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The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Durbin and Senator Grassley,

Thank you at the outset for your consideration of this letter. I write this letter in support of the nomination of Judge Robert Kirsch for U.S. District Court.

It has been quite some time since I've been an Assistant Prosecutor, yet, as a former Governor, I have always valued those persons who sincerely and authentically strive for justice within our criminal justice system. Robert Kirsch is such an individual. He is unique. Aside from the theater of debate on so many criminal justice issues, there are those jurists who sincerely and doggedly yearn to do justice every day.

As Executive Director of the [New Jersey Reentry Corporation](#) (NJRC), this agency is dedicated to providing critically-needed reentry services to the 17,593 persons enrolled, who have returned from prison, jail, addiction treatment, and all too often on veterans returning from combat. We have a relatively straightforward task and that is to support individuals as they return home to a healthy, law-abiding life.

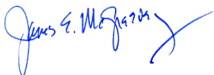
Judge Kirsch has been exemplary. He has called our office to place veterans who were in desperate need of addiction services, mothers who needed a safe place for their children, and elderly persons who needed a safe and secure place in which to die.

It is often said that justice is blind. Judge Kirsch truly embodies this axiom with a sense of measured, common-sense compassion. I have spent Saturdays and Sundays with Judge Kirsch at addiction treatment centers, as he listens to young men and women describing their ordeal from the hell of fentanyl to hopeful recovery. He has served food at St. John's Pantry in Newark to the homeless. There are not many people of whatever stripe who do this. Judge Kirsch clearly did it by virtue of his personal values and desire to better understand and know those that suffer from diseases of despair.

Judge Kirsch unequivocally understands the importance of public safety as a bedrock of our criminal justice system. Yet, he also values the possibilities of transformation, indeed salvation, for those persons yearning for a Second Chance.

With humility, I offer these words in ardent support of Judge Kirsch. My only criticism of Judge Kirsch is that he is not Irish.

With all good wishes,



James E. McGreevey