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The Honorable Richard Durbin
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
Washington, DC

Re: Nomination of Nina Morrison to be United States District Judge

9 February 2022

Dear Chair Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

I write to recommend Nina Morrison for nomination to serve the Eastern District of New York, enthusiastically and without compunction. Nina's razor-sharp intellect, superb legal acumen, and sterling legacy of impactful litigation have unquestionably equipped her with the legal experience to be highly effective in service as a United States District Judge.

Nina and I first became personally acquainted when I served as First Assistant District Attorney in the Nueces County District Attorney's Office. Through her work at the Innocence Project, she was righteously championing the cause of a woman who had been unjustly convicted following misconduct by the prosecutors in her case. I was immediately struck by not only the brilliance of her advocacy but also the sincerity in her commitment to fighting for justice, which is unfortunately uncommon to see with some lawyers in general, and often, in some lawyers of her prominence.

Years before meeting Nina, however, I had the benefit of enjoying the fruits of her extraordinary labor in the famed Michael Morton case. Through that case, Nina and her team literally changed the law in Texas. Their toil and indefatigable commitment to their client and the cause of justice ensured the criminally accused in the Lone Star State were afforded greater protections during the pendency of prosecutions and held to task a corrupt prosecutor who had benefitted from his misconduct nearly thirty years prior. Nina and her team changed the legal landscape in our great state for generations to come, continuing her long history of courageous, effective representation of the wrongly convicted.

There are few lawyers and people in whom the marriage of courage, character, and capability coalesce as masterfully as they do in Nina. Her integrity and legal understanding are without equal. As a Texan, the decisions she authors in the Eastern District of New York may not have a direct effect on me or my family; however, she is the kind of lawyer — and will be the kind of jurist — whose service will

both improve and preserve the integrity of our noble profession. The great people of New York would be benefitted inestimably by her service on the bench.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matt Manning", with a large, stylized circular flourish at the end.

Matthew (Matt) S. Manning

cc: Senator John Cornyn

cc: Senator Ted Cruz