

## DAVILLIER LAW GROUP, LLC

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June 28, 2022

Hon. Dick Durbin Chair, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 711 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Hon. Chuck Grassley Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 135 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

## Re: Nomination of Roopali H. Desai to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Dear Chairman Durbin & Ranking Member Grassley:

On June 15, 2022, President Biden nominated Roopali H. Desai for a seat on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. I am writing to share my experiences with Ms. Desai in the hopes that it might be helpful to your deliberations.

I have had the pleasure to argue on behalf of conservatives and against Ms. Desai in some of the most contentious litigation our country has ever seen such as the disputes over the 2020 election and the Arizona audit. And having faced the very best litigators the other side has to offer, I can tell you with confidence – nobody else holds a candle to Ms. Desai.

My colleagues and I deeply respect Ms. Desai. She has the uncanny ability to advocate for an outcome preferred by her clients by making originalist arguments that might have come from Justice Thomas's pen. Indeed, I study her work closely so that I may represent my own clients more effectively.

Ms. Desai also has an excellent judicial temperament. As I mentioned, the cases on which we have opposed one another were extremely contentious to the point where at least one member of my team was threatened with death. Pressure was intense on attorneys for both sides and sleep was often in short supply. And yet, I cannot recall Ms. Desai ever behaving with anything but consummate professionalism towards my colleagues and I, even as she advocated for her clients with the utmost zealousness and skill. Similarly, in all of our many cases she has always acted with integrity and been forthright and honest with both myself and the court.

I cannot opine on Ms. Desai's judicial philosophy – I know her only as a practitioner. But there is no doubt in my mind that in terms of temperament, intelligence, and honesty Roopali is eminently qualified. I doubt you will find many in Arizona who feel differently.

Sincerely,

/s/Alexander Kolodin PARTNER DAVILLIER LAW GROUP, LLC<sup>1</sup>

cc: Sen. Kyrsten Sinema 317 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The opinions expressed in this letter are my own personal views.