

December 12, 2025

The Honorable Charles Grassley, Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin, Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Re: Letter in Support of the Confirmation of Brian Lea to be a Judge on the U.S.  
District Court for the Western District of Tennessee**

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We are all current or former U.S. Department of Justice officials who write in our individual capacities to support the confirmation of Brian Lea to be a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee.

Over the course of his legal career, Mr. Lea has excelled as a scholar, in private practice, and in public service.

Mr. Lea has a stellar academic record. He graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Georgia School of Law and was a member of the Georgia Law Review. He also received several awards for his academic record including the law school's award for the highest academic average.

After graduation, Mr. Lea clerked for two distinguished federal judges: Judge Ed Carnes on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit and Justice Clarence Thomas. After his clerkships he served as an associate and partner at Jones Day, and a visiting professor at the University of Georgia School of Law.

In the beginning of this year, Mr. Lea joined the Department of Justice as a Deputy Associate Attorney General where he immediately impressed his colleagues with his legal acumen, judgment, and work ethic.

More important than his academic and legal records, is his integrity, decency, and sense of duty. We are confident that Mr. Lea will serve honorably, decide wisely, and treat the parties before him with respect. The Western District will be lucky to have him. We respectfully urge the Senate Judiciary Committee and the full Senate to move expeditiously to process and confirm his nomination.

Sincerely,

Pamela Bondi	Todd Blanche	Stanley Woodward Jr.
D. John Sauer	John Eisenberg	Abigail Slater
Brett A. Shumate	Harmeet K. Dhillon	Elliot Gaiser
James McHenry	Adam Gustafson	Sarah M. Harris
Chad R. Mizelle	Henry Whitaker	Daniel Bell
Hashim Mooppan	Jesus A. Osete	Lanora C. Pettit
Brian D. Nieves	Jordan Fox	Robert Leider
James M. Burnham	William R. Levi	Jesse Panuccio
Gene Hamilton	Yaakov Roth	Ryan D. Newman
Harry Graver	John K. Adams	Jordan C. Campbell
Jennifer B. Dickey	Sarah E. Welch	Trent McCotter
Richard Lawson	Anna Edwards	Ketan Bhirud
Hannah Jahreis	Michael Proctor	Aaron Henricks
Devin Froseth	Mary Margaret Bush	Peter M. Torstensen, Jr.
Natalie Christmas	Abigail Stout	Micah Fielden
Lee Holmes	Charles E.T. Roberts	Kathleen Volkert
Jordan Carpenter	Jason Manion	Sara Matar
Abhishek Kambli	Robert Stander	Vetan Kapoor
Mark Hamer	Emily Hall	Jeffrey Morrison
Benjamin Mehr	Jonathan Guynn	Brenna Jenny
Eric McArthur	Sarmad Khojasteh	Joshua Wu
John Bailey	Tiberius Davis	Brantley Mayers
Justin D. Heminger	Tyler Becker	Eric Hamilton