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February 22, 2022

VIA EMAIL

The Honorable Dick Durbin
Chairman, Committee on Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Letter of Support for Nomination of Jennifer Rearden to the
United States District Court of the Southern District of New
York

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I am pleased to provide this letter in support of Jennifer Rearden's nomination to the United States District Court of the Southern District of New York. Ms. Rearden has the intellect, temperament, and wisdom necessary to be an excellent federal judge. She listens attentively, has formidable analytical skills, and always treats people with respect and dignity, even in highly pressurized situations. She is committed to the administration of justice and has the personal qualities to do so fairly, with compassion and respect for all.

Ms. Rearden and I worked together for several years as co-counsel in an environmental cost recovery matter in the Southern District of New York. The case involved a complex set of facts spanning several decades related to the sources, nature and extent of environmental contamination, the measures necessary to remediate the contamination, and the interaction of these facts with federal environmental law governing allocation of responsibility for the costs of such remediation. Although Ms. Rearden did not have a significant background in environmental law, she quickly mastered the technical and legal issues and brought her impressive litigation and analytical skills to the matter. The case involved a relatively large team at her firm and mine, which was overseen by Ms. Rearden in a highly effective and collegial manner. Everyone on the team enjoyed working with Ms. Rearden and respected her intellect and judgment.

Having worked closely with Ms. Rearden over a period of years, I had the opportunity to see her bring the essence of the case into focus by mastering the facts and applying a grounded,

The Honorable Dick Durbin and The Honorable Chuck Grassley

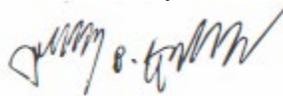
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commonsense approach to the application of those facts to the law. She also made a point of seeking out different points of view before she reached a conclusion. These qualities, which are a natural extension of who she is, are precisely the qualities that would make her an outstanding federal judge.

I enthusiastically support Jennifer Rearden's nomination and her swift confirmation to the Southern District of New York. She will be an honor and credit to the bench.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Gracer", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jeffrey Gracer