an honor to be succeeded by Grayson as the Governor's Chief Legal Counsel when I returned to private practice in 2025.

These experiences have allowed me to know not only Grayson the attorney but also Grayson the person, and he is equally principled in both arenas. To say Grayson is a scholar is an understatement. I could call him at any hour and ask for a summary of an obscure legal doctrine, and I could count on receiving an accurate (and detailed) response. He is also a consummate gentleman. I could just as easily call him at any hour in a time of genuine need and count on his assistance. He is courteous to adversaries, generous to colleagues, loyal to friends, compassionate to constituents, and kind to strangers. He is also an excellent friend and a devoted husband and father whose priorities are firmly in order.

In sum, Grayson is the rare attorney you would be pleased to see enter an appearance on any side of one of your cases. If Grayson is involved, you can be confident that the dispute will remain appropriately focused on the legal and factual issues that matter, the proceedings will be civil and collegial, and any personal or emotional dynamics that may threaten to overtake the merits will be managed or moderated. I can think of no higher compliment for a colleague and no skillset more fitting for a federal trial judge. Grayson has the intellect, experience, and integrity that service on the District Court demands, and he has the character to match.

For the foregoing reasons, and many others, I am proud to recommend Grayson Lambert without reservation, and I respectfully urge the Committee to report his nomination favorably and the Senate to confirm him. Should the Committee or its staff have any questions regarding

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Grayson's nomination, or if I may be of service or assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Thomas A. Limehouse, Jr.

TAL/egh
cc: The Honorable Tim Scott
United States Senator

The Honorable Darline Graham
United States Senator