



August 17, 2018

James A. Power
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Extension 667

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Jonathan A. Kobes to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

I write to express my strong support for the nomination of Jon Kobes to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. I am currently a shareholder and civil litigator at Woods, Fuller, Shultz & Smith, P.C., South Dakota's largest law firm, but recently was appointed to serve as a trial court judge in South Dakota's Second Judicial Circuit. In 1992-93, I clerked for the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and am familiar with the responsibilities of a federal appellate judge. I am of course writing solely in my personal capacity.

Jon and I first crossed paths professionally when he was working on policy issues as corporate counsel for POET, and later when he was serving as general counsel for Senator Mike Rounds. It was easy to see Jon's intelligence, and he displayed strong knowledge of federal law. It was also clear that Jon is very analytical and, if appointed, would decide cases based on the law and trial record, not emotion or personal opinion.

I also know Jon personally because his family attends the same church as mine, and our children attend the same school. I have found him to show great character, integrity, and be even-keeled in his personal life. He should have a great judicial temperament.

WOODS, FULLER, SHULTZ & SMITH P.C.

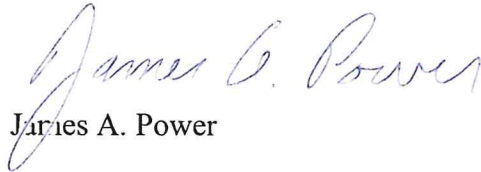
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Jon is well-suited for the intellectual challenge of being a federal appellate judge and would serve the public with honor and distinction. I wholeheartedly support his nomination and hope that the Senate will confirm him to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

Thank you for considering these thoughts and please feel welcome to contact me if further information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

WOODS, FULLER, SHULTZ & SMITH P.C.



James A. Power