

WASHINGTON, DC
May 19, 2026

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
United States Senate SD-511
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

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

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

We are former Supreme Court and Third Circuit law clerks to Justice Samuel A. Alito, and we write to express our strongest support for the nomination of our fellow Alito clerk, Matthew A. Schwartz, to serve as a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.¹

We know Matt through a variety of context: some of us had the privilege of clerking with him; some of us attended college and/or law school with him; some of us have worked with him on legal matters professionally; some of us have collaborated with him on charitable and pro bono projects; some of us know Matt and his family through our spouses and children; and all of us know Matt through his sterling professional and personal reputation.

We represent a diverse range of political and jurisprudential views and have held a variety of public and private sector legal and non-legal positions and appointments. We are, however, unified in the view that Matt possesses the intellect, temperament, independence, experience, and judgment to serve with distinction as a United States Circuit Court judge. Over his many years of study, clerking, and in private practice, Matt has earned a reputation as a thoughtful and careful lawyer, a keen and zealous advocate for his clients, and a loyal and supportive colleague. Matt also has a strong and well-earned reputation as a fierce friend and doting father. We expect Matt will bring to the Bench the same exacting standards of legal rigor, care, and collegiality he has always displayed.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our experience and support with the Committee, and would be pleased to provide any further information that would assist the Committee in its consideration.

Sincerely,

Gordon Todd, Mike Lee, Chris Paoella

*Additional Signatures On Next Page

¹ We sign this letter in our personal capacities and not on behalf of any current or former employer.

*Additional Alito law clerks in support of Matthew Schwartz's nomination.

Brian Barnes
Paul Gluckow
Winn Allen
William Marra
John Cerreta
Keith Levenberg
Adam Ciongoli
James Hunter
Geoff Michael
Clark Lombardi
Mike McGinley
Will Levi
Daniella Cass
Elliot Gaiser
David McPhie
Robert Flatow
Mitu Gulati
Jay Jorgensen
Michael Yaeger
Dana Douglas
Jim Saywell
Jack White
Anthony Dick
Rishabh Bhandari
Cameron Silverglate

Tara Stuckey Morrissey
Joshua Altman
John Brinkerhoff
Conor Dugan
James Lee
Maria Monaghan
Jaynie Lilley
Michael Martinez
Kevin Neylan
Mary Miller
Michael Kenneally
David Loretto
John Smith
Hannah Smith
Richard Cleary
Barbara Smith
Jim Ligtenberg
Sean Mirski
Joe Masterman
Megan Wold
John Tortorella
Lucas Walker
Maureen B. Soles
Ryan Newman
William H. Taft V