



Go Make Disciples

CHANCELLOR

ARCHDIOCESE OF OKLAHOMA CITY

Sept. 14, 2026

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

(via email and USPS)

Re: Nomination of Zach West to the U.S. Dist. Ct., Northern District, Ok.

Dear Senators Grassley and Durbin:

I write in support of Zach West's nomination to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. I am the Edwards Family Chair in Law Emeritus and Professor of Law Emeritus at the University of Oklahoma College of Law and Chancellor for the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City. Zach was a student of mine and served as President of the Christian Legal Society when I was faculty advisor to that organization. Since his graduation, we have kept in touch, and I have followed his career closely.

In addition to displaying great aptitude for the law during law school, Zach displayed traits that will make him a great judge. He treated his fellow students with dignity and respect, the type of temperament expected as a judge. He and I disagree on a number of issues, but he has always treated my position fairly, seeking to understand my position and letting me probe his position. We are both better for these friendly debates. From his fairness toward his opponent, I can only conclude that he will be fair as a judge.

I wrote letters of recommendation for his two judicial clerkships and have kept in touch with him throughout his legal career. He received valuable experience during those clerkships, and his time clerking for Judge Holmes provided him profound insight into the workings of a United States District judge. He and I talked or emailed a few times during that year and the following year, when he got to see district judges' work reviewed at the appellate level. He gained more

valuable insight into the judiciary from your perspective – the prospective of those tasked with confirming presidential nominees – during his time in Washington, D.C.

Since moving back to Oklahoma, I have had a chance to lunch with Zach on several occasions and to follow his work at the Oklahoma Attorney General's office. The work he has done there has been tremendous. His work ethic and work product speak for themselves, and I'll let them speak for themselves. I end this letter with a character trait necessary for a judge – humility. Zach served as Solicitor General for the State of Oklahoma under a former Attorney General. When the current Attorney General came to office, he had his own person in mind for that office. Zach graciously accepted that decision and stayed on in a different capacity despite having numerous other opportunities if he had wanted them. In talking with Zach about this, he never complained and expressed his desire to serve in his new capacity.

In addition to the intellectual ability, work ethic, and experience, Zach has the qualities of integrity, fairness, civility, and humility necessary to assume the awesome responsibility of a life tenured district judge. I highly recommend him for this position.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Scaperlanda", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael A. Scaperlanda

Chancellor, Archdiocese of Oklahoma City

Edwards Chair in Law Emeritus, University of Oklahoma College of Law

Professor of Law Emeritus, University of Oklahoma College of Law