

# DICKSON LAW OFFICE

Thomas A. Dickson  
Licensed in North Dakota

Attorney at Law  
P.O. Box 1896  
Bismarck, ND 58502-1896  
www.dicksonlaw.com

Telephone: (701) 222-4400  
Fax: (701) 258-4684  
Email: tdickson@dicksonlaw.com

May 27, 2026

Honorable Charles Grassley, Chairman  
United States Senator

Honorable Richard Durbin, Ranking Member  
United States Senator

United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Nomination of Honorable Daniel M. Traynor to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals**

Dear Chairman Grassley and Senator Durbin:

I am writing this letter in support of Judge Daniel Traynor's nomination to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

I have practiced law in North Dakota for almost 45 years and have known Judge Traynor and his family for most of that time. The North Dakota Bar is actually quite small; approximately 3,000 lawyers. Of that number, approximately 1,600 live and work in North Dakota. After 45 years of practicing law in almost every county, I have come to know and cherish the personal and professional relationships with most of them; including my friend, Dan Traynor.

When Dan was in private practice, we were on opposite sides on several civil cases. After a deposition or a morning hearing, we invariably had lunch together to catch up on old news, professional gossip, and the successes or stumbles of our beloved University of North Dakota hockey team. Lawyers like Dan Traynor made practicing law in North Dakota a privilege and a pleasure. He is smart. He is professional. He is a credit to our profession. He will continue to provide great service on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Dan and I were also on opposite sides with our political involvements. I served as Chairman of the North Dakota Dem-NPL Party at the same time Dan served as Chairman of the North Dakota Republican Party. North Dakota lawyers are famously cordial and friendly with each other. Politics has never trumped long-lasting friendships. So it is with my friendship with Dan.

I have also appeared in U.S. District Court with Judge Traynor presiding. These have all been felony criminal cases. These are difficult cases for everyone. Judge Traynor has excellent decorum

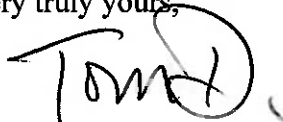
and temperament in the courtroom. He speaks clearly and concisely in language that is understandable and empathetic to our clients, the lawyers, and everyone in the courtroom. He is prepared, he is thorough, and he has a commanding presence that is fitting for each particular case. We will miss him in our U.S. District Court.

Judge Traynor is eminently qualified for a position on the 8<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals. I wholeheartedly support his nomination and urge that his nomination be confirmed by your Committee.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom D.", written over a large, faint circular stamp or watermark.

Thomas A. Dickson

*alm*