

March 13, 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

Nomination of Michael Y. Scudder as
Circuit Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein,

We write to you and to the Members of the Committee in support of the nomination of Michael Y. Scudder to be a Circuit Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. We had the honor of serving as law clerks during the Supreme Court's October 1999 Term, and we were colleagues of Mr. Scudder during that Term when he served as a law clerk to Justice Kennedy.

In the ensuing eighteen years we each have pursued a variety of professional paths. We also come from across the spectrum in our political and judicial philosophies. We join this letter together to support Mr. Scudder's nomination, because we believe Mr. Scudder to be highly qualified to serve as a Circuit Judge.

The clerkship year that we experienced together inevitably involved passionate discussion, the airing of diverging views, and collaboration in furtherance of the business of the Court. Our interactions with Mr. Scudder during this intense and challenging time gave us great respect for his intellect, his work ethic, his appreciation for the law, and his sense of fairness. In our experience he always conducted himself with integrity and professionalism. He was respectful of his colleagues of like and differing views, and he treated everyone who worked at the Court, regardless of position, with courtesy.

In the years since our time together at the Court, Mr. Scudder has served as a federal prosecutor, a member of the White House Counsel's Office, at the Department of Justice, and in private practice. He also has shown an admirable commitment to pro bono practice and service to the community. Through these positions and efforts over the last two decades Mr. Scudder has gained a wealth of experiences and perspectives that we believe have seasoned him well to serve as a Circuit Judge.

In our view Mr. Scudder is fully qualified to serve as a Circuit Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. We appreciate your consideration of our views.

Sincerely yours,

James Bennett
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Anthony M. Kennedy

Rosemarie Blase
Law Clerk to Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist

Kevin Boyle
Law Clerk to Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist

William Burek
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Anthony M. Kennedy

Erin Glenn Busby
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Stephen Breyer

Steven T. Cottreau
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Clarence Thomas

Deirdre von Dornum
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

David Franklin
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Leslie Hakala
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

Jordan Hansell
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Antonin Scalia

Marc Isserles
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Stephen Breyer

Bradley Joondeph
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

Jay Jorgensen
Law Clerk to Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist

Joel Kaplan
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Antonin Scalia

Jay Koh
Law Clerk to Associate Justice David Souter

Noah Levine
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

Benjamin Liebman
Law Clerk to Associate Justice David Souter

C. Kevin Marshall
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Clarence Thomas

Stephen M. Nickelsburg
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Anthony M. Kennedy

Richard Primus
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Kermit Roosevelt
Law Clerk to Associate Justice David Souter

Kristen Silverberg
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Clarence Thomas

Amanda L. Tyler
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Sanford I. Weisburst
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Clarence Thomas

Shirley Woodward
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

Timothy Wu
Law Clerk to Associate Justice Stephen Breyer