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April 3, 2026

Honorable Charles Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Richard Durbin
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Anthony Powell Nomination to the United States District Court

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to express my strong support for Anthony Powell to fill one of the vacancies to the United States District Court for the District of Kansas. It is my understanding that Anthony Powell has been nominated to the federal bench, which is before the Senate Judiciary Committee on April 15, 2026. Anthony Powell is well-qualified to fill this position.

I have known the Honorable Judge Powell since 2003 when he was appointed District Judge in the 18th Judicial District in Sedgwick County, Kansas. I have a general practice law firm which involved me taking cases in the family law field where he was initially placed as a Judge. Although Judge Powell did not have prior family law experience, he excelled as a Judge in that department. He was patient with all participants, required respectful and proper decorum in his courtroom, and issued fair and expedient rulings pursuant to the law.

I was counsel on Judge Powell's first domestic trial, which took two days to try and included multiple issues, including dividing real and personal property, businesses with real property, child custody and support of both natural and adopted children, some of whom had disabilities. The case was complex. Judge Powell handled it tremendously and issued a ruling that was well thought out, fair, just and equitable to all involved.

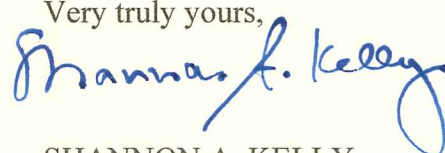
In another first for me, several years later, Judge Powell presided over my first jury trial in a criminal matter that I appealed from the City of Wichita. Judge Powell provided a respectful and appropriate courtroom that led to a fair result. In all my cases that Judge Powell presided over, even when he ruled against my client's side of a case, he clearly gave due consideration and treated both counsel and litigants in appropriate manner.

Judge Powell is a very respectful person to all litigants and has the patience to proceed through difficult cases. Because of these abilities, Judge Powell is very infrequently appealed. I have observed Judge Powell to be a man of great integrity. Even those who might have to bear the brunt of a loss understand that they have received a decision that considered all the factual matters of law of the case.

Since his initial tenure in the family law department, I have had an opportunity to see Judge Powell move forward into other areas of the law in his ten years as a District Court Judge, and then being appointed onto the Kansas Court of Appeals. I am aware that Judge Powell took a position as Hearing Officer in the 18th Judicial District for a short time before taking a position with the Office of the Kansas Attorney General as Solicitor General. He has excelled in every one of those positions and shown his experience and knowledge in applying the law.

Judge Powell has the knowledge, patience and integrity to preside over the more contentious cases that will be presented to the federal court. His thirty-five years of experience in the law reflect a maturity which allows for a methodical, deliberate handling of each case. Judge Powell is highly respected in the legal community and I have great confidence that he would make an excellent federal judge. I respectfully request you consider him for the position.

Thank you for this opportunity to recommend Anthony Powell for the United States District Court position and for your thoughtful consideration. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions

Very truly yours,


SHANNON A. KELLY

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