

Washington, D.C.
May 18, 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 write to express our support for the nomination of Matthew A. Schwartz to serve as a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. We served with Matt as law clerks at the Supreme Court of the United States during the 2006-2007 Term, when Matt clerked for Justice Samuel Alito. We sign this letter in our personal capacities and not on behalf of any current or former employer.

We represent a diverse range of political and jurisprudential views and have held a wide range of positions in government, private practice, academia, and the non-profit sector. Nonetheless, we are unified in the belief that Matt possesses the intellect, temperament, independence, experience, and judgment to serve with distinction as a United States Circuit Court judge.

Over the course of our year together, we observed first-hand Matt's strong legal skills, his keen intellect, and his strong work ethic. We also witnessed Matt's collegial and candid temperament. While we certainly disagreed from time to time on matters of consequence, Matt was always willing to engage respectfully with others, and welcomed informed consideration of contrary views. Those traits have served Matt well in his subsequent litigation career, and will make him an excellent Circuit Court judge.

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

Sincerely,

Felicia Ellsworth
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Roberts

Paul Nathenson
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Roberts

George Hicks
Law Clerk to Chief Justice Roberts

Mark Yohalem
Law Clerk to Justice Kennedy

David Foster
Law Clerk to Justice Kennedy

Boris Bershteyn
Law Clerk to Justice Souter

Bryan Leach
Law Clerk to Justice Souter

John Adams
Law Clerk to Justice Thomas

Adam Conrad
Law Clerk to Justice Thomas

Brandt Liebe
Law Clerk to Justice Thomas

Hashim Mooppan
Law Clerk to Justice Scalia

Joshua Lipshutz
Law Clerk to Justice Scalia

Louis Chaiten
Law Clerk to Justice Scalia

Gordon Todd
Law Clerk to Justice Alito

Mike Lee
Law Clerk to Justice Alito

Chris Paoella
Law Clerk to Justice Alito