

September 18, 2026

Honorable Chuck Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
290 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Dick Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We are current and former attorneys at Kirkland & Ellis LLP who previously worked with Judge Lee Rudofsky or are familiar with his work. We write in our personal capacity to convey our strong support for his confirmation to serve as a Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. We hold a range of political and jurisprudential perspectives. Although we do not agree on everything, there is one thing on which we fully agree: during his years at Kirkland, Judge Rudofsky demonstrated the character, intellect and judgment needed to make him an outstanding Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

Judge Rudofsky began work at Kirkland after completing his studies at Cornell University and Harvard Law School and his clerkships with Judge Andrew Kleinfeld of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and Judge Robert J. Cordy of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. His clerkships trained him well for appellate litigation—borne out by his subsequent service as Solicitor General for Arkansas—as well as for the judiciary, where he has served honorably as a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas for nearly seven years.

From his start at Kirkland in 2007, Judge Rudofsky showed an impressive ability to master complex legal issues and arguments—consistently developing thoughtful, clear, and effective legal analysis on behalf of clients. Those of us who know him best know that no one worked harder on his matters than Judge Rudofsky. Judge Rudofsky earned the respect of colleagues, clients, judges, and adversaries alike. His career both in the private sector and in public service since leaving Kirkland and moving to Arkansas is a testament to his extraordinary skills, as well as his commitment to hard work and the legal profession.

Judge Rudofsky is also one of the most good-natured and gracious lawyers with whom we have had the good fortune to work. He was an engaging and delightful colleague, who was both dynamic and courteous. We have no question that he has the character, temperament, collegiality, and integrity to be a first-rate appellate jurist.

In conclusion, we strongly support Judge Rudofsky's nomination to the Eighth Circuit and encourage his swift confirmation.

Sincerely,

K. Winn Allen

Jennifer G. Levy

Daniel F. Attridge

Elizabeth M. Locke

William H. Burgess

Nathan Mammen

Brant Bishop

Aaron Nielson

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Mark Nomellini

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