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May 9, 2017

Hon. Chuck Grassley, Chairman United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C., 20510

Hon. Diane Feinstein, Ranking Member United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C., 20510

RE: Nomination of Justice Joan Larsen

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

I write to enthusiastically support the nomination of Justice Joan Larsen to the Unites States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

I am a litigation partner in the Los Angeles office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP, where I have worked since joining the California Bar in January of 2008. I practice primarily in federal courts, including the United States Courts of Appeals and the Supreme Court of the United States, where I have represented clients both paying and pro bono. Since 2010, I have been a member of the Board of Directors of Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, which provides free legal assistance to thousands of the most vulnerable Californians each year.

I met Justice Larsen as a student in her Constitutional Law and Criminal Procedure classes at the University of Michigan Law School. As a professor, Justice Larsen displayed many of the qualities that will make her an outstanding federal appellate judge. First, her brilliance was unmistakable. Even among the universally accomplished professors at an elite law school, Justice Larsen's intellect and depth of legal knowledge stood out. Her temperament was just as impressive. One might forgive a magna cum laude graduate of Northwestern Law School and former Supreme Court clerk occasional impatience with the nascent legal minds of a law school classroom, but I never saw Justice Larsen treat a student with anything but genial professionalism and respect. Finally, even when teaching and leading discussions about the most controversial and personal of Supreme Court decisions, Justice Larsen remained unflappably objective, thoughtful, and thorough, without betraying a whiff of partisanship. At Michigan, Justice Larsen defied the stereotype of the ivory tower academic, and took a genuine interest in the students she taught and advised. I am but one of the students for whom she graciously agreed to act as internship advisor; she regularly served as an especially engaged judge during moot court competitions; and she invested countless hours assisting students as Michigan Law's clerkship advisor in addition to her teaching and writing work. Even after my graduation, I once received an email from Justice Larsen on behalf of one of her then-students seeking assistance with a proposal. In sum, she is both tireless and selfless—qualities that should be prerequisites for the position of circuit judge.

I have rarely agreed with President Trump, but he has made an excellent choice in Justice Larsen. She is a brilliant, dedicated, thoughtful, and fair-minded jurist deserving of bipartisan support. I urge the Senate to swiftly confirm her nomination.

Respectfully Submitted, Derek Milosavljevic

June 2, 2017

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley Chairman, Judiciary Committee United States Senate 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-6050

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein Ranking Minority Member, Judiciary Committee United States Senate 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-6050

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

We write to express our enthusiastic support for the Honorable Joan Larsen's nomination to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. We have held positions in the Department of Justice (DOJ) and other government agencies in Democratic and Republican administrations from President Nixon to President Obama. As former government officials with varying ideological perspectives, we may not all agree with Joan on all legal issues, but all of us have served with her or are otherwise familiar with her work, and all of us hold her in the highest regard.

Joan has had a distinguished career in public service, private practice, and academia. She graduated from Northwestern Law School in 1993, and served as a law clerk for Judge David Sentelle of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and Justice Antonin Scalia of the Supreme Court of the United States. She engaged in private practice at Sidley & Austin from 1995 through 1997, and joined the faculty of the University of Michigan Law School the following year. In 2002-2003, she served as the Deputy Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Counsel in the United States Department of Justice, returning thereafter to the University of Michigan. In September 2015, she was appointed to a vacant position on the Michigan Supreme Court.

During more than 20 years of practicing and teaching law in and out of government, Joan Larsen has earned a well-deserved reputation for acumen, integrity, and judgment, as well as deep respect for the rule of law. We strongly urge her confirmation to serve as a judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Bagley Former Attorney, Appellate Staff, Civil Division, U.S. Department of Justice

H. Christopher Bartolomucci Former Associate Counsel to the President

Bradford A. Berenson Former Associate Counsel to the President

Sheldon Bradshaw Former Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel, U.S. Department of Justice Former Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice

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