

September 24, 2026

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

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

**Re: Letter of Support for the Nomination of Judge Lee P. Rudofsky to
be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit**

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We are former state solicitors general and members of their offices, and we write in our personal capacities to express our strong support for the nomination of Judge Lee P. Rudofsky to the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. We uniformly believe that Judge Rudofsky has the intellect, integrity, experience, and temperament necessary to serve with distinction on the Eighth Circuit.

State solicitors general and their offices occupy a unique position in our legal system. They handle difficult questions of constitutional, statutory, and administrative law; oversee complex litigation affecting millions of citizens; and represent their States at all levels of state and federal courts, including state supreme courts, federal courts of appeals, and the Supreme Court of the United States. Our experience in these offices gives us a particular appreciation for the qualities required of an appellate judge: intellectual rigor, sound judgment, clear writing, professional integrity, and respect for counsel and colleagues. Judge Rudofsky possesses those qualities in abundance.

Many of us came to know Judge Rudofsky during his tenure as Arkansas's first Solicitor General. In that role, he represented Arkansas before the Supreme Court of the United States, the Eighth Circuit, and the Arkansas Supreme Court. He also provided strategic direction and oversight for significant litigation

involving the State. His responsibilities required not only exceptional legal ability but also the leadership and judgment necessary to manage consequential and sensitive cases, work constructively with lawyers from other States, and provide candid advice to senior government officials.

His broader professional background further strengthens his qualifications. Judge Rudofsky earned his law degree from Harvard Law School after receiving undergraduate and graduate degrees from Cornell University. He clerked for Justice Robert J. Cordy of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and Judge Andrew J. Kleinfeld of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He then practiced complex litigation at Kirkland & Ellis and gained substantial experience in both public service and the private sector, including service as an Assistant General Counsel at Walmart.

Since 2019, Judge Rudofsky has served on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas. Nearly seven years of service as a federal district judge have given him broad experience applying Supreme Court and Eighth Circuit precedent, managing a demanding docket, and resolving difficult legal and factual questions. That experience is especially valuable for service on a court of appeals. He understands both the importance of appellate guidance and the practical consequences that appellate decisions have for district judges, litigants, and the administration of justice.

Judge Rudofsky's combination of private-sector practice, state appellate experience, federal judicial service, intellectual ability, and sound temperament makes him exceptionally well qualified to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. We strongly support his nomination and respectfully urge the Senate to confirm him.

Sincerely,

Andrée Sophia Blumstein (Solicitor General of Tennessee, 2014–2024)

John Bursch (Solicitor General of Michigan, 2011–2013)

James A. Campbell (Solicitor General of Nebraska, 2020–2023)

Michael A. Cantrell (Assistant Solicitor General of Arkansas, 2015–2024)

Thomas M. Fisher (Solicitor General of Indiana, 2005–2023)

Tyler Green (Utah Solicitor General, 2015–2020)

Kian Hudson (Indiana Deputy Solicitor General, 2018–2021)

Dylan L. Jacobs (Deputy and Assistant Solicitor General of Arkansas, 2017–2025)

Scott A. Keller (Solicitor General of Texas, 2015–2018)

Elbert Lin (Solicitor General of West Virginia, 2013–2017)
Aaron D. Lindstrom (Michigan Solicitor General, 2013–2019)
Mithun Mansinghani (Oklahoma Solicitor General, 2017–2022)
Aaron L. Nielson (Solicitor General of Texas, 2023–2025)
Stephen Raiola (Solicitor General of Pennsylvania, 2025–2026)
J. Zak Ritchie (Assistant Solicitor General of West Virginia, 2013–2016)
Glenn E. Roper (Deputy Solicitor General of Colorado, 2015–2019)
Beau Roysden (Arizona Solicitor General, 2020–2022)
Dale Schowengerdt (Montana Solicitor General, 2014–2019)
Lindsay S. See (Solicitor General of West Virginia, 2018–2024)
Brandon Smith (Chief of Staff and Assistant Solicitor General of
Tennessee, 2019–2025)
Asher Steinberg (Senior Assistant Solicitor General of Arkansas, 2022–2025)
Judd Stone (Solicitor General of Texas, 2021–2023)
Joseph Tartakovsky (Deputy Solicitor General of Nevada, 2015–2018)
Misha Tseytlin (Solicitor General of Wisconsin, 2015–2018)
Zachary Viglianco (Assistant Solicitor General of West Virginia, 2015–2017, and
Principal Deputy Solicitor General of Nebraska, 2023–2026)
Ryan J. Walsh (Chief Deputy Solicitor General of Wisconsin, 2016–2019)
Frederick R. Yarger (Solicitor General of Colorado, 2015–2018)

All titles are listed for identification only. Signatories write in their personal capacity.