



The Honorable Charles Grassley  
Chairman, Committee on the  
Judiciary  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
Ranking Member, Committee on  
the Judiciary  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

March 26, 2026

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin,

The Honorable Anthony J. Powell is an outstanding choice to serve as a federal district court judge for the United States District Court for the District of Kansas. Currently, Mr. Powell serves as the Solicitor General in the Kansas Attorney General's Office. As fellow Attorney General senior staff we have had the privilege of working with Mr. Powell in his role as Solicitor General and can attest to his exceptional qualifications, unwavering integrity, and profound commitment to the rule of law.

Mr. Powell brings a wealth of experience that uniquely prepares him for service on the federal bench. His distinguished career includes nearly two decades as a judge—first as a district judge in Sedgwick County for almost a decade, where he presided over a wide array of civil and criminal matters with fairness and efficiency, and then as a judge on the Kansas Court of Appeals from 2013 to 2022, where he authored many opinions demonstrating his keen legal acumen, respect for precedent, and ability to navigate complex issues.

Before his judicial service, Mr. Powell served in the Kansas House of Representatives from 1997 to 2002, including as vice-chairman of the Taxation Committee, giving him with invaluable insight into the legislative process and the interplay between law and policy. His earlier roles as legislative director for U.S. Representative William Broomfield and as an intern for U.S. Senator Bob Dole further underscore his deep understanding of federal governance and public service.

In his current role as Solicitor General, Mr. Powell has been a steadfast advocate for constitutional principles, leading appellate litigation with rigor and principle. Our offices have collaborated on multi-state lawsuits and amicus briefs, as well as other efforts to defend states' rights and uphold the Constitution. In every interaction, Mr. Powell has exemplified the highest standards of professionalism. He will be a thoughtful jurist who approaches each case with impartiality, intellectual honesty, and a dedication to justice that transcends partisan lines. His temperament is even-keeled, his judgment sound, and his work ethic exemplary—qualities that will serve the people of Kansas and the nation well on the federal district court.

Mr. Powell's nomination reflects President Trump's commitment to appointing judges who will faithfully interpret the law as written, protect individual liberties, and ensure equal justice under the law. We have no doubt that he will continue to honor these ideals in his new role. We recommend that this committee recommend Mr. Powell's swift confirmation.

Sincerely,

Eric H. Wessan  
Solicitor General  
Iowa Attorney General's Office

A. Barrett Bowdre  
Solicitor General  
Alabama Attorney General's Office

Garry M. Gaskins, II  
Solicitor General  
Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General

Philip Axt  
Solicitor General  
North Dakota Attorney General's Office

Scott G. Stewart  
Solicitor General  
Mississippi Attorney General's Office

Christian Corrigan  
Solicitor General  
Montana Attorney General's Office

J. Matthew Rice  
Solicitor General  
Tennessee Attorney General's Office

Michael Zarian  
Solicitor General  
Idaho Attorney General's Office

Stanford Purser  
Solicitor General  
Office of the Utah Attorney General

Joseph Sciarotta, Jr.  
Chief Deputy Attorney General  
Kansas Attorney General's Office

Dwight Carswell  
Deputy Solicitor General  
Kansas Attorney General's Office

Matt Rice  
Solicitor General  
Tennessee Attorney General's Office

Autumn Hamit Patterson  
Solicitor General  
Arkansas Attorney General's Office

Zachary B. Pohlman  
Deputy Solicitor General  
Nebraska Attorney General's Office

Louis J. Capozzi III  
Solicitor General  
Missouri Attorney General's Office

David M.S. Dewhirst  
Solicitor General  
Florida Attorney General's Office

Jason J. Muehlhoff  
Chief Deputy Solicitor General  
Florida Attorney General's Office

Cody S. Barnett  
Solicitor General  
Nebraska Department of Justice

Zach West  
Director of Special Litigation  
Oklahoma Attorney General's Office

Matthew F. Kuhn  
Solicitor General  
Kentucky Attorney General's Office