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March 30, 2026

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

Dear Senator Grassley,

I am writing to offer my full support and recommendation to Tony Mattivi for appointment to the position of US District Court Judge for the District of Kansas. I have a firm belief that Tony Mattivi will perform exceptionally in this important position. I support his candidacy, based on his legal abilities and resume, unwavering integrity, and deep commitment to justice.

I have had the privilege of knowing KBI Director Tony Mattivi for three years in my capacity as a member of the Executive Board of the Kansas State Trooper's Association, where I currently hold the position of President of the Trooper's Association. During this period, I have seen Director Mattivi lead the Kansas Bureau of Investigation exceptionally well. He has improved that Agency by leaps and bounds during his relatively short tenure there. I have consistently been impressed by his keen legal mind and ability to thoughtfully analyze complex issues. Across the board, he has approached matters with diligence, fairness, and a respect for the rule of law that is essential for judicial service.

Beyond his intellectual qualifications, Director Mattivi possesses the temperament that would be perfectly suited for a US District Court Judge. I have witnessed him to be patient, tempered, and respectful toward all parties, ensuring that every individual feels heard and valued in their positions. All of these qualities, combined with a strong ethical foundation, make him uniquely well-suited for the responsibilities of the bench.

As the President of the Kansas State Trooper's Association, we have witnessed Director Mattivi's guidance of the Kansas Bureau Investigation that has greatly improved the relationship between the many members of the KSTA, and the KBI, who handles many of the investigations related to use of force incidents involving our members. Their ability to conduct thorough and unbiased investigations, while managing to greatly reduce the amount of time needed to conduct the investigation, has been very important to the KSTA membership. Previous to his time there, it was very common to have our members be under investigation and removed from their duties for many months if not years in many cases. The large amount of time placed on administrative leave often has many negative consequences to the affected members, and he heard our complaints and was able to implement changes to reduce the amount of time to reach conclusions. In most cases, they've been able to have a complete investigation handled in 30 days time.

In addition, he has managed to drastically reduce the amount of time needed for laboratory services the KBI provides. KSTA members regularly need these critical services to make solid cases, and they've managed to turn often years-long wait times into a few months turnaround. The benefit is not just to the members of the KSTA, but to all citizens in Kansas as we can try to achieve case resolution and bring criminals to justice all across the State of Kansas.

In summary, I can think of no candidate more qualified or more deserving of this appointment. I proudly give Director Tony Mattivi my highest recommendation without reservation. I am confident that he will serve with honor, impartiality, and excellence.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JD', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Joel Dryden; President

Kansas State Trooper's Association