

*The Superior Court*  
OF THE  
*State of California*  
SAN DIEGO

Chambers of  
JAMES A. MANGIONE  
Judge of the Superior Court

Mailing Address  
Post Office Box 122724  
San Diego, CA 92112-2724

November 22, 2022

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

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

**Re: Letter of Support for the Confirmation of the Honorable James E, Simmons,  
Jr., Nominee for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of  
California**

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I have had the pleasure of knowing Judge Simmons for almost seven years. I did not know him during his career with the District Attorney's Office, nor have I seen him on the bench.

I have, however, had the pleasure of numerous lunches with James during which I formed a **very** positive opinion. He is grounded. He is a great father and family man. You know about his background-he sincerely cares about his community. My conversations with him tell me he is very sound in his approach as a criminal judge. He treats all with respect. His sentences are even-handed. Importantly, he is highly respected by his fellow judges and the local Bar.

By way of background, I practiced law for 34 years. I have been a judge for 7. I am one of only 3 judges in San Diego County (of 130), who is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers. When the local committee approached me for recommendations for the Federal Bench, the **first** name I gave them was James Simmons.

November 22, 2022

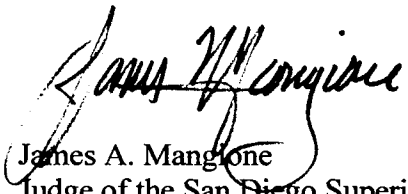
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If the foregoing attributes are what you are looking for in a Federal Judge, you hit the jackpot with Judge James Simmons. Neither this august body, nor the President, will regret this choice.

I unqualifiedly recommend Judge James Simmons for this position.

I stand ready to answer any questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Mangione". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "J" and "M".

James A. Mangione  
Judge of the San Diego Superior Court

JAM/ht