The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, Chairman Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 711 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley, Ranking Member Committee on the Judiciary United States Senate 135 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 NOT TOTAL

> Re: Recommendation of Magistrate Judge Robert S. Ballou for the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia

Dear Chairman Durbin and Ranking Member Grassley:

We write this letter to express our support for the confirmation of Magistrate Judge Robert S. Ballou to the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia.

We are all practicing lawyers in Richmond, Virginia and, among us, we have long known Magistrate Judge Ballou, personally or by reputation, as a jurist, a colleague, and as opposing counsel in litigation matters. We have known him to be a highly capable lawyer, a zealous advocate, and a fair, thoughtful, and well-prepared magistrate judge. He is highly regarded in the legal community and is known to conduct himself honestly and ethically in all of his affairs. Magistrate Judge Ballou is, in every respect, well-suited to serve as a district court judge.

We collectively believe that Magistrate Judge Ballou, if confirmed, will be an impartial, thoughtful, and reasoned jurist who will faithfully serve the court and the public. We urge you to advance his confirmation.

For and on behalf of:

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Adams, McGuire Woods Theodore F. Adams III, McGuireWoods David N. Anthony, Troutman Pepper Erin B. Ashwell; McGuire Woods (1997) Corrigan & Wellman Candace A. Blydenburgh, McGuireWoods Richard Cullen, Counselor to the Governor Turner A. Broughton, Williams Mullen Maya M. Eckstein, Hunton Andrews Kurth Lynn K. Brugh, Williams Mullen Andrews David E. Finkelson, McGuire Woods Stephen D. Busch, McGuire Woods

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Calvin W. "Woody" Fowler, Jr., Williams Mullen
Philip H. Goodpasture, Williams Mullen
Terrence L. Graves, Sands Anderson
Patrick R. Hanes, Williams Mullen
W. David Harless, Christian & Barton
Michael E. Harman, Harman Claytor
Corrigan & Wellman
Dion W. Hayes, McGuireWoods
David W. Hearn, Sands Anderson
James R. Jebo, Harman Claytor Corrigan &
Wellman
Harold E. Johnson, Williams Mullen
Dana D. McDaniel, Spotts Fain
Craig T. Merritt, Merritt Law, PLLC

James E. Moore, Christian & Barton
Grace Morse-McNelis, Sands Anderson
Elizabeth M. Muldowney, Sands Anderson
Brendan D. O'Toole, Williams Mullen
Scott C. Oostdyk, McGuireWoods
Lewis F. Powell III, Hunton Andrews
Kurth
Brian C. Riopelle, McGuireWoods
Dana Rust, McGuireWoods
Elizabeth S. Skilling, Harman Claytor
Corrigan & Wellman
Michael W. Smith, Christian & Barton
J. Tracy Walker IV, McGuireWoods
John L. Walker III, Williams Mullen
John S. West, Troutman Pepper

cc: Senator Mark R. Warner Senator Timothy M. Kaine