



U.S. Department of Justice

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August 3, 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 Anna St. John to be United States Circuit Judge
for the Fifth Circuit

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

I write to express my strong support for the nomination of Anna St. John to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Anna is extraordinarily qualified and will serve our country admirably as a United States Circuit Court Judge.

Anna and I worked side by side for nearly six years as attorneys for the Center for Class Action Fairness, the Competitive Enterprise Institute, and the Hamilton Lincoln Law Institute. Our non-profit public interest litigation was focused primarily on consumer protection including fighting class action abuse and federal overreach by administrative agencies. I witnessed firsthand Anna's impressive intellect, remarkable legal skills, and unwavering commitment to the rule of law.

For example, Anna was instrumental in our consumer protection efforts involving Big Tech. In *Frank v. Gaos*, we challenged an unfair class action settlement that alleged Google had violated the privacy rights of its users where Anna helped author briefs and prepare co-counsel for

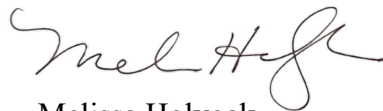
argument at the U.S. Supreme Court. She continued to fight for consumers after I left Hamilton Lincoln Law Institute, including more recent litigation, *In re: Google Location History Litigation*, where plaintiffs structured a class action settlement that gave \$19 million to attorneys, \$42 million to advocacy groups, and zero to consumer class members; Anna helped author the briefs in the district court and the Ninth Circuit. Her work on these and other cases demonstrates her superior writing skills. But she is also no stranger to oral argument—she has argued nearly a dozen appeals in circuit courts across the country.

As her colleague, I was consistently impressed by Anna's disposition while engaging with our colleagues, other counsel, and the courts. She would carefully consider differing viewpoints, approach opposing arguments with intellectual honesty, and always kept her composure no matter the circumstances. Anna later succeeded me as President and General Counsel of the Hamilton Lincoln Law Institute. In this role, Anna exhibited outstanding leadership in both the organization's legal work, including managing junior attorneys, trial court strategy, and oral argument preparation, as well as in the organization's general operations including regulatory compliance. Anna displays the skills and temperament fitting of a Circuit Judge.

Most importantly, Anna is an exceptional human being. While we were working together, Anna and I were both in the midst of raising four young children. She was a great example to me as she seemed to balance motherhood effortlessly, in addition to being a devoted daughter and wife, and a woman of strong faith. She prioritized her family and faith without compromising her excellent representation for our organization and clients. Despite her accomplished career, Anna is uniquely humble and kind. I am certain that if she is confirmed, Anna will treat colleagues, counsel, and all litigants with respect and fairness, and will carefully and objectively consider all sides with an open mind. Moreover, I know Anna's integrity is beyond reproach.

As Anna's former colleague, I am confident that she possesses the legal acumen, temperament, and commitment to the rule of law to serve as a Circuit Judge with distinction. I strongly urge the Senate to confirm Anna without delay.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mel H. J.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Melissa Holyoak
United States Attorney
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