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ZACHARY E. PELHAM

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June 1, 2026

Honorable Charles Grassley, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Richard Durbin, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

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

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

As past President of the State Bar Association of North Dakota and current ABA State Bar Association Delegate to the ABA's House of Delegates, I have gotten to know Judge Daniel Traynor well. Judge Traynor served on our state bar's board of governors as the past ABA State Bar Delegate while I served on the board. He was an active board member. He voiced his opinion in a respectful and thoughtful manner. His opinions were well-reasoned and thought-provoking. Judge Traynor has a deep appreciation for attorneys, their well-being, and their professional advancement. He has this appreciation because of his commitment to the legal profession as a whole. Judge Traynor cares for the success of the legal profession—because he knows that dedicated attorneys are advocating daily for our clients. Judge Traynor will continue to take this mentality as a circuit judge in maintaining the rule of law.

Judge Traynor ably served his clients and community of Devils Lake, North Dakota as a long-time practicing civil attorney before becoming a U.S. district court judge. I first met Judge Traynor in 2009. I recall Judge Traynor being prepared and a strong advocate for his client. With that said, he was reasonable in knowing that there are many reasons for resolving disputed matters and we were able to resolve the case. Through the years I came across Judge Traynor while he was a practicing attorney and I found him to be capable, prepared with sound positions, and respectful in all manners. Judge Traynor takes this same approach in his current position as a federal judge. While I have not tried a case before Judge Traynor, I have directly observed him in his current role

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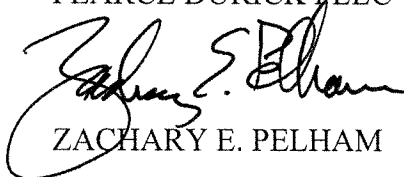
and he continues to treat all with respect and dignity. He takes the rule of law seriously and applies the law to the case.

I unequivocally voice my strong opinion that Judge Traynor is eminently qualified to serve as a judge on the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals. His professional accomplishments stand up to scrutiny. More than that, in my humble opinion, his disposition as a person who cares deeply for our judicial system, and the people who are part of it, will best serve those who will appear before him as judge. Judge Traynor will consistently and fairly follow the rule of law and our Constitution to all who may appear before him.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

PEARCE DURICK PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zachary E. Pelham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "Z" and "P".

ZACHARY E. PELHAM