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

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

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Graham:

Please let this letter serve as my statement of support for the nomination of Darrel Papillion for a federal district court judgeship in the Eastern District of Louisiana.

I have been a practicing lawyer in Louisiana for 39 years, and have known Darrel for more than 20 years, both in connection with litigation and in connection with volunteer activities for the Louisiana State Bar Association. Not only is Darrel a very talented attorney, he has an excellent reputation for honesty and fairness in his dealings with opposing counsel and the judiciary. Darrel also has taken much time from his successful career to engage in projects dedicated to the improvement of the legal profession and access to justice for Louisiana citizens who are underserved by our profession.

In short, Darrel has the outstanding record and qualifications that all citizens want in a federal judge. I have no doubt that he will act fairly and impartially for all citizens and be a credit to our federal bench.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

Richard C. Stapley

RCS/byk